

Biodiversity Record: A leafroller moth, *Glyphodes bivitalis*

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Subject: Leafroller moth, *Glyphodes bivitalis* (Insecta: Lepidoptera: Crambidae: Spilomelinae).

Subject identified by: Simon Chan Kee Mun.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Bukit Timah, Jalan Jurong Kechil; 14 May 2021; 1747 hrs.

Habitat: Urban. Planter box in front of the condominium Suites @ Bukit Timah (Fig. 1).

Observers: Loh Jing Ling and Simon Chan Kee Mun.



Fig. 1. View of planter box where the *Glyphodes bivitalis* caterpillar was found. (Photograph by: Simon Chan Kee Mun).



Fig. 2. Dorsal view of the anterior part of the *Glyphodes bivitalis* caterpillar (about 20 mm in length) chewing on the edge of the rolled leaf. (Photograph by: Simon Chan Kee Mun).



Fig. 3. Side views of the *Glyphodes bivitalis* pupa (about 25 mm in length) after the leaf was unfurled. (Photographs by: Simon Chan Kee Mun).



Fig. 4. Dorsal (left) and ventral (right) views of the *Glyphodes bivitalis* moth shortly after it eclosed. At rest, the adult was about 30 mm from one wing-tip to the other wing-tip. (Photographs by: Simon Chan Kee Mun).

Observation: A caterpillar of about 20 mm was found hiding inside a rolled-up leaf (Fig. 2) of the Malayan banyan (*Ficus microcarpa*) hedge growing in the planter box. It was taken for rearing, and the caterpillar pupated two days later (Fig. 3). After 10 days, the adult moth eclosed (Fig. 4), and was set free after photography.

Remarks: Members of the subfamily Spilomelinae whose larvae feed among folded leaves or by boring into plant parts are known in Singapore (Chua, 2011). The adult moth shown here resembles *Glyphodes bivitalis* depicted in Robinson et al. (1994), in which the wing pattern is much the same on the upperside and the underside (see Fig. 4), and the larva bred from leaves of *Ficus elastica*. This species is widely distributed from India, Sri Lanka and China, throughout Southeast Asia, and down to Australia, and has already been recorded from Singapore (Robinson et al., 1994). Although quite common locally, it is illustrated here as this insect is seldom noticed.

Literature cited:

- Chua MAH (2011) Crambid moths. Family Crambidae. In: Ng PKL, Corlett RT & Tan HTW (eds.) Singapore Biodiversity. An Encyclopedia of the Natural Environment and Sustainable Development. Editions Didier Millet in association with the Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research, National University of Singapore, Singapore, p. 279.
- Robinson GS, Tuck KR & Shaffer M (1994) A Field Guide to the Smaller Moths of South-East Asia. Malaysian Nature Society, Kuala Lumpur, 335 pp.