

Biodiversity Record: Frilly gecko at MacRitchie forest

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Subject: Frilly gecko, *Hemidactylus craspedotus* (Reptilia: Squamata: Gekkonidae).

Subject identified by: James Donnelly.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Central Catchment Nature Reserve, MacRitchie forest, off the main trail that leads to the Treetop Walk; 19 June 2022; 1057 hrs.

Habitat: Mature secondary forest.

Observer: James Donnelly.

Observation: One example of about 11 cm total length was observed about 2.5 m off the ground on the trunk of a large tree, around 5 m off the trail. It was resting in a flattened position exposed to the morning sunlight (Figs. 1 & 2).



Fig. 1. Lateral view of the frilly gecko on the tree trunk in the morning sunlight. Fig. 2. Dorsal view of the same animal. (Photographs by: James Donnelly)

Remarks: In Singapore, the frilly gecko was first recorded from Nee Soon Swamp Singapore in 1991 (Lim, 1991 as *Cosymbotes craspedotus*), and subsequently at the Bukit Timah Nature Reserve in June 2012 in the night (Chua, 2014), and in May 2017 during the day and exposed to the morning sun (Chua, 2017). It is the last sighting that the present observation shares similarities with, and suggests that the frilly gecko is not fully nocturnal in habits. This record also represents a new location for the frilly gecko in Singapore.

Literature cited:

Chua MAH (2014) Frilly gecko at Bukit Timah Nature Reserve. Singapore Biodiversity Records, 2014: 58.

Chua MAH (2017) Frilly gecko at Bukit Timah Nature Reserve. Singapore Biodiversity Records, 2017: 69–70.

Lim KKP (1991) First record of *Cosymbotes craspedotus* (Mocquard) (Reptilia: Sauria: Gekkonidae) from Singapore Island. Raffles Bulletin of Zoology, 39: 307–308.