

A lesser mousedeer at Chestnut Nature Park

Chan Sow-Yan & Yap Tai San

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Subject: Lesser mousedeer, *Tragulus kanchil* (Mammalia: Artiodactyla: Tragulidae).

Subject identified by: Chan Sow-Yan & Yap Tai San.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Central Catchment Nature Reserve, Chestnut Nature Park; 14 February 2019, late afternoon.

Habitat: Secondary forest, near a small stream.

Observers: Chan Sow-Yan & Yap Tai San.

Observation: An adult example was spotted foraging for food behind a fallen tree trunk near a small stream. When it noticed the observers who were about 5 m away, it appeared to be startled and stood frozen at the spot for about three seconds before dashing away. Enough time for the attached picture, with a frontal view of the subject, to be taken.

Remarks: In Singapore, the lesser mousedeer appears to be confined to the forests of the Bukit Timah and Central Catchment Nature Reserves (Baker & Lim, 2012: 155), and is locally regarded as 'critically endangered' (Lim et al., 2008: 203).

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.
- Lim, K. K. P., R. Subaraj, S. H. Yeo, N. Lim, D. Lane & B. Y. H. Lee, 2008. Mammals. In: Davison, G. W. H., P. K. L. Ng & H. C. Ho (eds.). *The Singapore Red Data Book. Threatened Plants & Animals of Singapore*. Second edition. The Nature Society (Singapore). pp. 190-207.



Photograph by Yap Tai San