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Biodiversity Record: Green cockroach at Upper Thomson

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Subject: Green cockroach, Sorineuchora sp. (Insecta: Blattodea: Ectobiidae: Pseudophyllodromiinae).

Subject identified by: Foo Maosheng.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Old Upper Thomson Park Connector; 27 July 2022; 2110 and 2130 hrs.

Habitat: Secondary forest edge, on a metal railing.

Observer: Bryan Seah.

Observation: A nymph of about 5 mm total length, without its left antenna, was seen crawling along the railing at around 2110 hrs (Figs. 1–4). It seemed more active and was constantly moving as compared to other species of cockroaches on the same railing. It was placed in a transparent container to have its underside photographed (Fig. 3), and then released immediately after at the same spot where it was taken. At around 2130 hrs, presumably the same individual was seen again on the same row of railings about 30 m away from where it was first observed.



The green cockroach nymph viewed from various aspects. Fig. 1. Dorsal. Fig. 2. Lateral. Fig. 3. Ventral (photographed ex-situ). Fig. 4. Dorso-frontal. The green surfaces are that of the metal railing. (Photographs by: Bryan Seah)



Remarks: This is the second published record of a green cockroach in Singapore. The present example is about half the size of the first individual, also a nymph, from Thomson Nature Park (Foo et al., 2021), which is in the same general location. The featured cockroach has numerous brown spots which the previous specimen lacks, but they share a similar brown and white marking on the dorsal surface of their abdomens, which suggests that they may be conspecific, and with the present specimen being an earlier instar.

Literature cited:

Foo M, Law JB & Yeo T (2021) Biodiversity Record: New record of a green cockroach (*Sorineuchora* sp.) in Singapore. Nature in Singapore, 14: e2021060.