

Biodiversity Record: Green iguana at Choa Chu Kang

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Recommended citation. Tan HH (2021) Biodiversity Record: Green iguana at Choa Chu Kang. Nature in Singapore, 14: e2021082. DOI: 10.26107/NIS-2021-0082

Subject: Green iguana, *Iguana iguana* (Reptilia: Squamata: Iguanidae).

Subject identified by: Tan Heok Hui.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Choa Chu Kang area, on exit road from Kranji Expressway to Choa Chu Kang, along road shoulder, adjacent to Warren Golf & Country Club; 5 June 2021; 1515 hrs.

Habitat: Urban parkland. On shoulder of motorway adjacent to parkland and golf course.

Observer: Tan Heok Hui.

Observation: One sub-adult example of about 90 cm total length (Fig. 1) was found dead on the road.

Remarks: The featured example is presumed to have been fatally struck by a vehicle. Six months earlier, on 13 December 2020 at 1430 hrs, the author encountered a larger green iguana of about 1.5 m total length along the entrance road into the Kranji Expressway from Choa Chu Kang. It was found dead near the road shoulder, opposite Warren Golf & Country Club. However, he did not manage to photograph that example.

The non-native green iguana has been sighted in many locations on Singapore island (see Chua, 2007; Yeo, 2019). From pictures circulating on social media over at least the past two years, there appears to be a population of this species in the grounds of the Warren Golf & Country Club (Lay, 2021). These lizards seem to be semi-domesticated and unafraid of people. It is presumed that people are feeding these reptiles, and that they are likely to be reproducing. The two dead iguanas featured here are likely to have ventured out of the country club.

Literature cited:

Chua EK (2007) Feral iguana attacks *Varanus salvator* at Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve. *Biawak*, 1: 35–36.

Lay B (2021) Large gang of iguanas hang out in the sun at Warren Golf & Country Club in Choa Chu Kang. *Mothership*, 17 February 2021. <https://mothership.sg/2021/02/iguana-singapore-golf-course/> (Accessed 5 June 2021).

Yeo RKH (2019) A green iguana at the Botanic Gardens. *Singapore Biodiversity Records*, 2019: 38.



Fig. 1. In situ, lateral view of roadkill green iguana. (Photograph by: Tan Heok Hui).