



A record of coat colour variation in Common Palm Civet *Paradoxurus hermaphroditus*

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Abstract

This note briefly describes a coat colour variation of Common Palm Civet *Paradoxurus hermaphroditus* recorded by camera-trap in Dehing Patkai National Park, Assam, India. The tip of the tail was white rather than the more usual dark colour.

Keywords: camera-trap, coat colour variation, Dehing Patkai National Park, Viverridae

On 26 January 2024, at 21h17, a Common Palm Civet *Paradoxurus hermaphroditus* was photographed by a camera-trap in the Soraipung Range of Dehing Patkai National Park (27°18'40"N, 95°30'03"E, 162 m a.s.l.). The civet was identified as a Common Palm Civet on the basis of the dark longitudinal markings on its body, its masked face, and the pale background body colour (Fig. 1). The animal had a white tail tip, a variation in pelage colouration that is known in the Brown Palm Civet *Paradoxurus jerdoni* (Menon 2014, Shameer et al. 2023).

The civet was foraging along a stream when the image was captured. Camera-trapping in Sabah, Malaysian Borneo, and sightings in the Indian states of Maharashtra and Karnataka have recorded the same tail patterning in Common Palm Civet (Wilting et al. 2007, Chunekar 2014).

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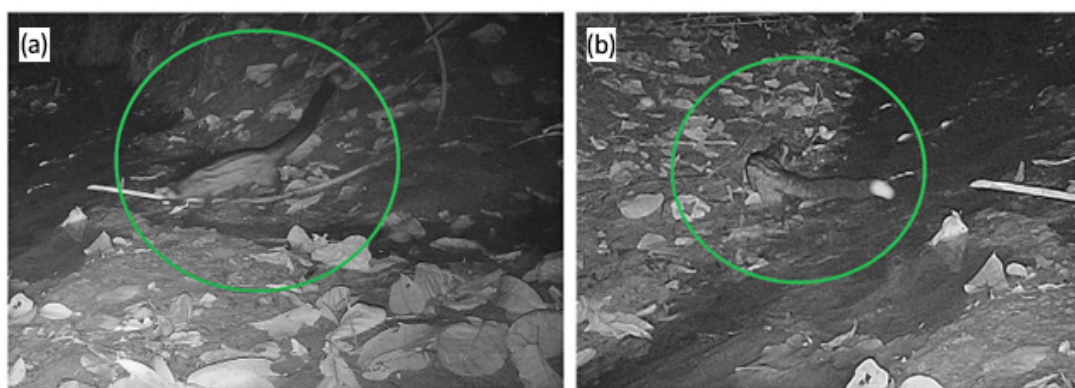


Fig. 1. Common Palm Civet *Paradoxurus hermaphroditus* with white tail tip in Dehing Patkai National Park, Assam, India, on 26 January 2024.