

## Swamp crab *Pseudosesarma bocourti* on Pulau Tekong

**Subject:** *Pseudosesarma bocourti* (Crustacea: Brachyura: Sesarmidae).

**Subject identified by:** Peter K. L. Ng.

**Location, date and time:** Pulau Tekong, Belang area; 17 November 2012; evening.

**Habitat:** Freshwater swamp with clay substrate covered with silt-laden leaf litter. Under tree canopy.

**Observers:** Contributor, with Kelvin K. P. Lim and Tan Siong Kiat.

**Observation:** Three juveniles were observed at the edges of the freshwater swamp, scuttling about underwater among the leaf litter. A specimen of 9.5 mm carapace width (see attached pictures) was collected and deposited in the Zoological Reference Collection of the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum at the National University of Singapore, under the catalogue number ZRC 2012.1088.

**Remarks:** *Pseudosesarma bocourti* inhabits freshwater, particularly in muddy areas, and is even found in peat swamps. However, it is not a true freshwater crab as its planktonic larvae is marine (Ng, 2004). Although rarely seen and presumably uncommon in Singapore, it is not listed as a locally threatened species (Yeo et al., 2008).

### References:

- Ng, P. K. L., 2004. Crustacea: Decapoda, Brachyura. In: Yule, C. M. & H. S. Yong (eds.). *Freshwater Invertebrates of the Malaysian Region*. Academy of Sciences Malaysia. p. 311-336.
- Yeo, D. C. J., S. H. Tan & P. K. L. Ng, 2008. Horseshoe crabs and decapod crustaceans. p. 110-128. In: Davison, G. W. H., P. K. L. Ng & H. C. Ho (eds.). *The Singapore Red Data Book*. Second edition. Nature Society (Singapore). viii + 285 pp.



Dorsal (left) and ventral (right) views of juvenile *Pseudosesarma bocourti* (ZRC 2012.1088). Photographs by Kelvin K. P. Lim

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