

Biodiversity Record: The owlfly, *Ascalaphus* cf. *prothoracicus* at Yishun Central

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Subject: Split-eyed owlfly, *Ascalaphus* cf. *prothoracicus* (Insecta: Neuroptera: Myrmeleontidae: Ascalaphinae).

Subject identified by: Simon Kee Mun Chan.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, 2 Yishun Central; 31 July 2025; around 1512 hrs.

Habitat: Urban. In the back part of a concrete building. The nearest green area is a field of cow grass (*Axonopus compressus*) and lallang (*Imperata cylindrica*), on the ground floor, about 100 m away.

Observers: Simon Kee Mun Chan.

Observation: An individual of about 3.5 cm body length was observed perched on a door hinge about 1.3 m off the ground (Figs. 1 & 2) on the second level of the building. The subject remained completely motionless throughout the observation. It did not react to being photographed with flash by the observer.



Fig. 1. Dorsal view of the owlfly, in-situ. Fig. 2. Lateral view of the same individual. (Photographs by: Simon Kee Mun Chan)

Remarks: This observation marks the second published record of this apparently rare insect in Singapore, after the first documented last September at Upper Aljunied (Shivaram & Foo, 2024). The example shown herein appears to be in better physical condition than the previous individual in having a fuller abdomen and apparently brighter colouration.

Literature cited:

Shivaram R & Foo M (2024) Biodiversity Record: First Singapore record of the owlfly, *Ascalaphus* cf. *prothoracicus*. Nature in Singapore, 17: e2024120. DOI: 10.26107/NIS-2024-0120