

Lesser bumblebee goby in Upper Seletar Reservoir

Subjects: Lesser bumblebee goby, *Brachygobius sabanus* (Teleostei: Gobiidae).

Subjects identified by: Contributors.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Upper Seletar Reservoir, inlet streams at southwest and northwest arms; 22 May & 7 July 2014.

Habitat: Small shallow freshwater streams in secondary forest, under tree canopy, with silty substrate, tree roots and leaf litter.

Observers: Contributors and others.

Observations: Five examples of between 11.6 and 16.6 mm standard length (ZRC 54496) were obtained from a stream at the southwestern arm of the reservoir off Mandai Lake Road on the evening of 22 May 2014. Nine examples of between 8.3 and 13.6 mm standard length (ZRC 54525) were taken from a stream feeding an inlet at the northwestern arm on the morning of 7 July 2014. All were found on the substrate among tree roots and submerged leaf litter. The specimens were preserved and deposited in the Zoological Reference Collection (ZRC) of the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum at the National University of Singapore.

Remarks: *Brachygobius sabanus* was first recorded in Singapore by Lim & Tan (2012: 70) from the Tengah, Poyan and Kranji Reservoirs, freshwater ponds at the Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve and the stream at Lorong Banir that leads to Lower Seletar Reservoir. This species, commercially used as an ornamental fish, is believed to have been artificially introduced in Singapore, and appears to be thriving in the water bodies where it is found. The present record appears to be the first from an inland reservoir in Singapore.

Reference: Lim, K. K. P. & H. H. Tan, 2012. Addition of fish species to the established alien fauna of Singapore: *Amblypharyngodon chulabhornae* and *Brachygobius sabanus*. *Nature in Singapore*. 5: 69-72.



Brachygobius sabanus of 13.2 mm standard length from ZRC 54525. Photograph by Tan Heok Hui

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