

## Biodiversity Record: A rediscovery and three new molluscan records for Singapore

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**Subjects:** *Gari truncata* (Mollusca: Bivalvia: Psammobiidae), Fig. 1;  
*Punctoterebra livida* (Mollusca: Gastropoda: Terebridae), Fig. 2;  
*Swainsonia ocellata* (Mollusca: Gastropoda: Mitridae), Fig. 3;  
*Vexillum acuminatum* (Mollusca: Gastropoda: Costellariidae), Fig. 4.

**Subjects identified by:** Calvin Jiah Jay Leow. *Gari truncata* verified by Tan Siong Kiat. *Punctoterebra livida* and *Swainsonia ocellata* verified by Chan Sow-Yan.

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Island at Changi Beach and East Coast Park —

- 1) *Gari truncata* at Changi Beach; 28 June 2021; 0757 hrs.
- 2) *Punctoterebra livida* at East Coast Park; 23 July 2021; 0435 hrs.
- 3) *Swainsonia ocellata* at East Coast Park; 27 July 2021; 0733 hrs.
- 4) *Vexillum acuminatum* at East Coast Park; 27 July 2021; 0641 hrs.

**Habitats:** Changi Beach—estuarine shore, in intertidal zone, on fine sand among seagrass. East Coast Park—marine shore, in intertidal zone, on fine or coarse sand among seagrass. All during early morning low tide.

**Observers:** Calvin Jiah Jay Leow.

**Observations:** Four separate observations —

- 1) One live *Gari truncata* of 43 mm shell length (Fig. 1) was found buried in fine sand.



Fig. 1. Dorsal surfaces of the left (left) and right (right) valves of *Gari truncata*, in situ. (Photographs by: Calvin Jiah Jay Leow).

- 2) Two live *Punctoterebra livida* of 45 and 47 mm shell length (Fig. 2) were found buried in fine sand.



Fig. 2. In situ dorsal (left) and apertural (right) views of one of the *Punctoterebra livida*. (Photographs by: Calvin Jiah Jay Leow).

3) One live *Swainsonia ocellata* of 21 mm shell length (Fig. 3) was found buried in fine sand.



Fig. 3. In situ dorsal (left) and apertural (right) views of *Swainsonia ocellata*. (Photographs by: Calvin Jiah Jay Leow).

4) One live *Vexillum acuminatum* of 23 mm shell length (Fig. 4) was found buried in coarse sand.



Fig. 4. In situ dorsal (left) and apertural (right) views of *Vexillum acuminatum*. (Photographs by: Calvin Jiah Jay Leow).

**Remarks:** All four species are not listed in the mollusc checklist compiled by Tan & Woo (2010). Interestingly, *Swainsonia ocellata* is a rediscovery. It was first reported from Singapore by Reeve (1843) based on material collected in sandy mud by Hugh Cuming, but its occurrence there has not been noted by later workers. The other three species featured here appear to be recorded for the first time in Singapore. All four are probably rare in Singapore and could have been previously overlooked.

**Literature cited:**

Reeve LA (1843) Monograph of the genus *Mitra*. In: Conchologia Iconica, or, Illustrations of the Shells of Molluscous Animals. Volume 2. Reeve Brothers, London, unpaginated, pls. 1–39.

Tan SK & Woo HPM (2010) A Preliminary Checklist of the Molluscs of Singapore. Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research, National University of Singapore, Singapore, 78 pp.