

Biodiversity Record: New record of a green cockroach (*Sorineuchora* sp.) in Singapore

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Subject: *Sorineuchora* sp. (Insecta: Blattodea: Ectobiidae: Pseudophyllodromiinae).

Subject identified by: Cristian C. Lucañas.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Thomson Nature Park, Jalan Belang; 31 March 2021; 1117 hrs.

Habitat: Young secondary forest.

Observers: Law Jia Bao and Triston Yeo.

Observation: A green cockroach nymph, about 1 cm in length, was seen crawling on the wooden pillar of a rope fence. It moved down the pillar and onto a plant, then continued its descent until it reached the ground. There, it moved along the footpath (Fig. 1) before ducking under a fallen leaf. When the observers carefully removed the leaf for a closer look, the nymph was found on another yellow leaf. There, it stayed still for a short while (Figs. 2, 3) before moving under a different leaf.

Remarks: The featured observation appears to be the first record of the genus *Sorineuchora*, as well as a green cockroach, in Singapore (Foo M., unpublished data). *Sorineuchora* is unique in being one of two cockroach taxa that is bright green. The other green cockroach is the Cuban or green banana cockroach (*Panchlora nivea*), which occurs only in the Americas (see Cockroach Species File, 2021). There are currently 11 known species of *Sorineuchora*, but an adult male is required to confidently identify the species (Li et al., 2017).



Fig. 1. Dorso-lateral view of the *Sorineuchora* cockroach nymph on the ground. (Photograph by: Law Jia Bao).



Fig. 2. Dorsal view of the subject on a leaf. (Photograph by: Law Jia Bao).



Fig. 3. Fronto-dorsal view of the *Sorineuchora* cockroach nymph on a leaf. (Photograph by: Triston Yeo).

Literature cited:

- Cockroach Species File (2021) Distribution for species *Pachlora nivea* (Linnaeus, 1758). <http://cockroach.speciesfile.org/Common/editTaxon/Distribution/ShowDistribution.aspx?TaxonNameID=1173594> (Accessed 16 April 2021).
- Li M, Che YL, Zheng YH & Wang ZQ (2017) The cockroach genus *Sorineuchora* Caudell, 1927 from China (Blattodea, Ectobiidae, Pseudophyllodromiinae). *ZooKeys*, 697: 133–156.