

## Deep flounder at East Coast

**Subject:** Deep flounder, *Pseudorhombus neglectus* (Teleostei: Pleuronectiformes: Paralichthyidae).

**Subject identified by:** Kelvin K. P. Lim.

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Strait, East Coast at Tanah Merah; 27 May 2017; morning.

**Habitat:** Marine. Intertidal shore, in tide pool with sand substrate, at low tide.

**Observers:** Leo Nguang & Lee Bee Yan.

**Observation:** The fish shown in the accompanying picture, 64.4 mm in standard length (measured from tip of snout to base of caudal fin), was caught with hand-net in a pool with water less than 5 cm depth.

**Remarks:** This is one of five species of the flatfish genus *Pseudorhombus* recorded from Singapore which include *Pseudorhombus arsius*, *P. malayanus*, *P. neglectus* (Fowler, 1938: 80-81), and *P. javanicus* recently recorded from the western Johor Strait at Tuas (Lee et al., 2017). In Singapore, *Pseudorhombus elevatus* was first recorded from the eastern Johor Strait by Ng et al. (2015: 320). It is distinguished from its congeners in the area in being comparatively deeper bodied (body depth 1.7 to 2 times in standard length); having no enlarged teeth in both jaws; pale brownish body with a distinct large dark blotch at the junction of the straight and curved parts of the lateral line, and many dark rings and spots scattered on the body; and a distinct notch in front of the eyes along the head profile in front of the upper eye (Amaoka & Hensley, 2001: 3851).

### References:

- Amaoka, K. & D. A. Hensley, 2001. Paralichthyidae. Sand flounders. In: Carpenter, K. E. & V. H. Niem (eds.). *FAO Species Identification Guide for Fishery Purposes. The Living Marine Resources of the Western Central Pacific. Volume 6. Bony fishes Part 4 (Labridae to Latimeriidae), estuarine crocodiles, sea turtles, sea snakes and marine mammals*. FAO, Rome. pp. 3842-3862.
- Fowler, H. W., 1938. A list of the fishes known from Malaya. *Fisheries Bulletin, Singapore*. 1: 1-268.
- Lee B. Y., H. H. Tan & K. K. P. Lim, 2017. Javan flounder at Tuas. *Singapore Biodiversity Records*. 2017: 62.
- Ng H. H., H. H. Tan, K. K. P. Lim, W. B. Ludt & P. Chakrabarty, 2015. Fishes of the eastern Johor Strait. *Raffles Bulletin of Zoology*. Supplement No. 31: 303-337.



Eyed side of *Pseudorhombus elevatus*, 64.4 mm standard length. Photograph by Tan Heok Hui

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