

## Biodiversity Record: The sea-urchin, *Chaetodiadema granulatum*, at Saint John's Island

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**Subject:** *Chaetodiadema granulatum* (Echinodermata: Echinoidea: Diadematoida: Diadematidae).

**Subject identified by:** Frédéric Ducarme and Yan Le Su.

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Strait, Saint John's Island; swimming lagoon adjacent to the island's jetty; 22 Oct 2024; around 2214 hrs.

**Habitat:** Marine. In artificial lagoon with sand substrates.

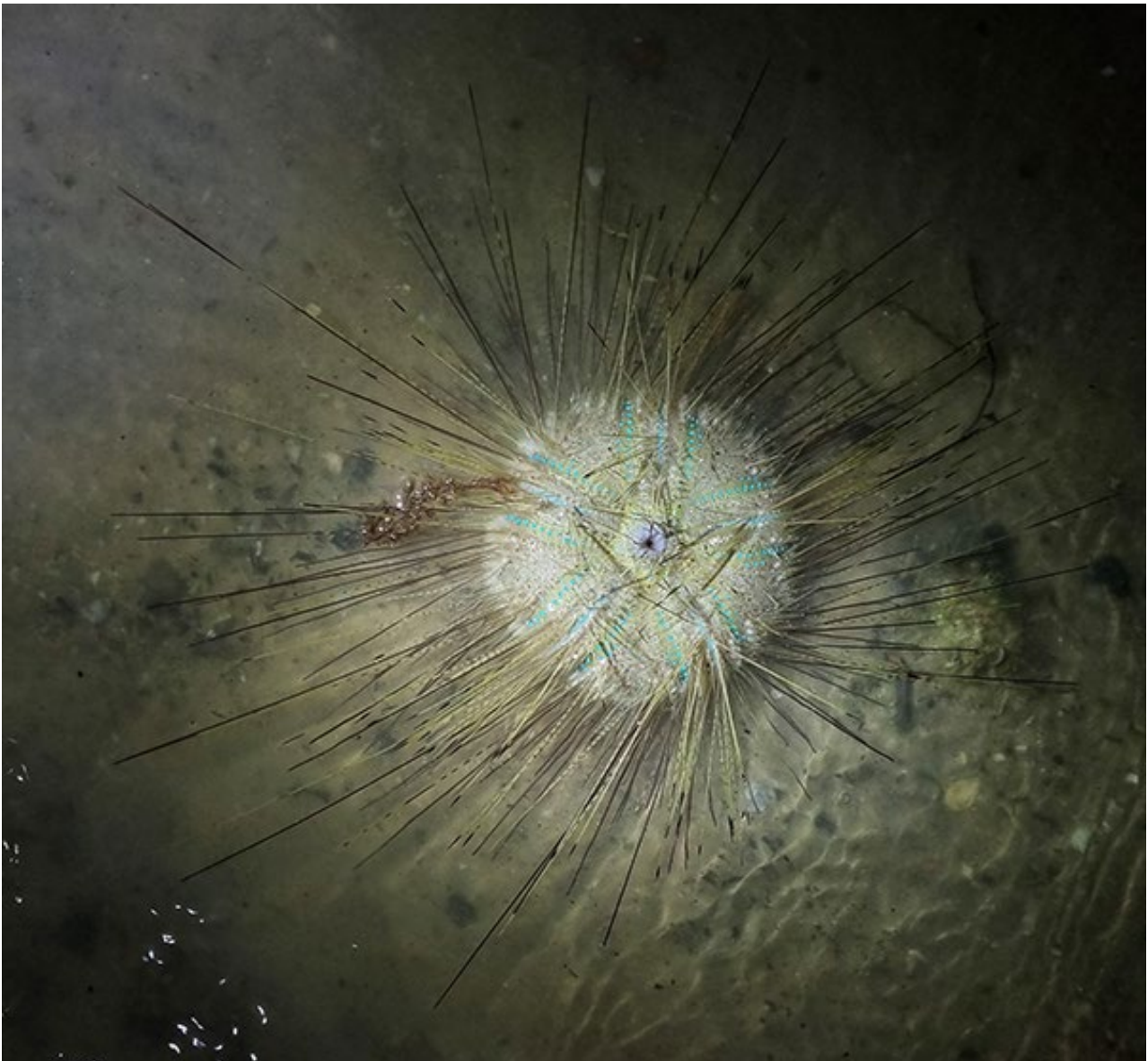


Fig. 1. Aboral view of *Chaetodiadema granulatum*, in-situ (Photograph by: Yan Le Su).



Fig. 2. Close-up of the aboral view of the subject (Photograph by: Yan Le Su).

**Observer:** Yan Le Su.

**Observation:** A single example of approximately 6–8 cm test length (Figs. 1 & 2) was found submerged in shallow water (about 5 cm depth) on the sandy shore during low (around 0.5 m) tide.

**Remarks:** In Singapore, *Chaetodiadema granulatum* is regarded as locally endangered, and was previously recorded during the Comprehensive Marine Biodiversity Survey in 2013 at the Southern Islands, and once in the 1990s off Pulau Semakau (Iesa et al., 2024). Although generally found at depths greater than 45 m, it has been recorded on soft sediments at 15–16 m depth in Singapore (Lane et al., 2000). Thus, it is unusual to find the featured example in shallow water. It is unclear if the animal had wandered into the shallows by itself, or if it had been obtained by fishermen offshore, and then discarded close to shore.

This record has been published on iNaturalist by the author (see <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/248617150>).

**Literature cited:**

Iesa I, Lane DJW, Wong HPS & Tay TS (2024) Echinodermata – sea stars, feather stars, brittle stars, sea cucumbers and sea urchins. In: Davison GWH, Gan JWM, Huang D, Hwang WS, Lum SKY & Yeo DCJ (eds.) The Singapore Red Data Book. Red Lists of Singapore Biodiversity. Third edition. National Parks Board, Singapore, pp. 320–335.  
Lane DJW, Marsh LM, Vanden Spiegel D & Rowe FWE (2000) Echinoderm fauna of the South China Sea: an inventory and analysis of distribution patterns. The Raffles Bulletin of Zoology, Supplement 8: 459–493.