

Biodiversity Record: An Eliot's cornelian at Lornie Nature Corridor

Simon Chan Kee Mun

Toh Yi Drive, Singapore 590012; Email: simonchan268@yahoo.com.sg

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Subject: Eliot's cornelian, *Deudorix elioti* (Insecta: Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae: Lycaeninae).

Subject identified by: Simon Chan Kee Mun.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Lornie Nature Corridor, along Lornie Road; 10 April 2021; 1322 hrs.

Habitat: Edge of secondary forest (Fig. 1). In cloudy, breezy weather.

Observer: Simon Chan Kee Mun.

Observation: A female example with forewing length of around 2 cm (Fig. 2) was observed flying rapidly from one spot to another, resting for brief moments in between flights. This specimen is unusual in having a series of separate dark grey spots with white margins on the underside of its forewings.

Remarks: In typical examples of the Eliot's cornelian, the series of dark spots on the underside of the forewings are united into a dark grey band with white margins (see picture in Khew, 2015: 270). This species is regarded as 'very rare' in Singapore, with records from forested areas of the nature reserves and Pulau Ubin, as well as from urban parks and gardens (Khew, 2015: 270). *Deudorix elioti* was described based on specimens collected from Singapore. The female allotype preserved at the Natural History Museum in London is illustrated on the Biodiversity of Singapore (2021) website.

Literature cited:

Biodiversity of Singapore (2021) *Deudorix elioti* Corbet, 1940. <https://m.singapore.biodiversity.online/species/A-Arth-Hexa-Lepidoptera-000108> (Accessed 8 August 2021).

Khew SK (2015) A Field Guide to the Butterflies of Singapore. 2nd Edition. Ink On Paper Communications Pte Ltd, Singapore, xxv + 375 pp.



Fig. 1. Forest edge habitat where the Eliot's cornelian was seen. (Photograph by: Simon Chan Kee Mun).



Fig. 2. Lateral view of the female Eliot's cornelian resting on a cinnamon leaf. (Photograph by: Simon Chan Kee Mun).