

Biodiversity Record: The stick insect, *Lobonecrosia subflava*, in Bukit Timah Nature Reserve

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Subject: Lobed-legged yellow flyer, *Lobonecrosia subflava* (Insecta: Phasmida: Diapheromeridae: Necrosiinae).

Subject identified by: Chin Liying Nikki.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Bukit Timah Nature Reserve; 7 September 2021; around 1321 hrs.

Habitat: Secondary forest, at the edge of a trail.

Observer: Chin Liying Nikki.

Observation: The featured stick insect, about 6 cm in total length, was found clinging to the underside of a leaf (Figs. 1 & 2). The observer had noticed the insect's abdomen sticking out from under the leaf and went to have a closer look.

Remarks: *Lobonecrosia subflava* is sexually dimorphic, with the female being much larger (to 62 mm) and bearing prominently expanded fore femora (Fig. 2). The male is small (to 44 mm) and yellowish brown. In Singapore, this rare and poorly known species has been obtained from Bukit Timah Hill in 1994 and the Island Country Club. It has been recorded elsewhere in Peninsular Malaysia (Perak and Penang) and Sabah (Seow Choen, 2000, 2005 & 2017). This species was not encountered during a recent survey of the Bukit Timah forest in 2015-2016 (Seow-Choen et al., 2019).

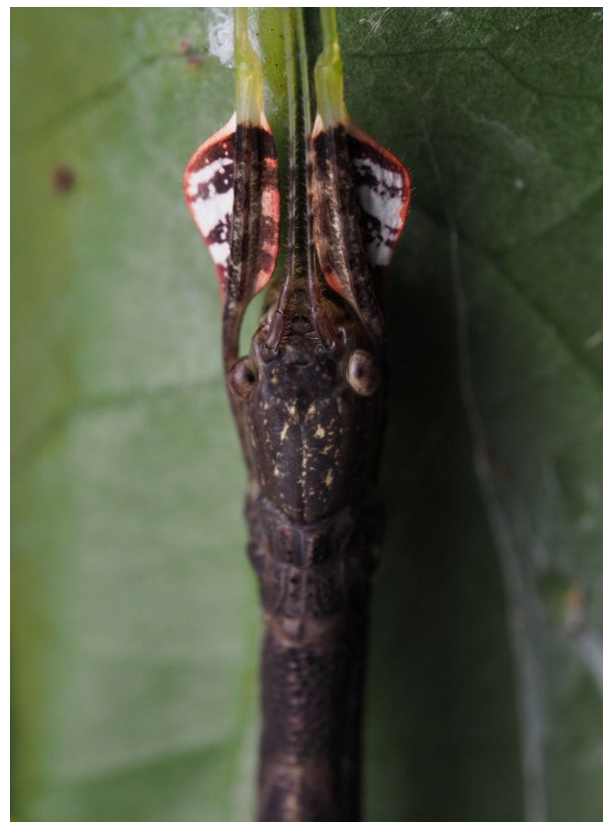


Fig 1. Dorsal aspect of the *Lobonecrosia subflava* clinging to the underside of a leaf. Fig. 2. Close up of the head and forelimbs showing the prominently expanded fore femora. (Photographs by: Chin Liying Nikki)

Literature cited:

- Seow-Choen F (2000) An Illustrated Guide to the Stick and Leaf Insects of Peninsular Malaysia and Singapore. Natural History Publications (Borneo), Kota Kinabalu, v + 173 pp.
- Seow-Choen F (2005) Phasmids of Peninsular Malaysia and Singapore. Natural History Publications (Borneo), Kota Kinabalu, v + 120 pp.
- Seow-Choen F (2017) A Taxonomic Guide to the Stick Insects of Singapore. Natural History Publications (Borneo), Kota Kinabalu, ix + 165 pp.
- Seow-Choen F, Seow-En I, Chua EK & Choo ME (2019) A survey of stick-insects in Bukit Timah Nature Reserve, Singapore. Gardens' Bulletin Singapore, 71(Supplement 1): 381–389.