

NUS Students Against Violation of the Earth (SAVE) and the Office of Environmental Sustainability present “Campus in a Tropical Rainforest”, an initiative that aims to create awareness of the biodiversity that surrounds us in NUS. In each monthly issue, we will be featuring a species that can be spotted or found in NUS to help us get to know them better. So, if you happen to be travelling around campus between classes, remember to stop and look around your surroundings, for you may be surprised to come across some of the other inhabitants of NUS.

NUS SAVE
- presents -

CAMPUS IN A TROPICAL RAINFOREST

Species of the Month
Issue #14: February 2017



Javan Myna
Acridotheres javanicus
Family Sturnidae

 **Appearance**

- Clad in grey plumage with white-tipped tail feathers
- Two distinct white patches can be seen on the underside of their wings during flight
- Bill and legs are yellow and its iris is lemon-yellow

 **Habitat**

Naturally found in Indonesia, they were introduced in Singapore via caged-bird trade. Javan mynas nest in tree holes, under eaves of houses and expansion gaps in bridges and MRT lines

 **Diet**

- Varied diet including food scraps that were left behind by humans
- Hunt insects under tree bark and regularly follow grass cutters to catch displaced insects

 **Fun Facts**

- Flexibility in its diet and nesting habits make them one of the most abundant bird species in Singapore
- However, its population is declining in its native country (<2,000 birds) due to demand for pet trade
- Recently listed as vulnerable by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- Known for its singing and chirping, they are used to train other birds to sing along
- As a javan myna mates for life, they are often seen foraging in pairs

Photo by: Jun Yi

Initiative by:



Supported by:



For more information and pictures of the Javan Myna and to check out the “Campus in a Tropical Rainforest” series, click on this link: www.tiny.cc/CiTR

Also, check out other sightings of NUS biodiversity on the Campus Creatures Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/campuscreatures/>

You can also join the community in spotting the flora and fauna in NUS by sharing your sightings with pictures on the Campus Creatures Facebook page and Instagram the photos with #NUSCiTR and #NUSbiodiversity.