

## Biodiversity Record: Uaru cichlid in canal at Toa Payoh

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**Recommended citation.** Keh AR & Lim TK (2025) Biodiversity Record: Uaru cichlid in canal at Toa Payoh. Nature in Singapore, 18: e2025123. DOI: 10.26107/NIS-2025-0123

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**Subject:** Uaru cichlid, *Uaru amphiacanthoides* (Teleostei: Cichliformes: Cichlidae).

**Subject identified by:** Aidan Raphael Keh.

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Island, Marina Catchment, Kallang basin, canal at Toa Payoh; 21 May 2025; around 2343 hrs.



Fig. 1. Side view of freshly landed *Uaru amphiacanthoides*. (Photograph by: Lim Tee Kiat).

**Habitat:** Freshwater. Concretised canal in an urban residential area.

**Observer:** Lim Tee Kiat.

**Observation:** One example of about 16 cm total length (Fig. 1) was landed by a leisure angler. The fish was caught on hook and line baited.

**Remarks:** *Uaru amphiacanthoides* is native to the Amazon basin of tropical South America (see van der Sleen & Albert, 2018). In Singapore, it enjoys some popularity as an ornamental fish (personal observations). The featured individual, most likely an abandoned pet, appears to represent the first Singapore record of the species in the wild state (see Tan et al., 2020). It is not known if other conspecifics were present in the same water body.

### Literature cited:

Tan HH, Lim KKP, Liew JH, Low BW, Lim RBH, Kwik JTB & Yeo DCJ (2020) The non-native freshwater fishes of Singapore: an annotated compilation. Raffles Bulletin of Zoology, 68: 150–195.

Van der Sleen P & Albert JS (eds.) (2018) Field Guide to the Fishes of the Amazon, Orinoco & Guianas. Princeton University Press, New Jersey, USA, 464 pp.