

## Biodiversity Record: Bombardier dragonfly at Lornie Nature Corridor

Simon Kee Mun Chan

Email: [simonchan268@yahoo.com.sg](mailto:simonchan268@yahoo.com.sg)

**Recommended citation.** Chan SKM (2026) Biodiversity Record: Bombardier dragonfly at Lornie Nature Corridor. Nature in Singapore, 19: e2026023. DOI: 10.26107/NIS-2026-0023

---

**Subject:** Bombardier, *Lyriothemis cleis* (Insecta: Odonata: Nymphalidae: Nymphalinae).

**Subject identified by:** Simon Kee Mun Chan.

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Island, Central Catchment Nature Reserve, Lornie Nature Corridor; 10 January 2026; around 1335 hrs.

**Habitat:** Edge of secondary forest.

**Observer:** Simon Kee Mun Chan.

**Observation:** On a hot afternoon, an example of about 4.5 cm in total length was seen flying down from the tree canopy level and then perching on a blade of grass close to the ground (Fig. 1).

**Remarks:** In Singapore, the bombardier appears to be rare. It seems to be restricted to the Bukit Timah and Central Catchment Nature Reserves and adjacent nature parks, and is classified as locally Endangered (Ngiam & Ng, 2024).

This species of dragonfly, first collected by Alfred R. Wallace in Singapore in 1854, is widely distributed from India through Indochina to the Philippines and over Sundaland and Sulawesi. It inhabits mature dipterocarp forests where it breeds in phytohelms on bamboo and large trees (Ngiam & Ng, 2022).



Fig. 1. In-situ dorsal view of the bombardier perching on a blade of grass (Photograph by: Simon Kee Mun Chan).

### Literature cited:

- Ngiam RWJ & Ng MFC (2022) A Photographic Field Guide to the Dragonflies & Damselflies of Singapore. John Beaufoy Publishing, United Kingdom, 340 pp.
- Ngiam RWJ & Ng MFC (2024) Odonata – dragonflies and damselflies. 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. 240–252.