

Biodiversity Record: Malayan jester butterfly at Dairy Farm Nature Park

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Subject: Malayan jester, *Symbrenthia hippoclus selangorana* (Insecta: Lepidoptera: Nymphalidae: Limenitidinae).

Subject identified by: Simon Chan Kee Mun.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Dairy Farm Nature Park; 9 May 2021; 1016 hrs.

Habitat: Secondary forest and parkland.

Observer: Simon Chan Kee Mun.

Observation: One example of about 2 cm in forewing length (Fig. 1) was spotted flying around a bandicoot berry (*Leea indica*) bush (Fig. 2) at the side of a trail.

Remarks: The Malayan jester was first recorded in Singapore at the Nanyang Technological University area in February 2012. Although classified as a ‘very rare seasonal migrant’ (Khew, 2015: 145; 2019), subsequent and more frequent sightings elsewhere, such as Admiralty Park and Dairy Farm Nature Park, imply that there is a resident population of this butterfly in Singapore. As such, it has been suggested that the local status of the Malayan jester be amended to ‘moderately common’ (Khew, 2019). Host plants of this species in Singapore have yet to be identified (Khew, 2015: 145; 2019).

Literature cited:

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

Khew SK (2019) The Malayan Jester – permanent resident? A species here to stay? Butterflies of Singapore. A Tribute to Nature’s Flying Jewels. <https://butterflycircle.blogspot.com/2019/02/the-malayan-jester-permanent-resident.html> (Accessed 7 August 2021).



Fig. 1. Lateral view of the featured Malayan jester. (Photograph by: Simon Chan Kee Mun).

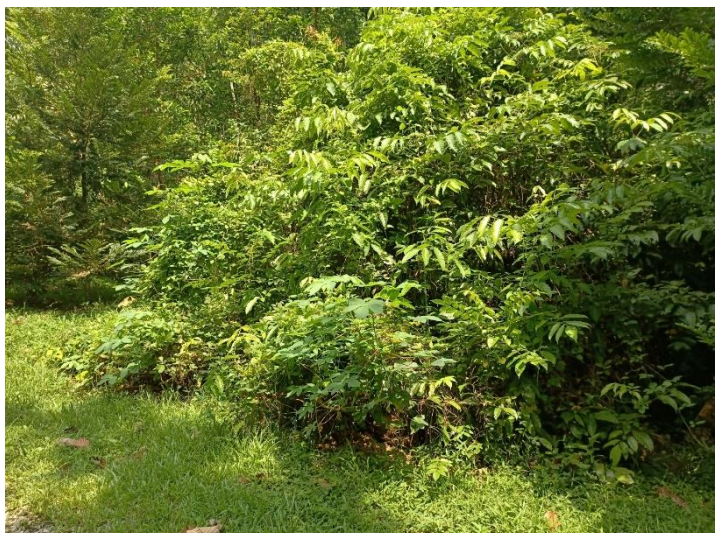


Fig. 2. The area with the *Leea indica* bush on which the butterfly was seen. (Photograph by: Simon Chan Kee Mun).