

Biodiversity Record: Mukhlesur's chorus frog at Upper Seletar Reservoir Park

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Recommended citation. Chen X, Lim JY & Luqmanul HBO (2025). Biodiversity Record: Mukhlesur's chorus frog at Upper Seletar Reservoir Park. Nature in Singapore, 18: e2025094. DOI: 10.26107/NIS-2025-0094

Subject: Mukhlesur's chorus frog, *Microhyla* cf. *mukhlesuri* (Amphibia: Anura: Microhylidae).

Subject identified by: Chen Xuanhe.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Upper Seletar Reservoir Park; 26 April 2025; around 2302 hrs.

Habitat: Edge of freshwater swamp forest.

Observers: Chen Xuanhe, Lim Jun Yi and Luqmanul Hakim Bin Othman.

Observations: One example of about 2.5 cm snout-vent length (Fig. 1) was photographed in a drain adjacent to a forest stream. No other conspecifics were found in the area.

Remarks: Mukhlesur's chorus frog is an introduced species in Singapore. It was first recorded on Singapore Island at Jurong in 2015 by Law (2015 as 'East Asian ornate chorus frog' *Microhyla fissipes*), but has since been found at other sites, including Kranji Marsh, Lorong Halus, Pang Sua Woodland, Windsor Nature Park (see Figueroa et al., 2023), Bukit Brown (Chen & Tam, 2023), Springleaf Nature Park (Chen & Tam, 2025), Bidadari, Evan Road, and Mandai West (personal observations).

The presence of this species at Upper Seletar Reservoir Park, at the margin of the Nee Soon Swamp Forest, raises concern that it may penetrate and become established within the swamp forest where it could potentially compete ecologically with native congeners such as the dark-sided chorus frog (*Microhyla* cf. *heymonsi*), painted chorus frog (*Microhyla* cf. *butleri*), and the locally 'vulnerable' Manthey's chorus frog (*Microhyla mantheyi*) (see Thomas et al., 2024).



Fig. 1. Dorsal view of the subject. (Photographed by: Chen Xuanhe)

Literature cited:

Chen XH & Tam O (2023) Biodiversity Record: Frogs of Mount Pleasant at Bukit Brown. Nature in Singapore, 16: e2023060. DOI: 10.26107/NIS-2023-0060

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Figueroa A, Low MEY & Lim KKP (2023) Singapore's herpetofauna: updated and annotated checklist, history, conservation, and distribution. Zootaxa, 5287: 1–378.

Law IS (2015) First record of East Asian ornate chorus frog on Singapore Island. Biodiversity Records, 2015: 30.

Thomas N, Law IS & Lim KKP (2024) Checklist of amphibian species with their category of threat status for Singapore. 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, p. 671.