



Woman fined \$4,000 for the illegal import of a sugar glider

23 May 2018: 24-year-old Nur Syahirah binte Hussein, was fined \$4,000 for the illegal import of a sugar glider into Singapore.

2. In February 2018 at Woodlands Checkpoint, an officer from the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA) found the offender carrying a red pouch containing a live baby sugar glider during checks. Sugar gliders are not allowed to be imported as pets and the offender did not have an import licence issued by the Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority of Singapore (AVA) for import of animals. A second charge of failure to ensure that the animal was not subjected to unnecessary suffering was taken into consideration.

Public advisory

3. Animals that are smuggled into Singapore are of unknown health status and may introduce exotic diseases into the country. The import of animals and birds without a licence is an offence under the Animals and Birds Act. Any person, on conviction, is liable to a fine of up to S\$10,000, or imprisonment of up to 12 months or to both.

4. In addition, sugar gliders are considered wildlife and are not allowed to be kept as pets or for sale in Singapore. The introduction of such animals may impact our local biodiversity should the animal be inadvertently released. More importantly, exotic animals may introduce undesirable animal diseases into Singapore, which could threaten local animal and public health. For a list of approved pets, please refer to AVA website at <https://www.ava.gov.sg/explore-by-sections/pets-and-animals/owning-a-pet/getting-a-pet>.

5. AVA would like to remind travellers against the illegal import of live animals, birds and insects into Singapore. The public can refer to AVA's website or download

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AVA's mobile app, SG TravelKaki (available free-of-charge from [iTunes](#) and the [Google Play store](#)), for more information on bringing back animals from overseas travel.



Red sling pouch carried by the offender containing the live sugar glider (Photo: AVA)

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