IGHT NINGBO

Beauty of Nature: Celebrating International Day for Biological Diversity



May 22nd is proclaimed by the United Nations as the International Day for Biological Diversity. Every May, Ningbo enjoys good weather, pleasant temperatures and abundant rainfall. Diverse animals and plants can be found along your leisurely stroll to the city center or the outskirts like Siming Mountain. Come on; let's explore and enjoy the beauty of nature across the urban and rural areas of Ningbo!

5月22日是国际生物多样性日。 5月的宁波,气温适宜,雨水充沛,万物 欣欣向荣,无论在市区,还是郊外的四 明山,随便走走,都可以看到很多有趣 的动植物。现在,让我们从城市到山 区,一起去感受身边的自然与美好吧!

On this early morning, I came to Yinzhou Park. In my telescopic view, a little grebe (small water bird) floating on the lake just caught a prawn and constantly tossed its head to remove the prawn head

清晨的鄞州公园,在望远镜里可以 看到,湖面上有只小䴙䴘(pìtī)刚 刚捕到了一只大虾,只见它拼命甩头, 把虾的头部处理掉了,才开始吃肉。

A flight of swallows flew across the lake while the little grebe was busy hunting. They swooped and then lifted off sharply, with their bodies lightly touching the surface of water. Their movements were amazingly brisk and neat, yet grace-

在小䴙䴘忙着捕食的时候,一群家 燕轻盈地飞过,它们不时俯冲,身子在 水面上轻轻一点,然后又迅速起飞,动 作优美、干脆利落,令人惊叹。

In the nearby reeds, a couple of scaly- breasted munia occupied themselves with collecting dried leaves and branches to nest.

一旁的芦苇荡里,斑文鸟夫妇正忙 着叼取枯叶等材料,飞到一旁的树丛 里筑巢。

In the river of the Ecology Corridor at the Eastern New Town, a raft of little eastern spot-billed ducklings and their mother were swimming and foraging at ease. You can imagine how adorable it is



A Asian barred owlet fed nestlings with a lizard.



A swallow lightly touched the surface of water.

to see these fluffy ducklings flapping their wings over the water.

在东部新城生态走廊的河道里,斑 嘴鸭妈妈带着破壳不久的小鸭子们悠 然自得地游弋、觅食。毛茸茸的野鸭 宝宝不时站起来扑打几下稚嫩的翅 膀,那样子特别可爱。

Above the new lotus leaves, herds of vibrant damselflies flew. (Damselfly is the non-technical term for coenagrion in the order Odonata. Two of the two main species of the damselflies are Ischnura senegalensis and paracercion calamorum.) A mating pair of Ischnura senegalensis were forming a heart-shaped "wheel" on the new leaves.

水边荷叶初展,那里活跃着不少豆 娘,它们主要有两种:褐斑异痣蟌 (cōng)与蓝纹尾蟌。蟌,俗称豆娘, 是属于蜻蜓目的昆虫。一对褐斑异痣 蟌正在荷叶上举行"婚礼",它们互相 连结,形成一个充满爱意的心形。

In the course of filming the damselflies, frogs were heard croaking in the riverside grass. That sound must be made by a male black-spotted pond frog. "In the green grass and ponds, frogs are croaking" (a line of Chinese poetry from Appointment with a Friend, by Zhao Shixiu, who lived from 1170 until 1219). This reminds Ningbo locals of their childhood. It is really amazing to hear frogs croaking again at a metropolitan park.

在拍摄豆娘时,忽听河边的草丛里 传来阵阵蛙鸣:"呱呱,呱呱!"那是黑 斑侧褶蛙的雄蛙在鸣叫。"青草池塘处 处蛙",这熟悉的声音,勾起了很多人 童年记忆。如今,在都市的公园里也 可以听到,真好。

In late May, Chinese Spiranthes flowers begin to bloom at Sun Lake Park. This wild species of orchid - commonly

known as "panlongshen" (a Chinese herbal medicine) - produces pale blush-pink flowers circling up around the scape and featuring ice-crystal petals.

5月下旬,在日湖公园的草坪上, 绶草开花了。这种野生兰花俗称"盘 龙参",其粉色的小花围绕着花葶盘旋 而上,花瓣晶莹剔透,犹如冰晶。

Now let's take a drive for half an hour or so leaving the city center for Siming Mountain. Hydrangea chinensis flowers bloom on both sides of the mountain roadways between late spring and early summer. It is interesting to learn that these larger "white flowers" on their edges are actually sterile sepals primarily aiming to attract insects. Their real and fertile flowers are the little yellow-greenish flowers in the middle.

离开宁波市区后,只需半个多小时 车程,就到了四明山里。春末夏初,山 路边不难看到中国绣球。这种花很有 意思:其外围的较大的"白花"实际上 是不孕的花萼片,只起到吸引昆虫的 "广告牌"的作用,真正的可孕花是中 央的黄绿色小花。

Up along the ancient mountain trail, a pair of lycaena phlaeas was found mating. This type of beautiful grey butterfly has bright orange- reddish front wings with distinct dark spots.

沿着古道慢慢走,发现一对红灰蝶 正在路面上交尾。这种灰蝶长相靓 丽,其前翅正面为鲜艳的橙红色,具有 显著的黑斑。

Further on the side of a nearby brook, a lovely dragonfly was resting under a grass leaf. Out of our expectation, it was a rare dragonfly species (namely Macromidia kelloggi Asahina). Its body is typically yellow and black, while its breast and back are blue-greenish and metallic-colored.

溪边,有一只漂亮的蜻蜓吊在草叶 下休息。它的体色以黄、黑为主,而仔 细看的话,会发现它的胸背部有蓝绿 色斑块,还隐隐泛着金属光泽呢!这 是一只克氏中伪蜻,属于不常见的蜻

Deep inside the forest the flowers of paris polyphylla were still in bloom. Amazingly, their blossoms last a long time, from early April to the end of May.

森林深处,俗名"七叶一枝花"的华 重楼还在开花,它的花期可真长,从4 月上旬一直开到了5月末。

Upon nightfall, the Asian barred owlets started to be fully engaged in feeding nestlings with lizards and the like. This type of bird is a commonly seen species of small owl, usually dwelling in the hollows of large trees.

傍晚,正在育雏的斑头鸺鹠(xiū liú)开始忙碌起来,亲鸟叼来蜥蜴等 食物喂养雏鸟。这是一种本地常见的 小型猫头鹰,常安家在大树的树洞里。

The beauty of Nature takes us back to a widely acclaimed line from the great Song Dynasty poet Xin Qiji (1140 -1207): "Charming are mountains green. I would expect the feeling to be mutual, for we are somewhat alike, in mood and mien." Human beings should live in harmony with nature, right?

最后,引宋代著名词人辛弃疾的名 句与大家共勉:"我见青山多妩媚,料 青山见我应如是。"人类善待自然,自 然也会善待人类,不是吗?

Reporter Zhang Haihua Translators Mei Jie, Huang Dawang Proofreaders Puyang Rong, Lü Chang, Jason Mowbray

刊登热线: 56118885 **/LI** 56118880

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