

## **Longhorn cowfish at Semakau**

**Subject:** Long-horned cowfish, *Lactoria cornuta* (Teleostei: Ostraciidae).

**Subject identified by:** Contributor.

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Straits, at Semakau Landfill; 4 November 2013; afternoon.

**Habitat:** Marine lagoon with coral growth.

**Observer:** Contributor.

**Observation:** An example of this distinctive fish, about 20 cm total length, was found in the intertidal zone during low tide.

**Remarks:** The longhorn cowfish frequents lagoons and sheltered bays, often among seagrass, and is known to reach a maximum size of 46 cm total length (Allen & Erdmann, 2012: 1081). Although said to be common in Singapore waters (Wang & Lim, 2012: 277), it is not frequently seen.

### **References:**

Allen, G. R. & M. V. Erdmann, 2012. *Reef Fishes of the East Indies. Volume III*. Tropical Reef Research, Perth, Australia. pp.857-1292.

Wang L. K. & K. K. P. Lim, 2011. Cowfish. In: Ng, P. K. L., R. T. Corlett & H. T. W. Tan (eds.). *Singapore Biodiversity: An Encyclopedia of the Natural Environment and Sustainable Development*. Editions Didier Millet with the Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research, Singapore. pp 277.



Photograph by Ron K. H. Yeo

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