

Copper-cheeked frog and four-lined tree frog in amplexus

Subjects: Copper-cheeked frog, *Hylarana labialis* (Amphibia: Anura: Ranidae).
Four-lined tree frog, *Polypedates leucomystax* (Amphibia: Anura: Rhacophoridae).

Subjects identified by: Contributor.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Central Catchment Nature Reserve, National Parks office building at Bukit Kalang; 13 October 2005; 1040 hrs.

Habitat: Low building at edge of mature secondary lowland forest.

Observer: Contributor.

Observation: A male copper-cheeked frog of about 4 cm snout-vent length, and a larger four-lined tree frog (about 6 cm snout-vent length) of undetermined gender were observed in amplexus. The former was grasping the latter below the arms against the chest. The four-lined tree frog did not seem to object to the copper-cheek frog's amorous behaviour, and made no attempt to dislodge the latter. They were found in this position in the building on a door ledge.

Remarks: The copper-cheeked frog had most likely mistaken the four-lined tree frog for a female conspecific. Unlike the four-lined tree frog, which is a human-commensal that frequently enters buildings, copper-cheeked frogs usually dwell on vegetation alongside forest streams (Baker & Lim, 2012: 60, 63). It is possible that the mounting took place in the adjacent forest, and the tree frog had carried the copper-cheeked frog to the building.

Reference: Baker, N. & K. K. P. Lim, 2012. *Wild Animals of Singapore. A Photographic Guide to Mammals, Reptiles, Amphibians and Freshwater Fishes*. Updated edition. Draco Publishing and Distribution Pte. Ltd. and Nature Society (Singapore). 180 pp.



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