

## Sumatran palm civet at Grange Road

**Subject:** Sumatran palm civet, *Paradoxurus musangus* (Mammalia: Carnivora: Viverridae).

**Subject identified by:** Contributors.

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Island, Grange Road; 14 September 2013; 1718 hrs.

**Habitat:** Suburban. Along road among low houses and gardens.

**Observers:** Contributors; carcass reported by Claire Smith.

**Observation:** An adult male of 103 cm total length, was found dead and bleeding from his nostrils at the side of the road, presumably having been hit by a motor vehicle. The carcass, in good condition without external injury, was collected and deposited in the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum at the National University of Singapore.

**Remarks:** This adaptable animal is widespread and common in Singapore. It can be found in urban areas and is known to inhabit gardens and roof spaces (Baker & Lim, 2012: 152). The common palm civet, *Paradoxurus hermaphroditus*, has been split into three species by a recent study (Veron et al., 2014). The name *Paradoxurus hermaphroditus* is restricted to the populations in India, southern China and Indo-china (henceforth as Indian palm civet). The form in Singapore, peninsular Malaysia, Sumatra and Java is *Paradoxurus musangus* (Sumatran palm civet), named by Sir Stamford Raffles in 1821 as *Viverra musanga* based on animals from Sumatra. Those in Borneo and the Philippines are *Paradoxurus philippinensis* (Philippine palm civet).

### References:

- 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.
- Veron, G., M.-L. Patou, M. Tóth, M. Goonatilake & A. P. Jennings, 2014. How many species of *Paradoxurus* civets are there? New insights from India and Sri Lanka. *Journal of Zoological Systematics and Evolutionary Research*. p. 1-14. doi: 10.1111/jzs.12085.



Photograph by Marcus A. H. Chua

Contributors: Marcus A. H. Chua & Fung Tze Kwan  
Contact address: [maruschua@nus.edu.sg](mailto:maruschua@nus.edu.sg) (Chua)