

Species of the Month 8/2024 || Sunda Pygmy Woodpecker
2 Aug 2024 || TO NUS Community

Ever wonder how woodpeckers avoid brain damage 🧠 from all the drumming they do on trees?

Find out why, and pick up other fun facts about the Sunda Pygmy Woodpecker, the smallest woodpecker in Singapore 🇸🇬.

Let us know what species you would like to see featured by voting for the next Species of the Month.

CAMPUS IN A TROPICAL RAINFOREST

SPECIES OF THE MONTH

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Photo by Jeff Tan

SUNDA PYGMY WOODPECKER

Yungipicus moluccensis

APPEARANCE

- It is the smallest woodpecker in Singapore, with a white-barred dark brown back, a brown-streaked belly and a white-and-brown streaked head.
- Males can be distinguished from females by a small red streak on the upper part of the head.

HABITAT

The Sunda Pygmy Woodpecker is an adaptable species, and can be found in parks, gardens, mangroves and in coastal areas.

DIET

The Sunda Pygmy Woodpecker primarily feeds on insects like ants and termites, but may also feed on other food like fruits and seeds.

FUN FACT

Woodpeckers like the Sunda Pygmy Woodpecker rely on the size of their brain and its orientation to prevent brain trauma when drumming.

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