

Biodiversity Record: First Singapore record of the shrimpgoby, *Amblyeleotris rubrimarginata*

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Subject: Red-margin shrimpgoby, *Amblyeleotris rubrimarginata* (Teleostei: Gobiiformes: Gobiidae).

Subject identified by: Charles Z. M. Tan and Zeehan Jaafar.

Location, date and time: Singapore Strait off Terumbu Pempang Laut; 10 October 2023, around 1600 hrs.

Habitat: Marine. Coral reef. On reef slope at about 8 m depth.

Observer: Charles Z. M. Tan.

Observation: One individual of approximately 10 cm total length (Fig. 1) was photographed on the substrate.



Fig. 1. *Amblyeleotris rubrimarginata* in-situ on the substrate off Terumbu Pempang Laut (Photograph by: Charles Z. M. Tan).

Remarks: This observation represents the first record of *Amblyeleotris rubrimarginata* in Singapore (see Larson et al., 2016). This species can be distinguished from its congeners occurring in the Indo-west Pacific area by the presence of a thin red line at the distal margin of the first and second dorsal fins. The colour pattern of the featured individual is typical of the species — base colour of the body greyish-white, with six broad orange-brown bars coursing postero-anteriorly, originating from the dorsum and terminating past mid-flank; short thin brown lines and some small brown spots are present in areas between the broad bars (Mohlmann & Randall, 2002). This species forms an obligate association with pistol shrimps (*Alpheus* sp.) and inhabits burrows made by the latter on sandy substrates, typically in coral reef associated coastal bays and estuaries, at depths of between 2 and 20 m (Allen & Erdmann, 2012).

Literature cited:

- Allen GR & Erdmann MV (2012) Reef Fishes of the East Indies, Vol. 3. Tropical Reef Research, Perth, Australia, xiii + 866 pp.
- Larson HK, Jaafar Z & Lim KKP (2016) An updated checklist of the gobioid fishes of Singapore. Raffles Bulletin of Zoology, Supplement No. 34: 744–757.
- Mohlmann MS & Randall JE (2002) Three new species of gobiid fishes of the genus *Amblyeleotris* from the central and western Pacific. Raffles Bulletin of Zoology, 50: 215–226.