

Biodiversity Record: Striped tree skink at Rifle Range Link

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Subject: Striped tree skink, *Lipinia vittigera* (Reptilia: Squamata: Scincidae).

Subject identified by: Yu Xun Chin.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Central Catchment Nature Reserve, Rifle Range Link; 23 December 2023; 0938 hrs.

Habitat: Secondary forest.

Observers: Yu Xun Chin, Eugene Tan and Jeff Tan.

Observation: One example of about 8 cm total length (Figs. 1 & 2) was observed on a tree about 2 m off the ground. It was crawling over an earthy structure, presumably the nest of an unidentified insect.



Fig. 1. In-situ dorsal view of the striped tree skink. Fig. 2. Lateral view of the same lizard (Photographs by: Eugene Tan).

Remarks: In Singapore, the striped tree skink is regarded as uncommon and locally endangered (Figueroa et al., 2023). It appears to be locally confined to the Bukit Timah and Central Catchment Nature Reserves. In the latter area, it has been recorded from the Nee Soon Swamp Forest, as well as in the peripheral areas of the nature reserves such as Mandai Lake Road (in the compounds of Singapore Zoo and Night Safari), Dairy Farm Nature Park, Rifle Range Nature Park, Hindhede Nature Park and Windsor Nature Park (Chua & Morley, 2013; Chan, 2014; Cheong, 2019; Chin, 2022; Figueroa et al., 2023).

Literature cited:

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Chua MAH & Morley S (2013) Striped tree skink at Bukit Timah Nature Reserve. Singapore Biodiversity Records, 2013: 78.

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