

THE 2009 BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE BIODIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE



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INTRODUCTION

Biological diversity, or biodiversity for short, is defined by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) as “the variability among living organisms from all sources including, *inter alia*, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems”. The CBD, which Singapore is a party to, is an international agreement for the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components, and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits from the use of its genetic resources.

The year 2009 was a rewarding one for Singapore as one of the leaders in biodiversity research and conservation in Southeast Asia. In line with the biodiversity conservation movement of the CBD, the National Parks Board (NParks), the scientific authority on nature conservation of Singapore, developed and launched the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), which maps out Singapore’s master plan for biodiversity. On the regional level, Singapore also played host to the ASEAN Conference on Biodiversity 2009, which brought together key biodiversity stakeholders from the region and its partners to discuss emerging trends, issues, and concerns on biodiversity conservation and management in the region.

During the year, Singapore also hosted the First Expert Workshop on the Development of the City Biodiversity Index (CBI; now known as the Singapore Index on Cities’ Biodiversity). An objective and scientifically credible self-assessment tool for cities, the CBI will assist national governments and local authorities in measuring the progress of their biodiversity conservation efforts in the urban context over time. Now formally endorsed, the CBI is Singapore’s contribution to the ongoing global efforts on biodiversity conservation. 2009 was also the year that Singapore began to actively participate in the Global Partnership on Cities and Biodiversity, highlighting the city state’s recognition of the importance of biodiversity.

With the climate for biodiversity research quickly warming up, more and more publications have been produced. There is a growing need for proper records of the expanding literature. This bibliography aims to compile the literature on Singapore’s flora and fauna for the year 2009. This includes formal and informal publications on the natural history, biology, botany, zoology, ecology, taxonomy, systematics, and conservation biology of the biodiversity of the Republic of Singapore. This book will also be the first of the series of bibliographies of the biodiversity literature of

Singapore to create a comprehensive reference list in line with the mission of the Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research (RMBR), National University of Singapore, to be the focal point for biodiversity research in Singapore and Southeast Asia.

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

This bibliography is meant to be a comprehensive list of the biodiversity literature of Singapore, offering an overview of the publications produced in the year 2009. It records formal publications of books (print and electronic) and journal articles, as well as non-refereed or informal publications, which includes online articles and newsletters, conference proceedings, webpages, and newspaper reports. Relevant academic reports and theses submitted for the fulfillment of undergraduate and graduate studies in Singapore (Natural Sciences Division, National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University, and the Department of Biological Sciences, National University of Singapore) are also included for reference. Annotations are included for some of the citations. The compilation is categorised by the reference type, and the order is as follows: a) books, b) journal articles, c) non-refereed reports and newsletters, d) conference proceedings, e) theses (undergraduate and graduate studies), f) academic reports, g) webpages, and h) newspaper articles.

METHODS

Search engines including Factiva, LexisNexis, Scopus, and Google were used to compile the formal publications, as well as other online journal articles, newsletters, conference proceedings and webpages that were published in 2009. The websites of governmental and non-governmental nature organisations, as well as the websites of other related interest groups and individual naturalists, were examined as well. These include the Agri-food and Veterinary Association of Singapore (AVA), the National Environmental Agency (NEA), the National Parks Board (NParks; and their Centre for Urban Greenery and Ecology websites, and websites on the various nature reserves, the Singapore Botanic Gardens, and Park Connectors), the Public Utilities Board (PUB; and their ABC Waters Programme website), Nature Society of Singapore (NSS), the Singapore Environment Council (SEC), and Nature Watch. Theses from the National University of Singapore (NUS) were compiled from the online database, and Shirley S. L. Lim, He Jie, Chew Shit Fun, and Yan Yaw Kai provided those from the National Institute of Education (NIE), Nanyang Technological University (NTU). Kelvin K. P. Lim provided the list of newspaper articles published in the year 2009. The irrelevant citations were then filtered away through various rounds of checking. Opportunistic knowledge of publications was also added to the list.

As with the compilation of any list, some records will doubtlessly be omitted or be wrongly recorded. We welcome any feedback or contributions to this list, and for the future bibliographies from year 2010 onwards. We would appreciate notifications of publications on Singapore flora and fauna in overseas or international journals and other platforms, from the year 2010 and onwards. Please kindly notify us via email to RMBooks@nus.edu.sg.

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