

Biodiversity Record: Striped tree skinks at Hindhede and Windsor Nature Parks

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Subjects: Striped tree skink, *Lipinia vittigera* (Reptilia: Squamata: Scincidae).

Subjects identified by: Chin Liying Nikki.

Location, date and time: Two separate locations on Singapore Island —

1) Hindhede Nature Park; 16 March 2022; around 1308 hrs.

2) Windsor Nature Park; 12 April 2022; around 1229 hrs.

Habitat: Secondary forests.

Observer: Chin Liying Nikki.

Observations: On 16 March at Hindhede Nature Park, an individual of about 8 cm was seen on a wooden boardwalk (Fig. 1). As soon as the skink spotted the observer, it scurried up and along the railing, away from the observer (Fig. 2). On 12 April at Windsor Nature Park, another individual was seen on another a wooden boardwalk (Fig. 3). It was skittish and immediately scurried away as soon as it saw the observer. In both instances, the boardwalk was empty, apart from the observer.

Remarks: This native arboreal skink is regarded as locally uncommon (Baker & Lim, 2012). It has been recorded in Dairy Farm Nature Park (Chan, 2014), Bukit Timah Nature Reserve (Chua & Morley, 2013) and Mandai Lake Road (Cheong, 2019). The present feature includes two additional localities for this species in Singapore.

Literature cited:

Baker N & Lim KKP (2012) Wild Animals of Singapore. A Photographic Guide to Mammals, Reptiles, Amphibians and Freshwater Fishes. Updated edition. Draco Publishing and Distribution Pte. Ltd. and Nature Society (Singapore), 180 pp.

Chan KW (2014) Striped tree skink at Dairy Farm Nature Park. Singapore Biodiversity Records, 2014: 57.

Cheong W (2019) Striped tree skink at Mandai. Singapore Biodiversity Records, 2019: 135.

Chua MAH & Morley S (2013) Striped tree skink at Bukit Timah Hill Reserve. Singapore Biodiversity Records, 2013: 78.



Fig. 1. Striped tree skink on wooden boardwalk at Hindhede Nature Park. Fig. 2. Same skink at Hindhede Nature Park scurrying along boardwalk railing. Fig. 3. Skink at Windsor Nature Park on boardwalk railing. (Photographs by: Chin Liying Nikki).