

Orange-bearded Gliding Lizard *Draco abbreviatus* at Balikpapan, East Kalimantan

TAN Heok Hui
heokhui@nus.edu.sg

Observer: Tan Heok Hui.
Photographs by: Tan Heok Hui.
Subject identified by: Tan Heok Hui.

Location: forested area in Bangkirai Hills nature park, 23 km north of Balikpapan, East Kalimantan, Borneo.
Elevation: 100 metres.
Habitat: disturbed primary and secondary forest.
Date and time: 07 June 2017, 16:30hrs.

Identity of subject: Orange-bearded Gliding Lizard, *Draco abbreviatus* (Reptilia: Squamata: Agamidae).

Description of record: A single individual male lizard of around 20 cm total length was sighted moving down a tree trunk, about 5-10 metres above ground level. It stopped intermittently and displayed its long, orange dewlap (Figs. 1a and 1b), possibly to a rival male or displaying to a female (unseen). The afternoon weather was dry, with a clear sky.



Figs. 1a and 1b.

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Remarks: This robust gliding lizard is apparently widespread from Thailand south of the Isthmus of Kra, through Peninsular Malaysia to Sumatra and Borneo (Grismer, 2011). This lizard is adept at substrate matching and has good metachromatic ability, camouflaging against tree trunks (Grismer, 2011). This present sighting is a confirmation of the species from the Balikpapan area of East Kalimantan.

Although Singapore is the type locality of *Draco abbreviatus*, there appears to be no subsequent record of the species from there, and it is categorised as having an 'indeterminate' status for the country (Baker & Lim, 2012).

References:

Baker, N., & K. K. P. Lim, K. (2012). *Wild Animals of Singapore: A Photographic Guide to Mammals, Reptiles, Amphibians and Freshwater fishes* (updated edition). Vertebrate Study Group, Nature Society (Singapore). Draco Publishing. 180 pp.

Grismer, L. L. (2011). *Lizards of Peninsular Malaysia, Singapore, and their adjacent Archipelagos. Their description, distribution, and natural history*. Edition Chimaira, Frankfurt am Main. 728 pp.