

## Biodiversity Record: Common butterfly moth, *Tetragonus catamitus*, at Yishun Central

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**Subjects:** Common butterfly moth, *Tetragonus catamitus* (Insecta: Lepidoptera: Callidulidae).

**Subjects identified by:** Simon Kee Mun Chan.

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Island, Yishun Central, Khoo Teck Puat Hospital; 2 May 2023 at 1521 hrs and 31 July 2023, afternoon.

**Habitat:** Urban. Within the basement of a concrete building.

**Observers:** Simon Chan Kee Mun.

**Observation:** On the wet afternoon of 2 May 2023, one individual with forewing length of about 30 mm was observed hitting itself against a glass window. Then on the hot afternoon of 31 July 2023, another example of similar size was found near the location of the former sighting.



Fig. 1. Lateral view of right side of individual in May. Fig. 2. Lateral view of left side of example in July (Photographs by: Simon Kee Mun Chan).

**Remarks:** The species greatly resembles a butterfly in that it flies in sunlight and rests with its wings folded over its back. It is distributed generally in the Oriental region, and has been recorded in Singapore (Morrell, 1973 as *Cleosiris catamita*; Aluthwattha, 2014), but does not appear to be common. The larvae feeds on ferns, such as *Drynaria* (Aluthwattha, 2014).

### Literature cited:

Aluthwattha ST (2014) Ecology, biology, and conservation status of Old World butterfly-moths genus *Tetragonus* Geyer (Lepidoptera: Callidulidae). The Journal of Tropical Asian Entomology 3: 23–32.

Morrell RCR (1973) Butterflies and moths. In: Chuang SH (ed.) Animal Life and Nature in Singapore. Singapore University Press, Singapore, pp. 74–84.