

## Sighting of a Sunda colugo at Gallop Road

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**Subject:** Malayan colugo, *Galeopterus variegatus* (Mammalia: Dermoptera: Cynocephalidae).

**Subject identified by:** Mary-Ruth Low.

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Island, Gallop Road, at the edge of the Singapore Botanic Gardens; 5 January 2017; 2130 hrs.

**Habitat:** Suburban parkland.

**Observers:** Mary-Ruth Low, Lai Simin, Shee Zhi Qiang and Chong Shin Min.

**Observation:** An adult colugo was observed on the trunk of a tembusu tree (*Cyrtophyllum fragrans*), at a height of between 8 and 10 m above the ground. It glided to an adjacent tree, and then glided out of the observers' sight before photographs could be taken.

**Remarks:** In Singapore, colugos occur not uncommonly in the Bukit Timah and Central Catchment Nature Reserves (Baker & Lim, 2012). They are also found in adjacent suburban areas, such as Bukit Batok Nature Park (Yeo, 2014), Bukit Drive (Lim, 2014) and Mandai Lake Road (Tan, 2014). In March 2012, a pair was sighted at the Bukit Brown Cemetery (Hall, 2012 as *Cynocephalus variegatus*).

This seems to be the first colugo record from the edges of the Singapore Botanic Gardens. The locality is not linked to the Bukit Timah and Central Catchment Nature Reserves by wooded areas.

For the purpose of illustration, a picture of a Sunda colugo, camouflaged against a tree trunk, is attached. It was photographed in a suburban housing estate, along Bukit Drive, near the entrance of the Bukit Timah Nature Reserve, on 29 August 2008.



Photograph by Kelvin K. P. Lim

### References:

- Hall, M., 2012. Two new mammal records for Bukit Brown. *Nature News* (newsletter of the Nature Society [Singapore]). May-June 2012: 7.
- Lim, N., 2014. Sunda colugo carcass at Bukit Drive. *Singapore Biodiversity Records*. 2014: 286-287.
- Tan H. H., 2014. Malayan colugo at Mandai Lake Road. *Singapore Biodiversity Records*. 2014: 117.
- Yeo, R. K., 2014. Malayan colugo at Bukit Batok Nature Park. *Singapore Biodiversity Records*. 2014: 89.