

Biodiversity Record: Greater mousedeer at Pasir Ris

Louis Liow

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Subject: Greater mousedeer, *Tragulus napu* (Mammalia: Artiodactyla: Tragulidae).

Subject identified by: Louis Liow.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Pasir Ris Park; 3 April 2026; 2056–2104 hrs.

Habitat: Small patch of secondary forest surrounded by urban parkland.

Observer: Louis Liow.

Observation: One adult individual was observed for about 10 minutes sitting quietly among the leaf litter. It was not eating the fruits that had fallen on the ground around it.



Fig. 1. Lateral view of the head of the subject in-situ. Fig. 2. Fronto-lateral view of the head and throat of the same mousedeer. (Photographs by: Louis Liow).

Remarks: The greater mousedeer was rediscovered in Singapore on Pulau Ubin in 2008 (Chua et al., 2009). On Singapore Island, one was caught on camera trap in the Western Catchment area south of Murai Reservoir in July 2012 (Chua, 2015). No other examples were reported until one, identified as ‘lesser mousedeer’ was spotted at Pasir Ris Park at 3 am on 14 April 2026 (Daley, 2026). The poor resolution image in the video footage that accompanied that report does not allow for accurate identification of the animal. However, it is believed to be a greater mousedeer because the featured sighting with sharper images of the animal (not necessarily the same individual) occurred more than a week earlier on 3 April 2026.

Given that Pasir Ris Park is separated from Pulau Ubin by a narrow strip of water about 2 km wide, it is believed that the mousedeer had swum over from there. The individual could have been displaced due to a recent rapid growth of the mousedeer population on the island, likely resulting from reduced wild pig numbers due to an outbreak of swine fever, as well as forest restoration (Chua et al., 2026).

Literature cited:

- Chua MAH (2015) Greater mousedeer in Western Catchment Area. Singapore Biodiversity Records, 2015: 8.
- Chua M, Sivasothi N & Teo R (2009) Rediscovery of greater mouse deer, *Tragulus napu* (Mammalia: Artiodactyla: Tragulidae) in Pulau Ubin, Singapore. Nature in Singapore, 2: 373–378.
- Chua MAH, Thomas N, Teo RCH & Lim HC (2026) Rapid population growth of greater mouse-deer after active forest restoration and African swine fever outbreak. Biological Conservation, 313: 111564
- Daley F (2026) Singapore seen. Blink and you'll miss it: rare mousedeer spotted at Pasir Ris Park at 3 am. Stomp, 16 April 2026, 11:31 am. <https://www.stomp.sg/singapore-seen/blink-and-youll-miss-it-rare-mousedeer-spotted-pasir-ris-park-3am>