

Biodiversity Record: A record of the giant stick insect, *Gargantuoidea triumphalis*

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Subject: Triumphant giant stick insect, *Gargantuoidea triumphalis* (Insecta: Phasmatodea: Diapheromeridae).

Subject identified by: Francis Seow-Choen and Foo Maosheng.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Central Catchment Nature Reserve, forest adjacent to Old Upper Thomson Road; 10 January 2024; around 1208 hrs.

Habitat: Mature secondary forest.

Observers: Foo Maosheng, Choo Ruirong, Katelyn Teh and Sri Harini.

Observation: An individual of approximately 70 mm in length (Fig. 1), had fallen on one of the observers from the vegetation overhead. This happened after rain that had stopped at around 0930 hrs. This example was determined to be a nymph due to the wing buds observed at the thorax and was confirmed to be a male.

Remarks: In Singapore, *Gargantuoidea triumphalis* is regarded as uncommon and listed as ‘Near Threatened’ in version 3 of the Singapore Red Data Book (<https://www.nparks.gov.sg/biodiversity/wildlife-in-singapore/species-list/phasmid>). The adult males have been recorded to attain a length of 96–98 mm, while the adult females are known to reach lengths of 134–138 mm (Seow-Choen, 2017). The known host plants are *Drepananthus ridleyi* and *Artocarpus hispidus*.

Note: This observation was made during a survey for Blattodea biodiversity under NParks Permit No. NP/RP23-112a.

Literature cited:

Seow-Choen F (2017) A Taxonomic Guide to the Stick Insects of Singapore. Natural History Publications (Borneo), Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, ix + 165 pp.



Fig. 1. *Gargantuoidea triumphalis* on the wrist of one of the observers (Photograph by: Foo Maosheng).