

Decorative lagoon-goby in the Singapore Strait

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Subject: Decorative lagoon-goby, *Istigobius decoratus* (Teleostei: Gobiidae).

Subject identified by: Daisuke Taira.

Location, date and time: Singapore Strait off Pulau Seringat; 18 December 2015; 1229 hrs.

Habitat: Marine. Seawall, at about 1 m depth.

Observer: Daisuke Taira.

Observation: One example of about 5 cm total length was observed resting on the shallow sloping seawall consisting of granite boulders. The accompanying photograph shows a dorso-lateral view of the fish facing the front.



Photograph by Daisuke Taira

Remarks: The decorative lagoon-goby had not been recorded from Singapore since 1953 (Larson & Lim, 2005: 111). However, it was recently rediscovered in the Singapore Strait from an example photographed off the western side of Pulau Hantu in July 2015 at a depth of around 12 m by Toh Chay Hoon (Larson et al., 2016: 752, fig. 2).

References:

Larson, H. K. & K. K. P. Lim, 2005. *A Guide to Gobies of Singapore*. Singapore Science Centre. 164 pp.
Larson, H. K., Z. Jaafar & K. K. P. Lim, 2016. An updated checklist of the gobioid fishes of Singapore. *Raffles Bulletin of Zoology*. Supplement No. 34: 744-757.

Note: This sighting was recorded as part of the project “Enhancing Singapore’s Coral Reef Ecosystem in a Green Port” funded by the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (WBS: R 347-001-215-490).