

Biodiversity Record: Black and scarlet cicadas at Yishun Central

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Recommended citation. Chan SKM (2021) Biodiversity Record: Black and scarlet cicadas at Yishun Central. Nature in Singapore, 14: e2021044. DOI: 10.26107/NIS-2021-0044

Subjects: Black and scarlet cicada, *Huechys sanguinea* (Insecta: Hemiptera: Cicadidae: Cicadettinae).

Subjects identified by: Simon Chan Kee Mun.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Yishun Central, compound of Yishun Community Hospital; 24 March 2021; 1011 hrs.

Habitat: Urban. Ornamental garden on the 6th floor of a concrete building, cultivated with various butterfly host plants (Fig. 1).

Observer: Simon Chan Kee Mun.

Observation: On that very hot and sunny morning, humming sounds led to the observation of a mating pair of black-and-scarlet cicadas on the trunk of a golden senna (*Senna surattensis*) bush (Fig. 2). The two insects were united at the posterior ends and facing away from each other. An inspection of the garden yielded about eight more conspecific individuals at different locations (Fig. 3) near the bush with the mating pair. Each cicada was about 2 cm in body length.

Remarks: In Singapore, the genus *Huechys* is represented by the featured *Huechys sanguinea* and *Huechys fusca* (black and golden cicada) (Leong et al., 2011: 203). *Huechys sanguinea* was recently recorded from Pulau Ubin in 2006, 2008 and 2009, and about three decades earlier, in 1974, on Kent Ridge (Ali & Leong, 2009: 317). Oviposition activity by a female *Huechys sanguinea* was reported at Pulau Ubin in late April 2011 (Leong & Ali, 2011: 303). The featured observation represents a new location for the black and scarlet cicada in Singapore, and shows that the species is tolerant of urban environments.

Literature cited:

Ali bin Ibrahim & Leong TM (2009) Records of the black and scarlet cicada, *Huechys sanguinea* (de Geer) in Singapore, with notes on its emergence (Homoptera: Cicadidae: Cicadettinae). Nature in Singapore, 2: 317–322.

Leong TM & Ali bin Ibrahim (2011) Oviposition by the black and scarlet cicada, *Huechys sanguinea* (de Geer, 1773) in Singapore (Homoptera: Cicadidae: Cicadettinae). Nature in Singapore, 4: 303–306.

Leong TM, Mishak S, Leong LYK & Foo SK (2011) Records of the black and golden cicada, *Huechys fusca* Distant, 1892 in Singapore, with natural history observations (Homoptera: Cicadidae: Cicadettinae). Nature in Singapore, 4: 203–211.

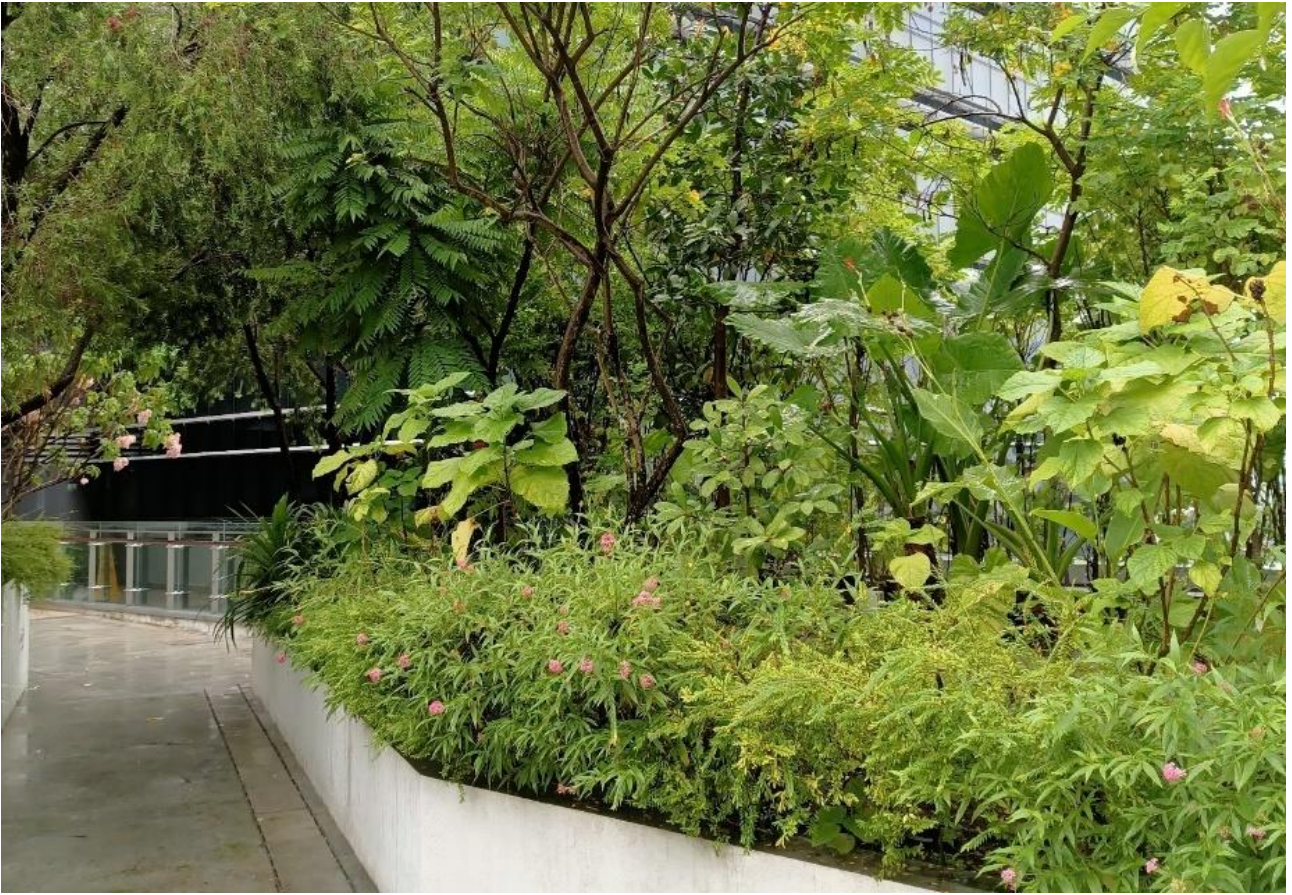


Fig. 1. View of the garden on the 6th floor with the golden senna bush in the middle. (Photograph by: Simon Chan Kee Mun).



Fig. 2. Lateral view of a mating pair of black and scarlet cicadas on a trunk of a bush. (Photograph by: Simon Chan Kee Mun).



Fig. 3. A lone black and scarlet cicada on a different trunk. (Photograph by: Simon Chan Kee Mun).