IDENTIFYING THE PROTECTED SPECIES OF

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS IN INDONESIA

NATHAN RUSLI

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Back Cover: *Varanus indicus* (atas) ©Jungle Diaries,
Simalia boeleni (bawah) ©Nathan Rusli
Cover Page: *Crocodylus porosus* ©Nathan Rusli

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INTRODUCTION

Reptiles and amphibians (herpetofauna) are a group of animals which are not too familiar to the public. The management of these animals are very different from mammals and birds, which have been the main focus points of conservation in Indonesia.

This book is an identification guide which aims to assist officials in identifying the protected species of amphibians and reptiles in Indonesia. The list of species in this book is based on the Indonesian Environment Ministry Law No. P.20/MENLHK/SETJEN/KUM.1/6/2018.

This identification guide was made for RAM (*Reptile and Amphibian Management*) Workshop, held in Cikananga Wildlife Centre, 30 July - 02 August 2019. This event is a collaboration between Cikananga Wildlife Centre, Indonesia Herpetofauna Foundation, Chester Zoo, and Indonesian Forestry Department, which aims to increase skill and capacity of personnel involved in the confiscation and/or conflict management of wild animals, especially reptiles and amphibians that are traded illegally.

Because this book is designed for personnel which may or may not have prior knowledge in herpetology, the easiest defining characters of each species have been chosen and displayed using many labelled photographs, making it as easy as possible to use.

Hopefully this book can be useful for conservation practitioners in Indonesia.

Timor Python (*Malayopython timoriensis*)

CHAPTER 1
SNAKES AND LIZARDS

TIMOR PYTHON

Malayopython timoriensis

Indonesian Name: Sanca Timor
English Name: Timor Python
Distribution in Indonesia: Timor, Flores
Identification: This is a rather slender python compared to other species. It is golden-yellow on the first half of its body, and fades to a darker shade of brownish gray on the last half to the tail. This snake has a mottled pattern on the first half of its body, starting from behind the head.

GREEN TREE PYTHON

Morelia viridis

Indonesian Name: Sanca Hijau, Chondro
English Name: Green Tree Python
Distribution in Indonesia: Aru Islands, Papua
Identification: This snake lives in trees, and has a characteristic "U" shaped perching position (opposite page). The head is not triangle shaped, and has a robust, muscular body. Adult snakes usually have a green base colour, with various blotches of white, yellow, and/or blue (varies between populations). Juveniles are red or yellow instead of green, with white and/or brown blotches.

"U"-shaped
perching positon

juvenile

©Riza Marlon

juvenile

©Riza Marlon

BURMESE PYTHON

Python bivittatus

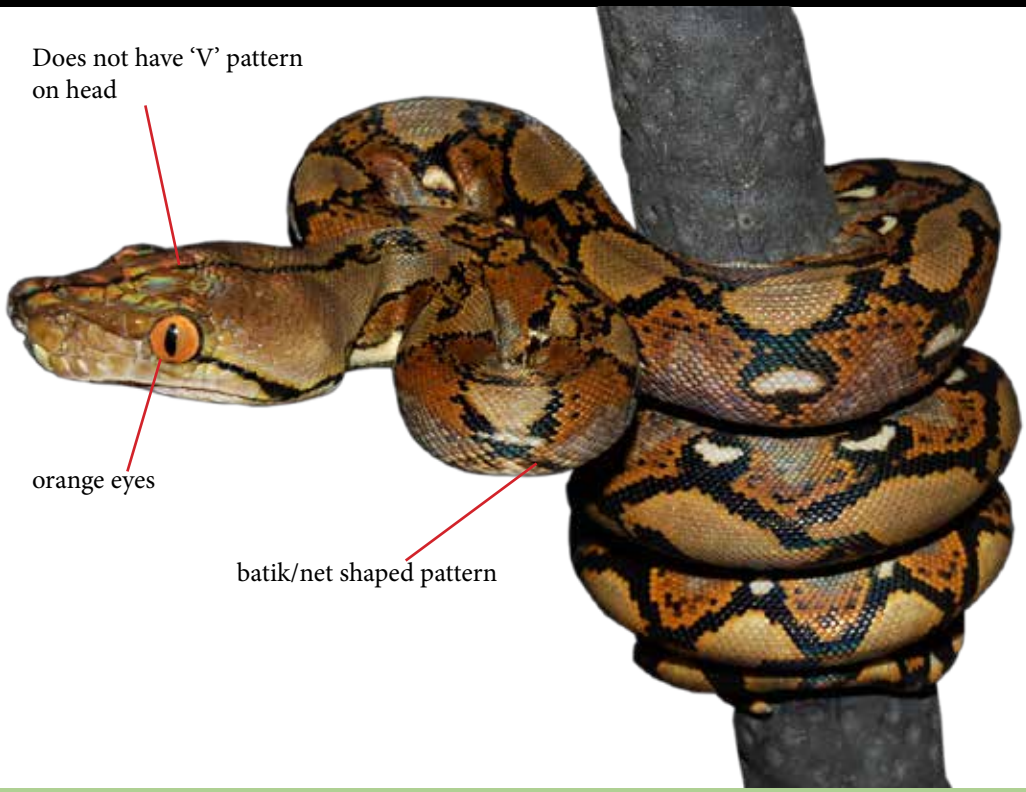
Indonesian Name: Sanca Bodo, Molu
English Name: Burmese Python
Distribution in Indonesia: Java, Bali, Sulawesi
Identification: Robust, muscular body. Has a "V"-shaped marking on the top of its head. Large brown blotches on body (like a giraffe) bordered with cream or light brown. It has dark coloured eyes, whereas the commonly traded (non protected) reticulated python (*Malayopython reticulatus*) has a reticulated/net shaped pattern with mottling, and orange eyes. The albino variant of this species is commonly traded, which has yellow blotches bordered in white, and red eyes.

'V'-shaped marking on head

large blotches like a giraffe

dark eye

Albino variety of the Burmese Python (*Python bivittatus*) which is **PROTECTED**.

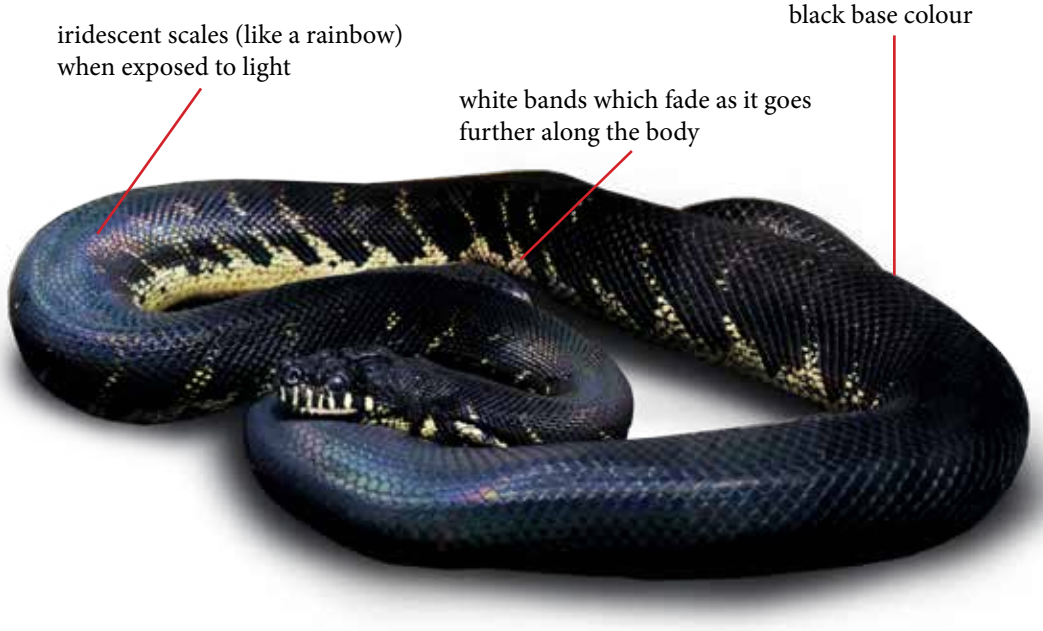


Reticulated Python (*Malayopython reticulatus*)
NOT PROTECTED

BOELEN'S PYTHON

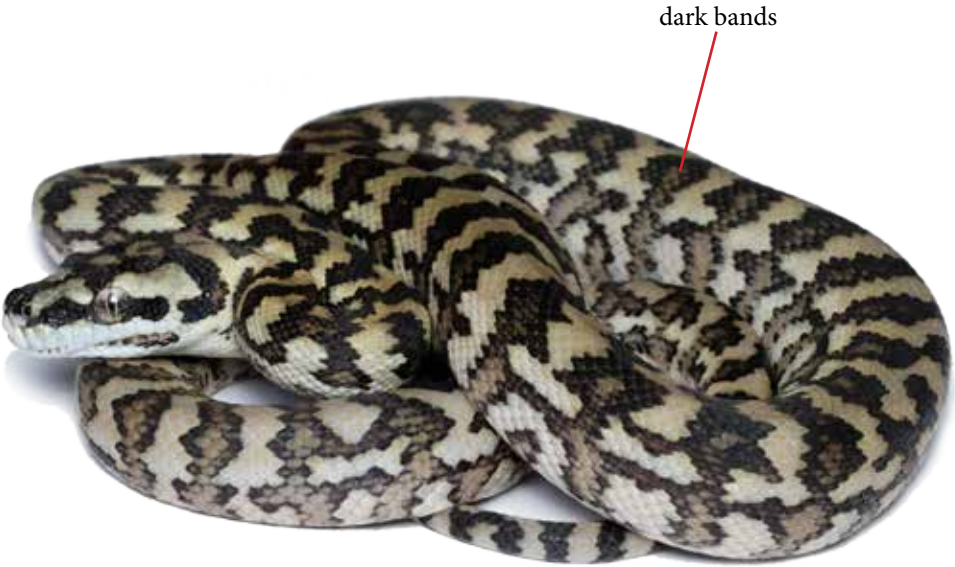
Simalia boeleni

Indonesian Name: Sanca Bulan, Sanca Hitam
English Name: Boelen's Python
Distribution in Indonesia: Papua
Identification: large head, short snout, robust and muscular body. Adult specimens have a black base colour with white bands until the front half of its body, which fades further along the body. Has white markings on the lips. Iridescent scales (like a rainbow) when exposed to light. Juveniles have reddish-brown bands with a cream base colour.



adult specimen of Boelen's Python

Juvenile Boelen's Python which is **PROTECTED**. ©Riza Marlon



Carpet Python (*Morelia spilota*)
NOT PROTECTED

FRILLED LIZARD

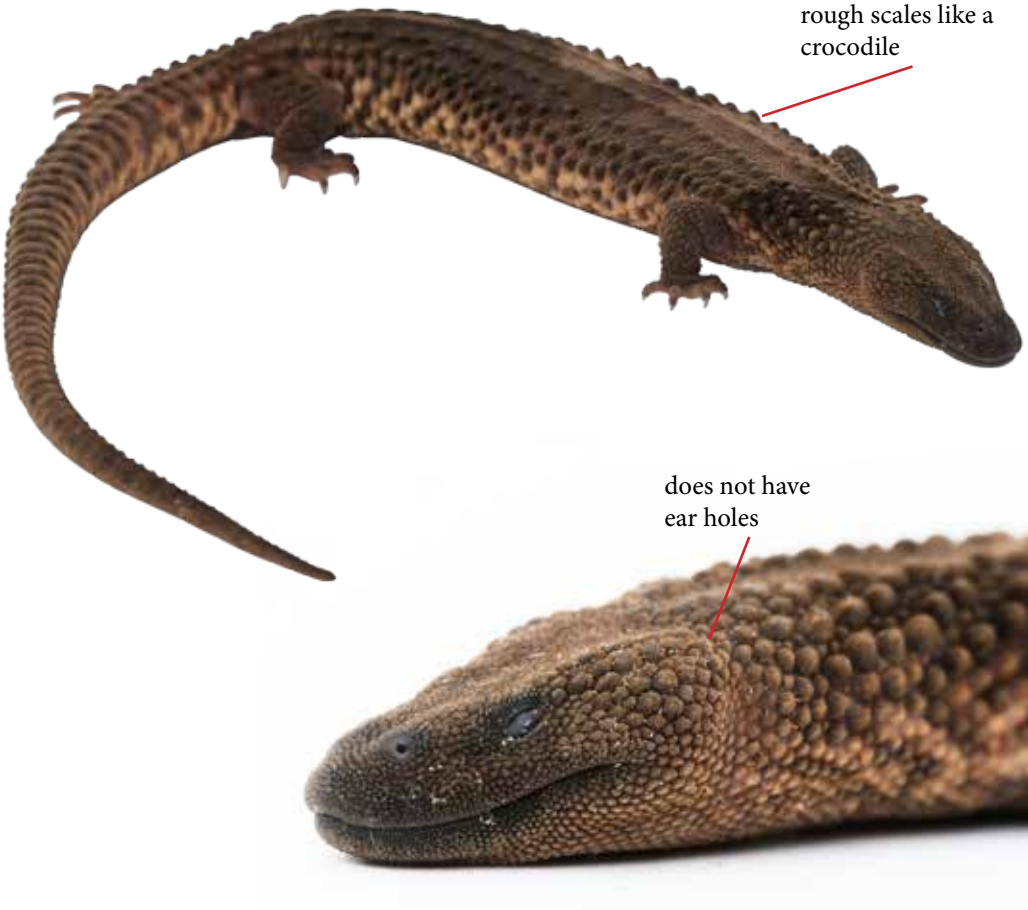
Chlamydosaurus kingii

Indonesian Name: Soa Payung
English Name: Frilled Lizard
Distribution in Indonesia: Papua
Identification: A defining character of this species is the large folds of skin on its neck. When threatened, it can open the folds of skin like an umbrella in order to make it look larger and more threatening. It is usually brown or grayish in colour, with dark mottling/speckling randomly spread on its body.

BORNEO EARLESS MONITOR

Lanthanotus borneoensis

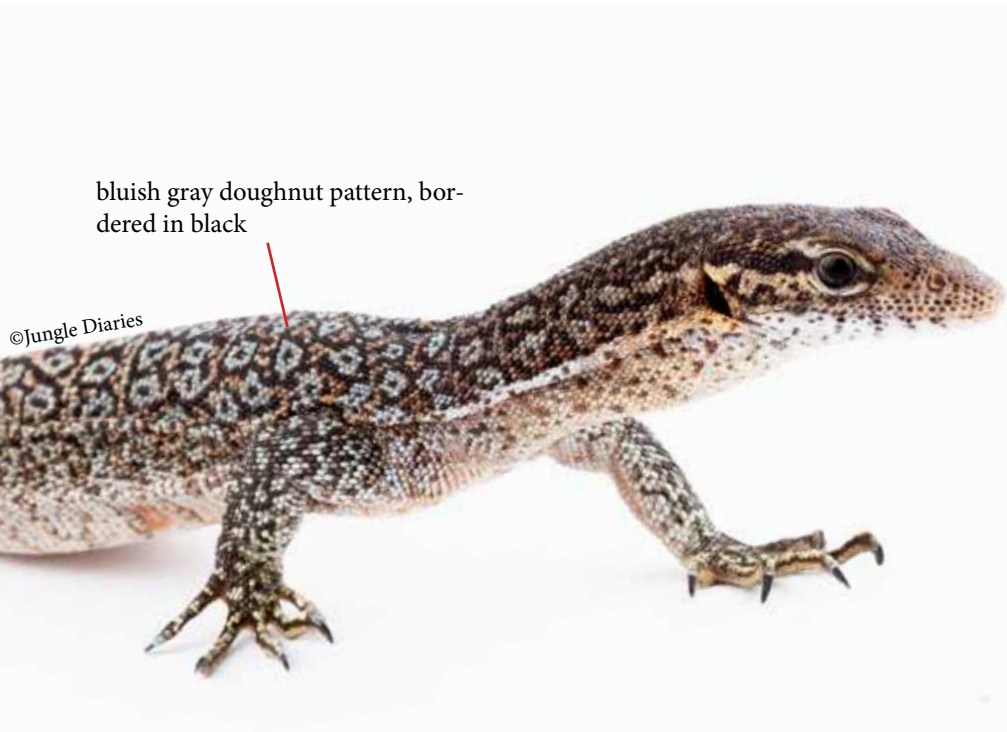
Indonesian Name: Biawak Kalimantan, Biawak Tuli
English Name: Borneo Earless Monitor
Distribution in Indonesia: Kalimantan
Identification: This strange lizard is not a true monitor (Varanidae) but is classified in its own family (Lanthanotidae). It is very unique and easy to identify, as it has rough scales like a crocodile on its back, but unlike a crocodile does not have a long snout and exposed teeth. It is known as an earless monitor because it lacks ear holes.



PEACOCK MONITOR

Varanus auffenbergi

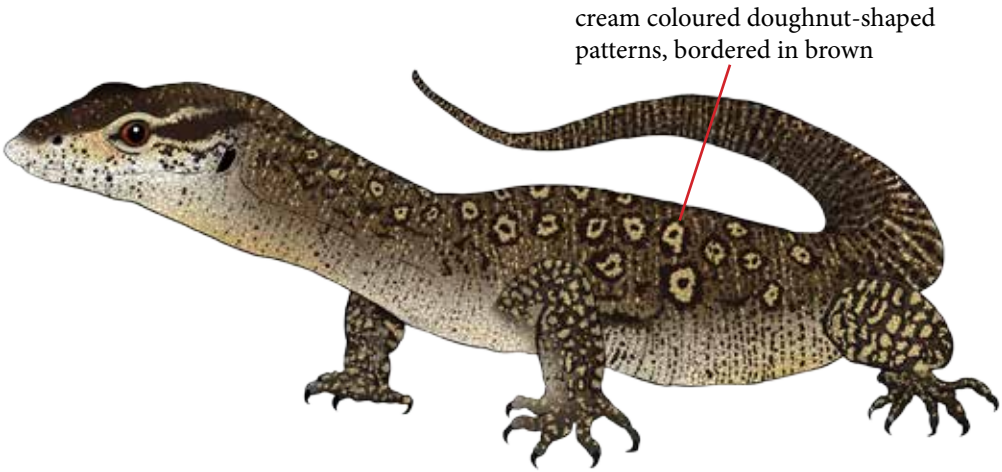
Indonesian Name: Biawak Rote
English Name: Peacock Monitor, Auffenberg's Monitor
Distribution in Indonesia: Pulau Rote
Identification: A small monitor, very similar to *V. timoriensis* (page 15). On its back, this species has doughnut shaped patterns which are bluish gray in colour, bordered in black, which form a larger, more symmetrical pattern than a similar marking on *V. timoriensis* which has cream coloured doughnut-shaped patterns, bordered in brown. The belly of this species is plain, whereas *V. timoriensis* has a mottled belly.



BIAWAK TIMOR

Varanus timorensis

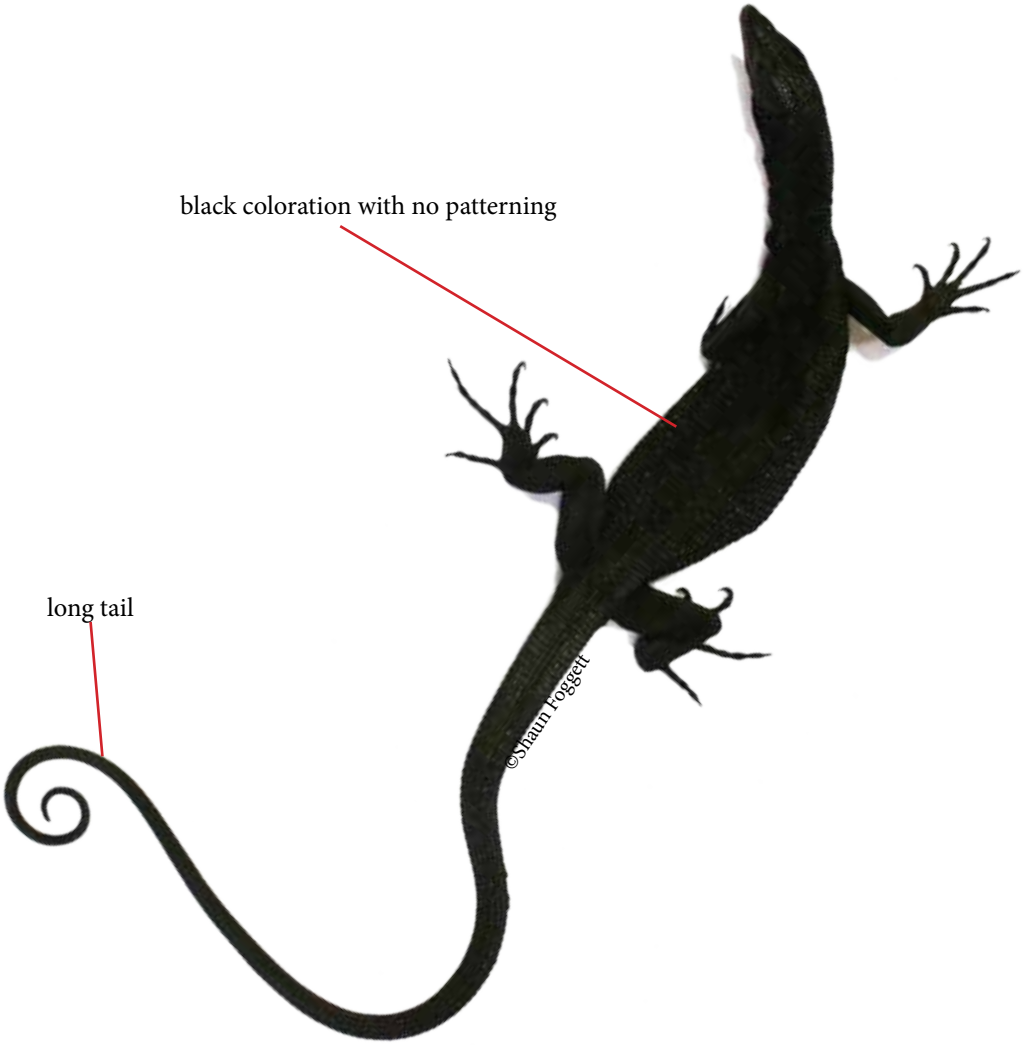
Indonesian Name: Biawak Timor
English Name: Timor Monitor
Distribution in Indonesia: Timor
Identification: A small monitor, very similar to *V. auffenbergi* (page 14). On its back, this species has cream coloured doughnut-shaped patterns, bordered in brown, whereas *V. auffenbergi* has doughnut shaped patterns which are bluish gray in colour, bordered in black, which form a larger, more symmetrical pattern than a similar marking on this species. The belly of this species is mottled, whereas *V. auffenbergi* has a plain belly.



BLACK TREE MONITOR

Varanus beccarii

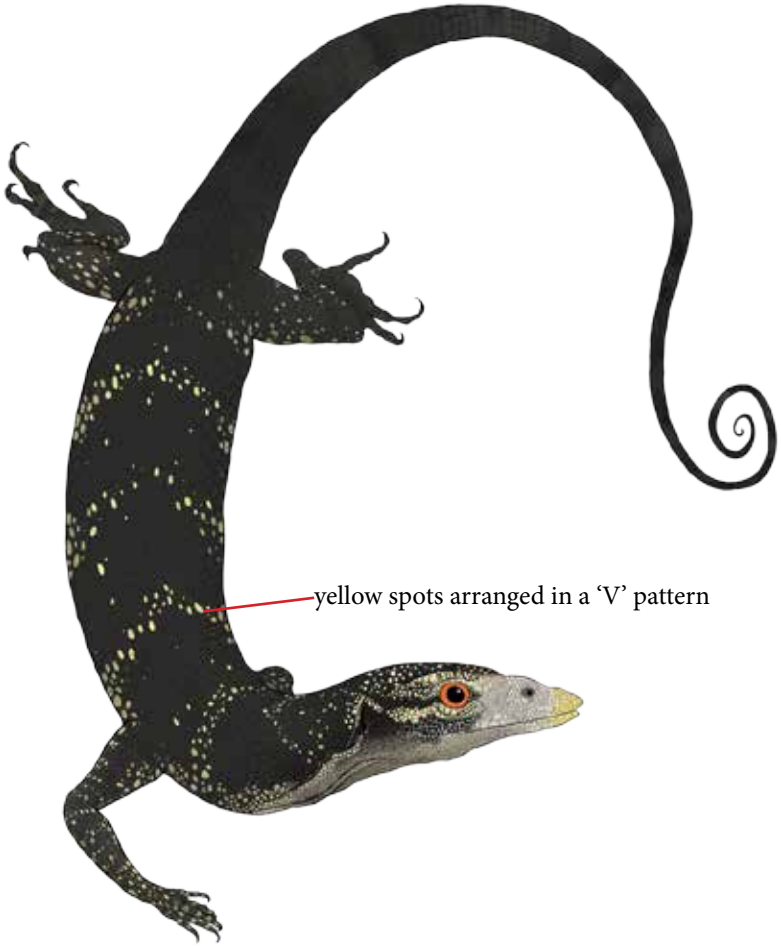
Indonesian Name: Biawak Aru, Biawak Hitam
English Name: Black Tree Monitor
Distribution in Indonesia: Kep. Aru
Identification: Medium sized monitor lizard with a slender body and long tail. Adults are black in colour. Juveniles are dark gray with small yellowish spots on its back, which fade as it grows.



GOLDEN-SPOTTED TREE MONITOR

Varanus boehmei

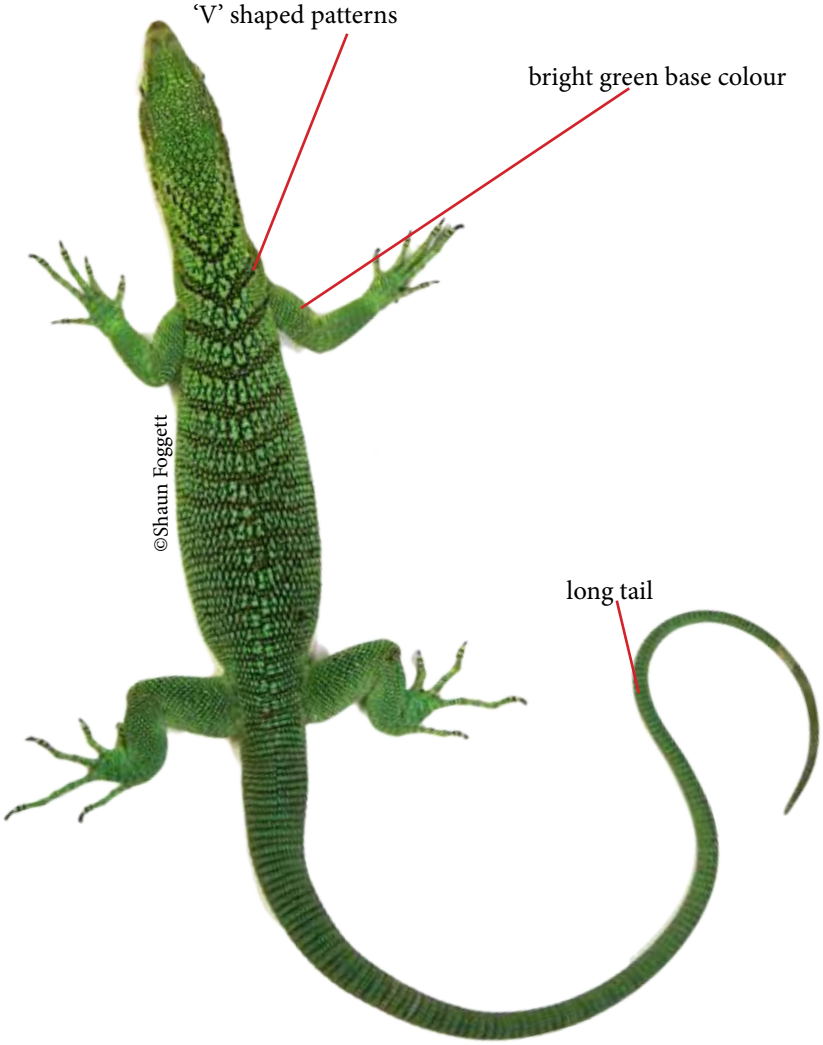
Indonesian Name: Biawak Waigeo
English Name: Golden-Spotted Tree Monitor
Distribution in Indonesia: Kep. Waigeo
Identification: Medium sized monitor lizard with a slender body and long tail. It is dark gray or black in colour, with light yellow/golden spots arranged in a chevron ('V' shaped) pattern. The tip of its snout is pale yellow.



EMERALD TREE MONITOR

Varanus prasinus

Indonesian Name: Biawak Hijau
English Name: Emerald Tree Monitor
Distribution in Indonesia: Papua
Identification: A slender, medium-sized monitor lizard with a long tail. It is bright green in colour, with black chevron ('V' shaped) patterns on it's neck and back.



REISINGER'S TREE MONITOR

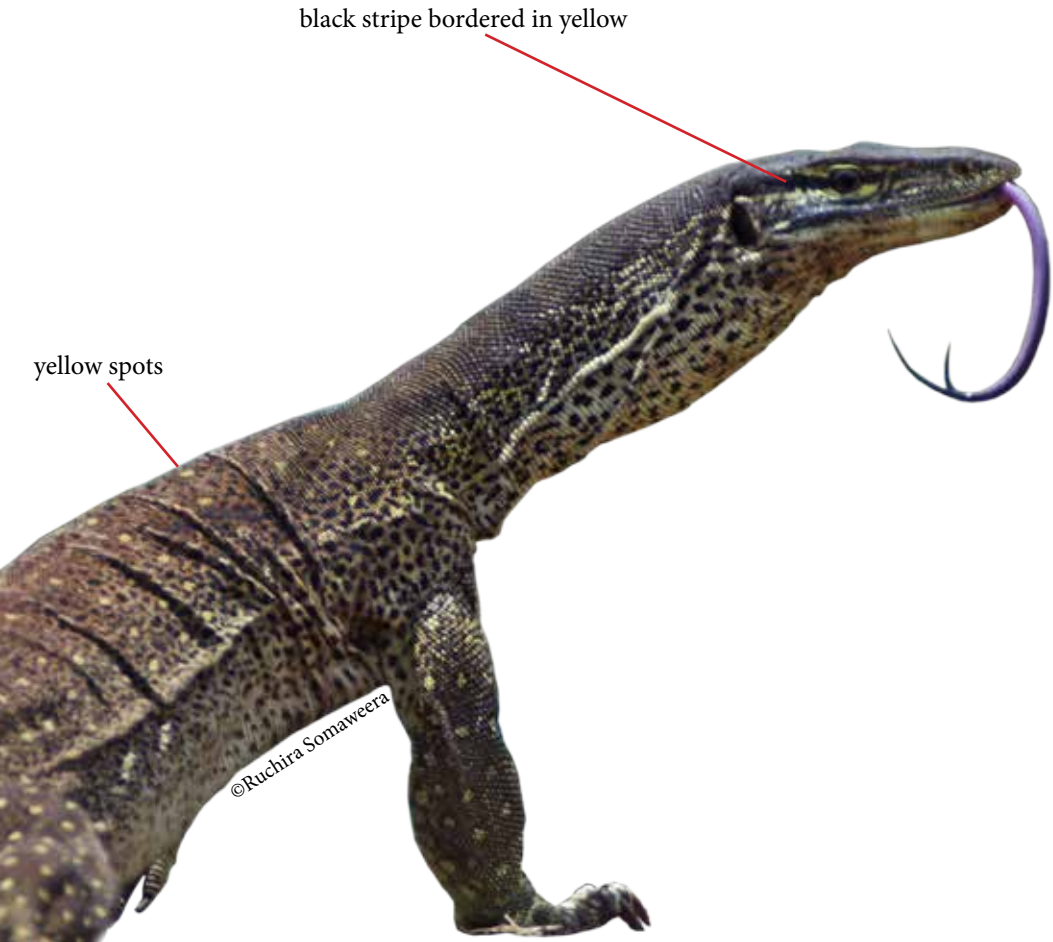
Varanus reisingeri

Indonesian Name: Biawak Misool
English Name: Reisinger's Tree Monitor
Distribution in Indonesia: Kep. Misool
Identification: A slender, medium-sized monitor lizard with a long tail. It is yellowish green in colour, with black chevron ('V' shaped) patterns on it's neck and back. It is still debated wether this is a subspecies of *V. prasinus* (also protected) or a distinct species, as they look very similar.

ARGUS MONITOR

Varanus panoptes

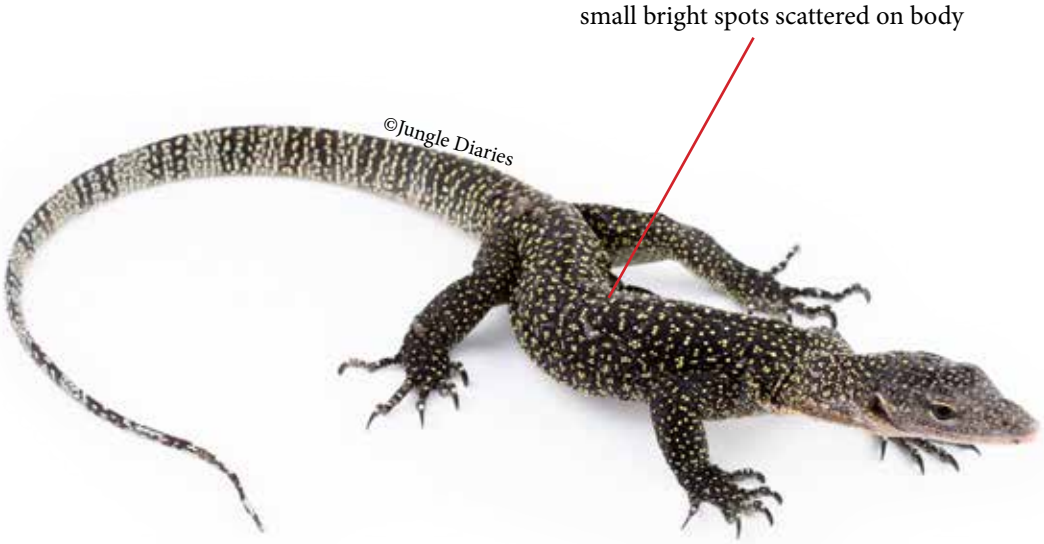
Indonesian Name: Biawak Coklat
English Name: Argus Monitor
Distribution in Indonesia: Papua
Identification: This species can be identified by the black stripe that passes the eye and goes above the ear hole, bordered in yellow. A similar black stripe also passes through the eye and ear hole. It has a brown base colour, with yellow spots on its back.



MANGROVE MONITOR

Varanus indicus

Indonesian Name: Biawak Maluku
English Name: Mangrove Monitor
Distribution in Indonesia: Kep. Maluku, Kep. Aru, Kep. Talaud, Papua, Timor, Halmahera
Identification: This monitor lizard has a dark gray/black base colour, with small light spots (white/yellowish) that are scattered along the whole of its back. It has a black tongue.



KOMODO DRAGON

Varanus komodoensis

Indonesian Name: Komodo, Ora
English Name: Komodo Dragon
Distribution in Indonesia: Komodo, Rinca, Padar, Flores
Identification: The largest lizard on earth, with a large, robust body. Adults are reddish/grayish brown. The juveniles are usually more slender, with a dark base colour, and a chevron (upside down 'V' shape) on its neck that is pale yellow, followed by large spots on its back which are reddish brown in colour. This pattern will fade as it grows.

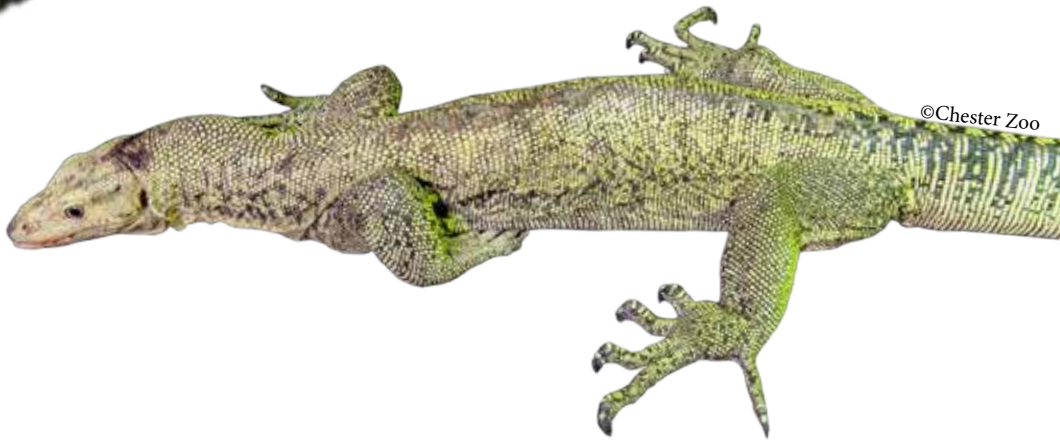
Biawak Komodo anakan. ©Delvena Leong

©Ruchira Somaweera

QUINCE MONITOR

Varanus melinus

Indonesian Name: Biawak Banggai
English Name: Quince Monitor
Distribution in Indonesia: Kep. Obi, Kep. Sula
Identification: A medium-sized monitor lizard. Adults have a yellowish/pale yellow base colour, with an abstract granite/net pattern, sometimes reduced or no pattern at all. Juveniles are usually darker on the back with large yellow spots, with a dark yellow head and neck. This patterning fades as it grows.



Biawak Banggai anakan

CLOUDED MONITOR

Varanus nebulosus

Indonesian Name: Biawak Abu-Abu
English Name: Clouded Monitor
Distribution in Indonesia: Java
Identification: This monitor lizard looks similar to the water monitor (*V. salvator*), however it differs in the nostril. The nostril of this species is shaped like a slit and is situated in the middle of the eye and snout, whereas on *V. salvator* it is oval and on the tip of snout. Also, this species has a convex snout. It has a grayish brown base colour with small yellowish and white spots scattered all over its back. The head is usually yellowish, with a dark stripe behind the eye. Juveniles have a more contrasting colouration, whereas adults are pale.

juvenile

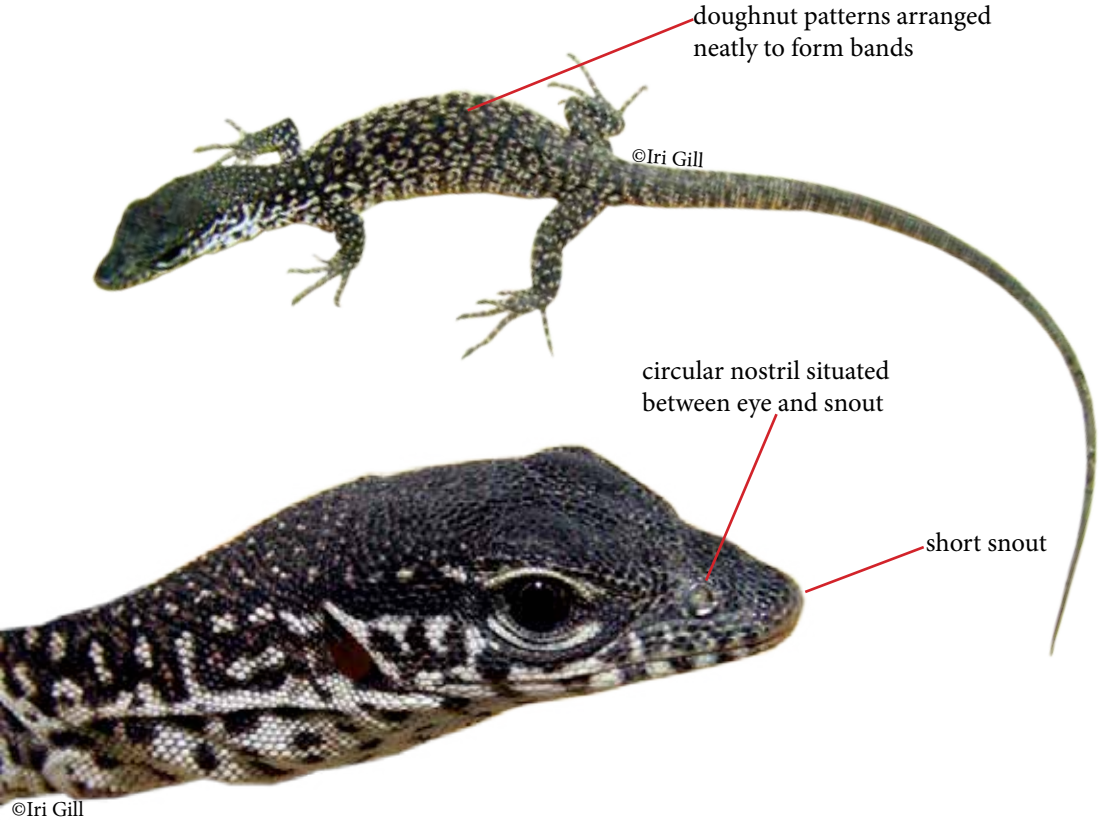

convex snout
slit-shaped nostril situated between eye and snout

adult

SPOTTED TREE MONITOR

Varanus similis

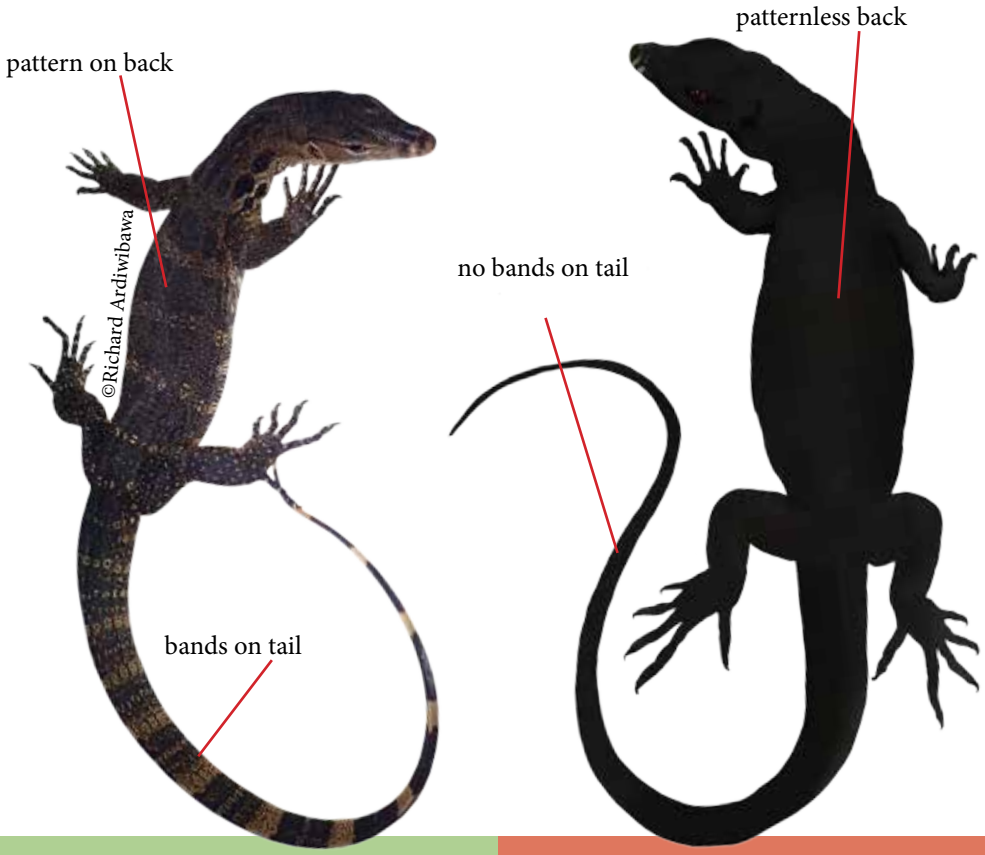
Indonesian Name: Biawak Kerdil
English Name: Spotted Tree Monitor
Distribution in Indonesia: Papua
Identification: A small monitor lizard. The characteristics of this species is its short snout, and a circular notsril, situated between the eye and nostril. It has a black or dark gray base colour, with yellowish/white spots on neck. There are yellowish doughnut-shaped patterns on its back, arranged to form bands. The ventral of neck is white.



TOGIAN MONITOR

Varanus togianus

Indonesian Name: Biawak Togian
English Name: Togian Monitor
Distribution in Indonesia: Kep. Togian
Identification: Large, robust species of monitor lizard. Used to be considered a subspecies of *V. salvator*, however can be distinguished from other *V. salvator* subspecies by it's dark paternless dorsal coloration. It also lacks light crossbands on the tail, which is present in *V. salvator*.



Water Monitor (*Varanus salvator*)
NOT PROTECTED

Togian Monitor (*Varanus togianus*)
PROTECTED

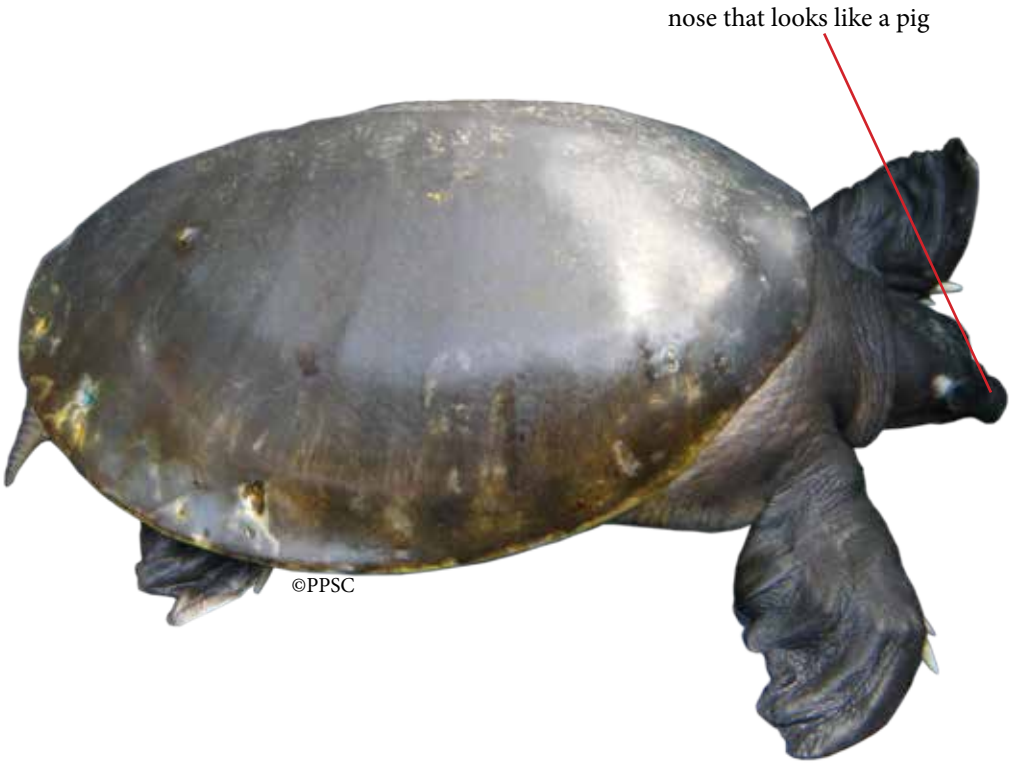
Narrow-Headed Softshell Turtle (*Chitra chitra javanensis*)

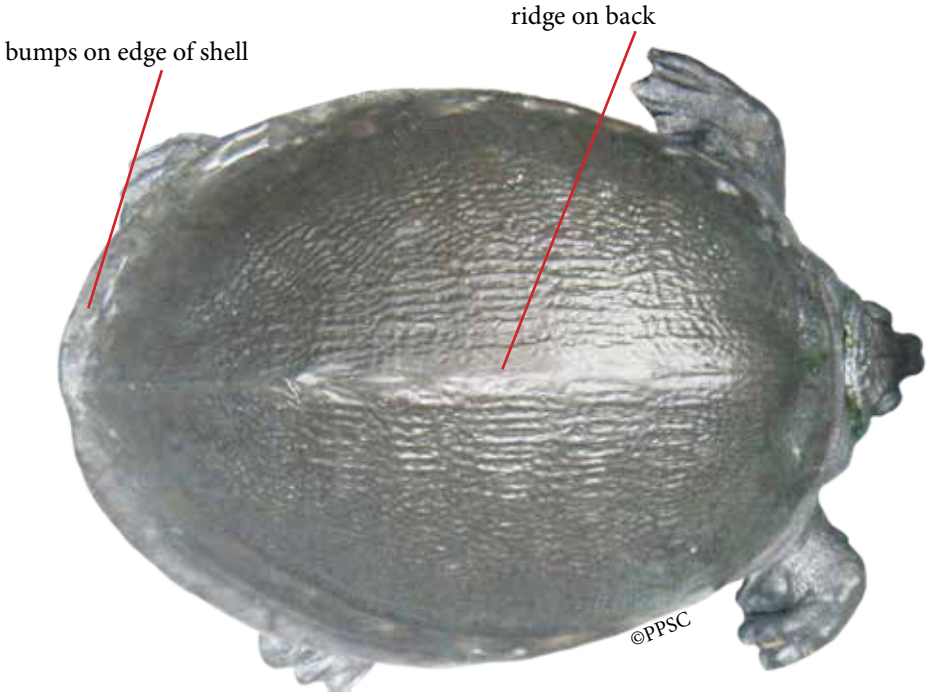
CHAPTER 2
TURTLES AND TORTOISES

FLY RIVER TURTLE

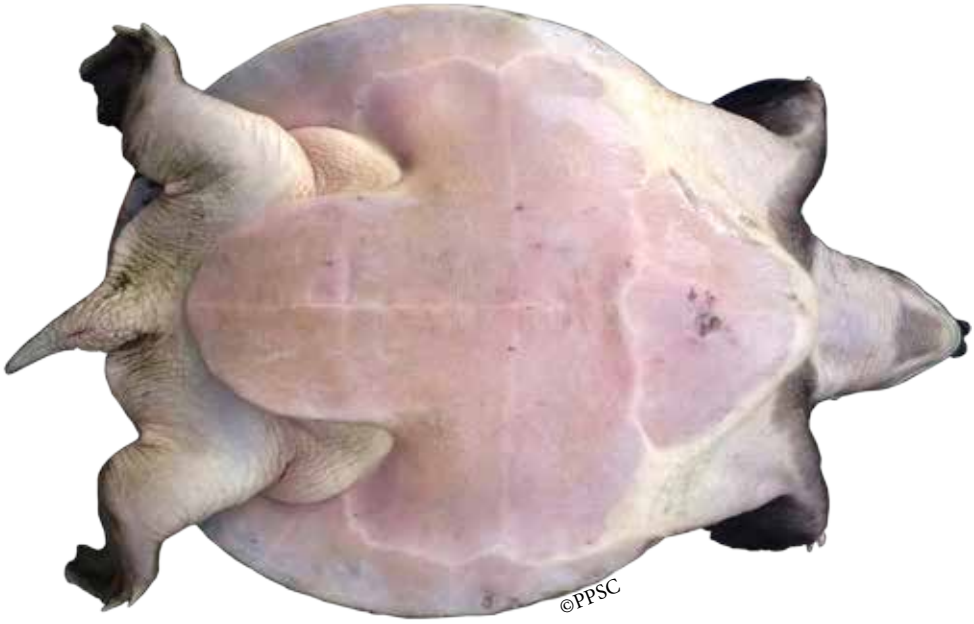
Carettochelys insculpta

Indonesian Name: Labi-Labi Moncong Babi
English Name: Fly River Turtle
Distribution in Indonesia: Papua
Identification: A soft shelled turtle. There is a ridge running through the middle of its shell on top. The outer part of its shell has bumps. This is one of the characters that distinguishes it from other soft shelled turtles (Trionychidae) which have a smooth border of shell. Round head and a nose like a pig. It is usually gray or brownish gray, with a pale pink or white belly.





dorsal

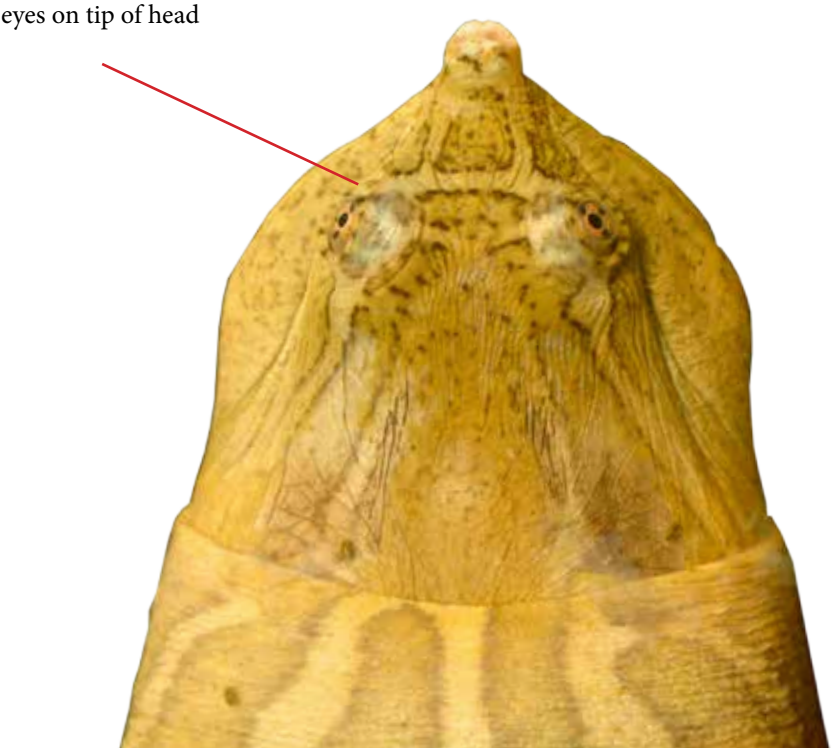


ventral

ASIAN NARROW-HEADED SOFTSHELL TURTLE

Chitra chitra javanensis

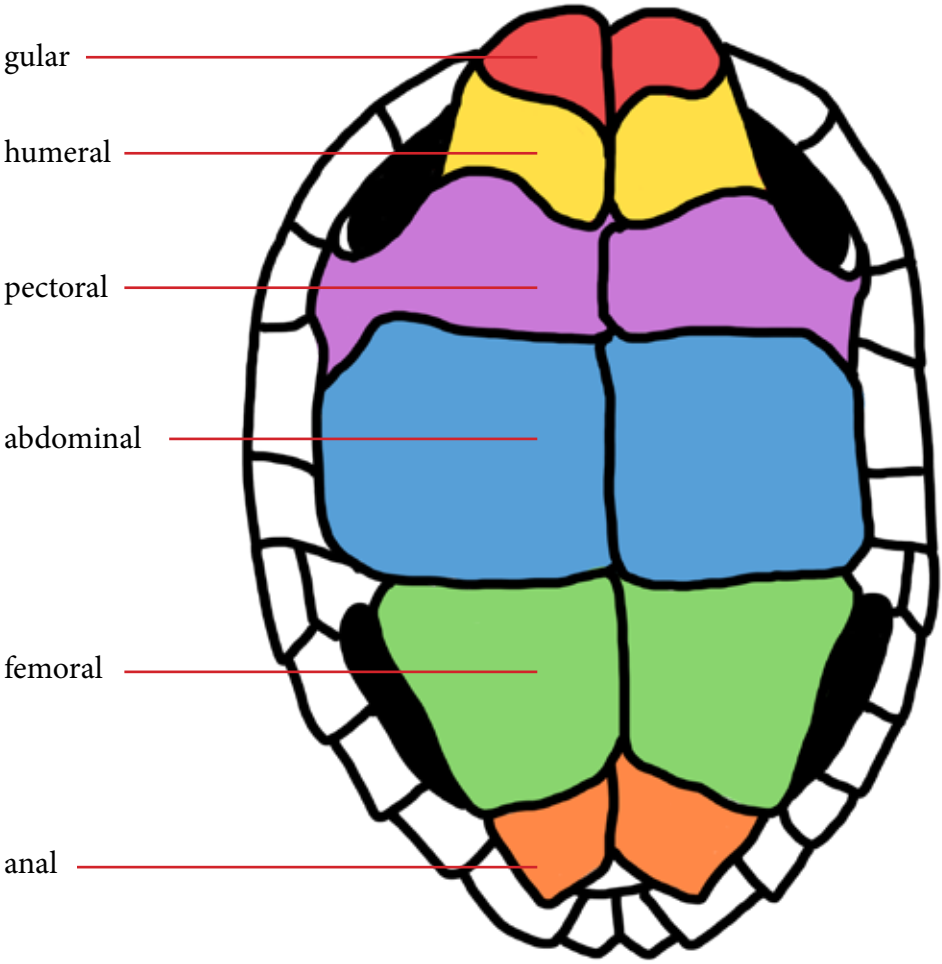
Indonesian Name: Labi-Labi Bintang, Senggawangan
English Name: Asian Narrow-Headed Softshell Turtle
Distribution in Indonesia: Java, Sumatra
Identification: A large softshell turtle. It can be distinguished from other species by its cone-shaped head (narrowing towards nose) and lack of border between neck and shell. It has a greenish brown base colour, with symmetrical yellowish/light brown lines on its neck, which continue to become patterns on its shell. The shell is oval and has a 'lip' on the anterior, which makes the tail and back legs not visible from above. It is very similar to the Irian Softshell (*Pelochelys bibroni*) which it differs by the position of the eye, which is situated on the tip of the head, and also has a longer nose than *P. bibroni*.



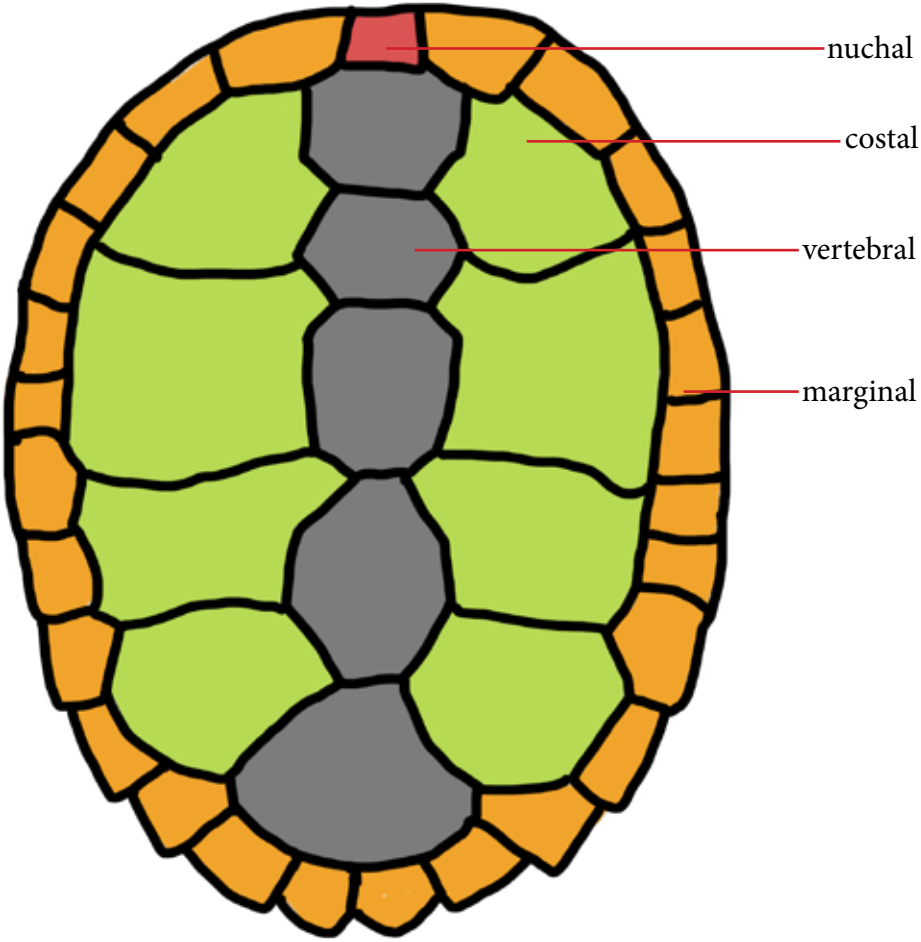

'lip' on anterior part of shell, concealing tail and back legs
symmetrical lines on neck which continue to become patterns on shell
no clear border between neck and shell

CHELONIAN MORPHOLOGY

PLASTRON
(Belly)



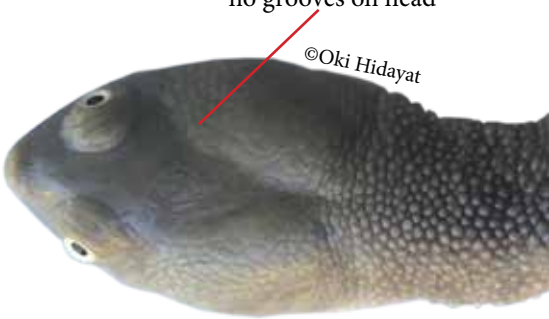
KARAPAKS
(Top/Back)



ROTI ISLAND SNAKE NECKED TURTLE

Chelodina mccordi

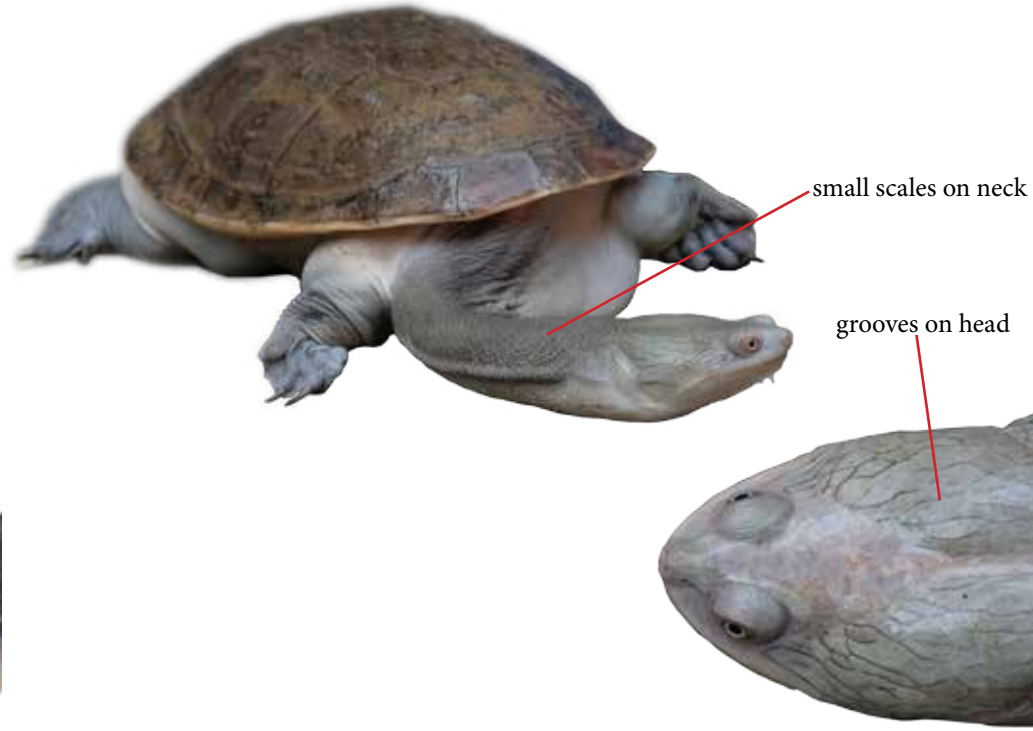
Indonesian Name: Kura-Kura Rote, Kura Leher Ular
English Name: Roti Island Snake Necked Turtle
Distribution in Indonesia: P. Rote
Identification: Characteristic of *Chelodina* turtles is the long neck and webbed feet. This species can be distinguished from *C. novaeguineae* because it does not have grooves on head, which is present in in *C. novaeguineae*. Also, it has granular scales on neck, which are small and smooth in *C. novaeguineae*. The shell of this species is wide, whereas in *C. novaeguineae* it is long/oval. The arrangements of vertebral scutes from the largest to smallest are 1>2>3>5>4, whereas *C. novaeguineae* has the second and third scutes the same size (2=3). On the plastron, the arrangement from longest to shortest is intergular>anal>abdominal>femoral>pectoral>humeral>gular, sometimes pectoral>abdominal. In this species, the femoral scute is always longer than the humeral, however in *C. novaeguineae* humeral is longer than femoral. It has a dark brown carapace and orange/yellow plastron. Juveniles are lighter in colour.



NEW GUINEA SNAKE NECKED TURTLE

Chelodina novaeguineae

Indonesian Name: Kura-Kura Papua Leher Panjang, Kura Leher Ular
English Name: New Guinea Snake Necked Turtle
Distribution in Indonesia: Papua
Identification: Characteristic of *Chelodina* turtles is the long neck and webbed feet. This species can be distinguished from *C. mccordi* because it has grooves on head, which is absent in *C. mccordi*. The shell is long/oval, whereas on *C. mccordi* it is wide. The arrangements of vertebral scutes from the largest to smallest are 1>2=3>5>4, whereas *C. mccordi* has a larger second vertebral scute than third (2>3). On the plastron, the arrangement from longest to shortest is intergular>anal>abdominal>pectoral>humeral>femoral>gular. In this species, the femoral scute is always shorter than the humeral, however in *C. mccordi* humeral is shorter than femoral. This species has a dark brown carapace with dark markings, and a light coloured (yellow/white) plastron. Juveniles are lighter in colour.



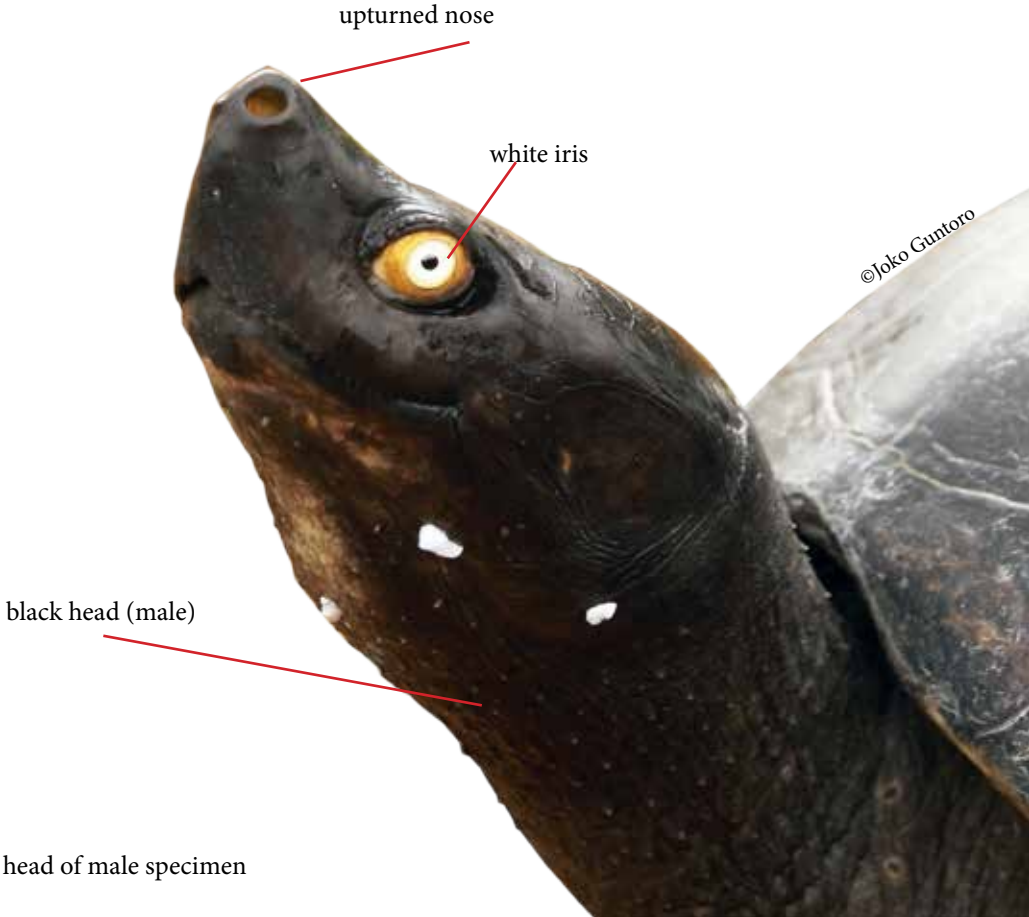
SOUTHERN RIVER TERRAPIN

Batagur affinis affinis

Indonesian Name: Biuku, Tuntong Sungai
English Name: Southern River Terrapin, Western Malay River Terrapin
Distribution in Indonesia: Sumatra
Identification: Has a tall, dome-shaped shell. Similar to *B. borneoensis* which is also protected, however it has 4 claws on its front feet, whereas *B. borneoensis* has 5. The carapace is olive gray or brown, and plastron is yellowish. Adult males have a black head.

adult male

juvenile

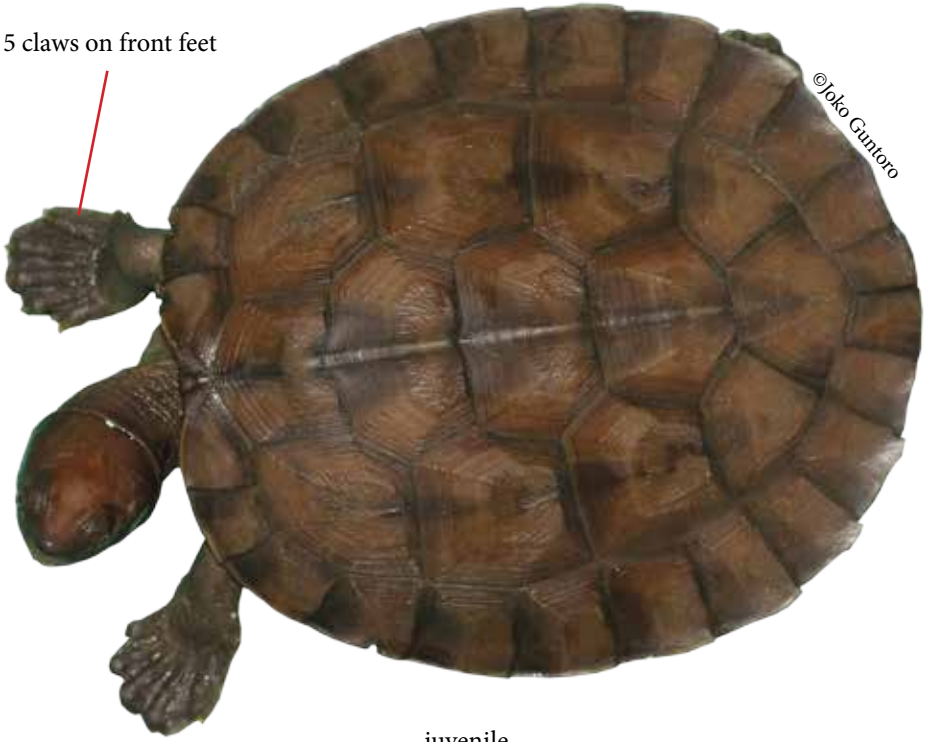


head of male specimen

PAINTED TERRAPIN

Batagur borneoensis

Indonesian Name: Beluku, Tuntong Laut
English Name: Painted Terrapin
Distribution in Indonesia: Sumatra, Kalimantan
Identification: The main distinguishing feature from other *Batagur* species is that it has 5 claws on the front feet, whereas *B. affinis* has 4. The carapace is olive gray or brown, and has three black longitudinal lines. Plastron is yellowish. During mating season, males will have a white head with a red stripe in the middle.



juvenile

adult female

MALAYAN RIVER TERRAPIN

Orlitia borneensis

Indonesian Name: Bajuku, Kura-Kura Sungai Kalimantan
English Name: Malayan Giant Turtle, Malayan River Terrapin
Distribution in Indonesia: Sumatra, Kalimantan
Identification: The character that distinguishes it from *Batagur* species is that it does not have an upturned snout. This turtle has a long, smooth carapace, however juveniles will have some ridges on the outer edges. The carapace is dark brown/blackish in colour, with a yellow plastron. The body is gray, with light colour on the cheeks and in between legs and neck.

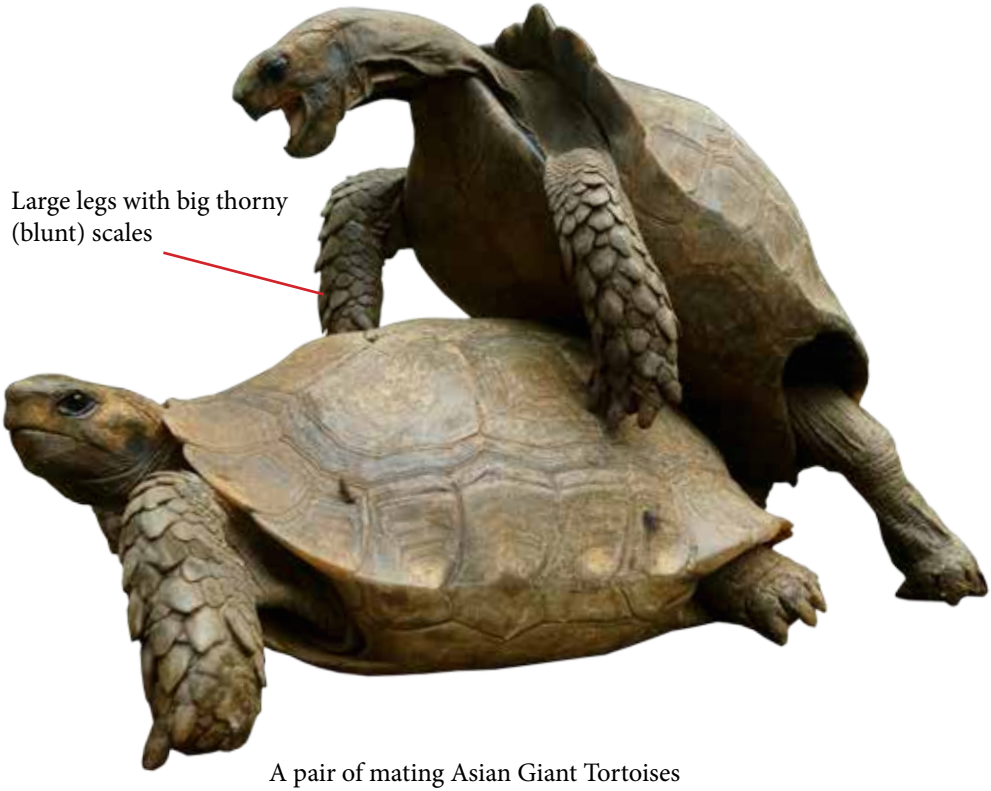
dorsal

ventral

ASIAN GIANT TORTOISE

Manouria emys

Indonesian Name: Baning Coklat, Kura-Kura Kaki Gajah
English Name: Asian Giant Tortoise
Distribution in Indonesia: Sumatra, Kalimantan
Identification: One of two land tortoises in Indonesia. This species has large legs with big thorny (but blunt) scales, somewhat like an elephant. It is grayish brown in colour, and the plastron is yellowish. It can reach a length of 60cm and weigh around 15-20kg, whereas the other Indonesian tortoise, *Indotestudo forsteni* (not protected), can only reach 30cm. Apart from that, *I. forsteni* is yellow with black spots on each scute of the carapace.



A pair of mating Asian Giant Tortoises

dorsal

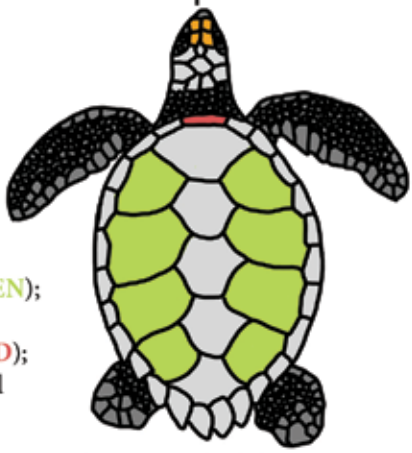
ventral

KUNCI IDENTIFIKASI PENYU

hard shell with scutes

5 or more costal scutes (GREEN);
first costal touches nuchal (MERAH)

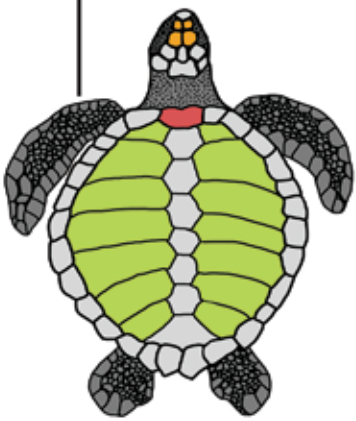
two pairs of prefrontals (ORANGE)



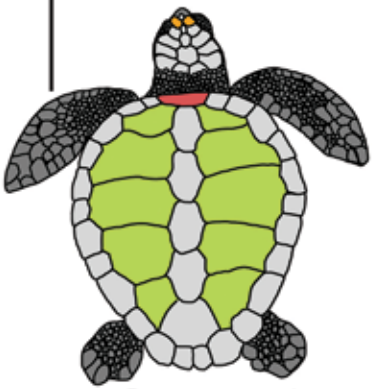
Eretmochelys imbricata
HAWKSBILL TURTLE

more than 6 costal scutes
(GREEN);
first costal touches nuchal
(RED);
circle-shaped shell

5 costal scutes (GREEN);
first costal
touches nuchal (RED);
heart-shaped shell



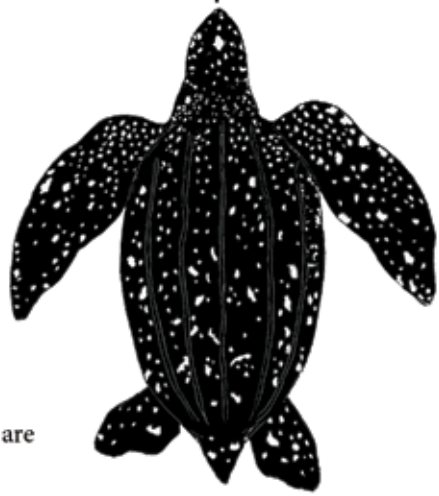
Lepidochelys olivacea
OLIVE RIDLEY TURTLE



Caretta caretta*
LOGGERHEAD TURTLE

*never recorded in Indonesia (Suprapti 2019, pers. comm.)

smooth leathery shell

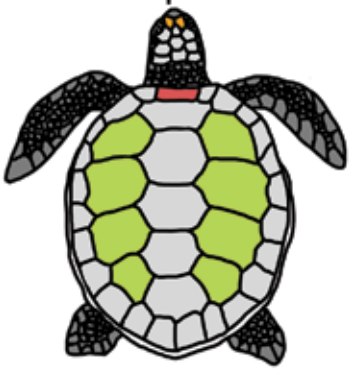


Dermochelys coriacea
LEATHERBACK TURTLE

4 costal scutes (GREEN);
first costal **does not** touch nuchal (RED)

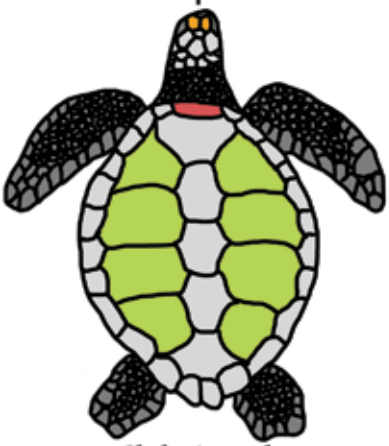
one pair of prefrontals (ORANGE)

upturned edges of carapace



Natator depressus*
FLATBACK TURTLE

edges of carapace are **not** upturned

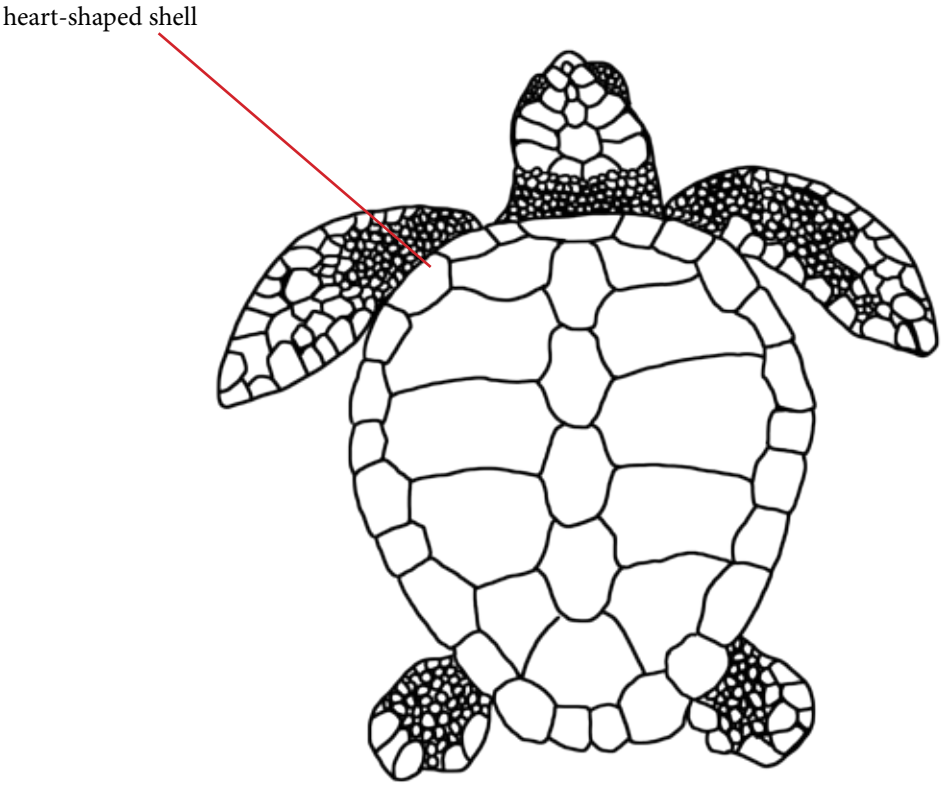


Chelonia mydas
GREEN TURTLE

LOGGERHEAD SEA TURTLE

Caretta caretta

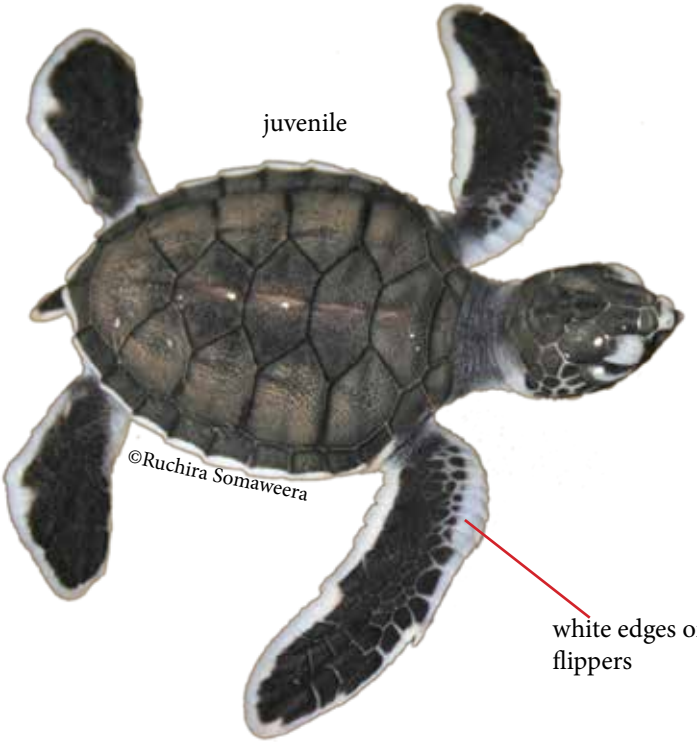
Indonesian Name: Penyu Tempayan, Penyu Bromo
English Name: Loggerhead Sea Turtle
Distribution in Indonesia: Does not occur in Indonesia.
Identification: Heart-shaped carapace, keeled scutes, 5-6 costal scutes. Carapace and head is reddish brown, whereas the body is white/cream, and scales on the flippers are light brown.



GREEN SEA TURTLE

Chelonia mydas

Indonesian Name: Penyu Hijau
English Name: Green Sea Turtle
Distribution Indonesia: Indonesian seas
Identification: Oval-shaped carapace. One pair of prefrontal scales. 4 costal scutes, first costal scute does not touch nuchal scute. Similar to the flatback sea turtle (*Natator depressus*) however does not have upturned edges on outer part of the carapace. The carapace and head scales are reddish brown or olive green/brownish, while the body is light coloured, and the scales on flippers are light brown. Juveniles are gray with white edges on the flippers.


juvenile
©Ruchira Somaweera
white edges on
flippers


©Ruchira Somaweera

HAWKSBILL SEA TURTLE

Eretmochelys imbricata

Indonesian Name: Penyu Tempayan, Penyu Bromo
English Name: Hawksbill Sea Turtle
Distribution in Indonesia: Indonesian sea
Identification: Oval-shaped carapace, with serrated edges on the anterior. Two pairs of prefrontal scales. 4 costal scutes, first costal scute does not touch nuchal scute. Carapace and head scales are reddish brown, with light markings on scutes, while the body is whitish cream/pale yellow, and the scales on flippers are reddish brown or olive.

OLIVE RIDLEY SEA TURTLE

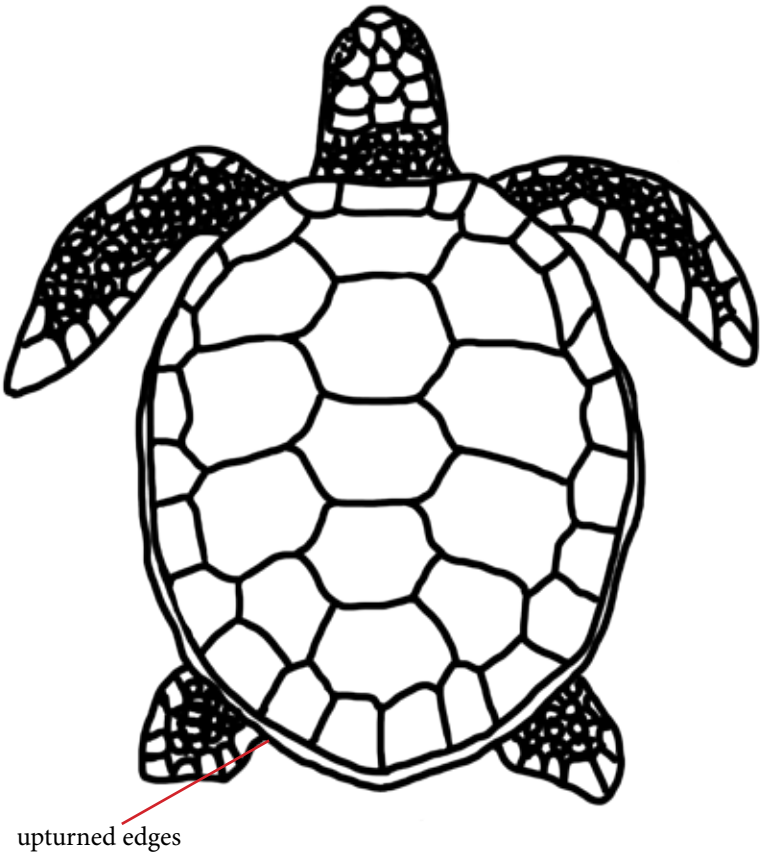
Lepidochelys olivacea

Indonesian Name: Penyu Lekang
English Name: Olive Ridley Sea Turtle
Distribution in Indonesia: Indonesian sea
Identification: Almost circular carapace. 6 or more costal scutes. Carapace and head scales are grayish brown, body is light cream/white, and the scales on flippers are gray. Juveniles are dark gray in colour.

FLATBACK SEA TURTLE

Natator depressus

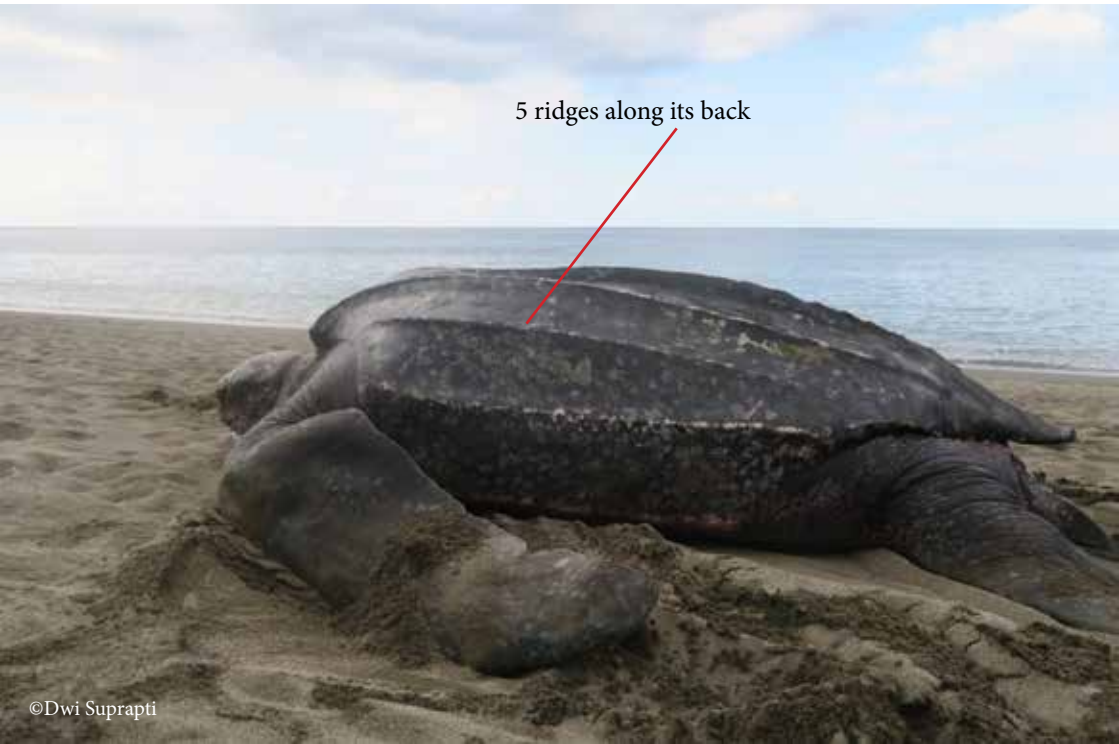
Indonesian Name: Penyu Pipih
English Name: Flatback Sea Turtle
Distribution in Indonesia: Does not occur in Indonesia.
Identification: Oval-shaped carapace. One pair of prefrontal scales. 4 costal scutes, first costal does not touch nuchal scutes. It has upturned edges of carapace and can be distinguished from the green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) that does not have upturned edges. Carapace and head scales are gray, while the body is white/cream, and the flipper scales are gray.



LEATHERBACK SEA TURTLE

Dermochelys coriacea

Indonesian Name: Penyu Belimbing
English Name: Leatherback Sea Turtle
Distribution in Indonesia: Indonesian sea
Identification: Starfruit-shaped carapace, with five longitudinal ridges on its leathery shell. It is bluish black/dark gray in colour, with small white speckling scattered on its body. Juveniles have white longitudinal ridges.

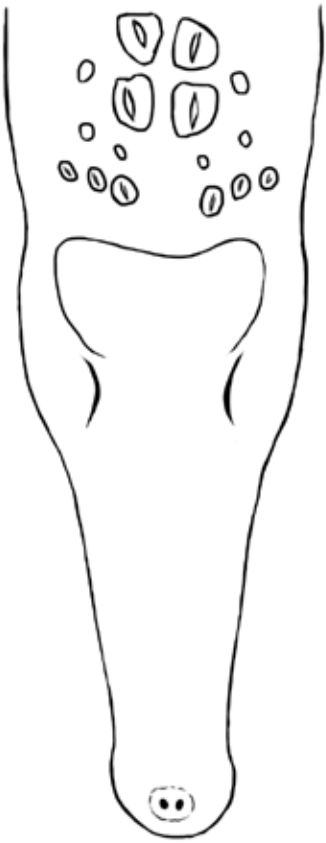


New Guinea Crocodile (*Crocodylus novaeguineae*)

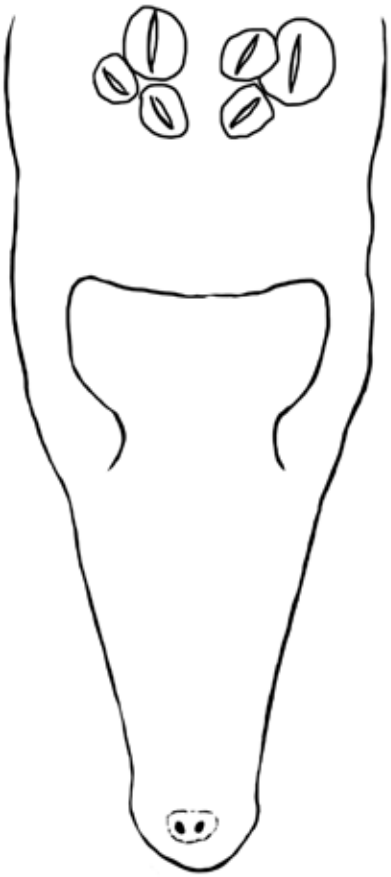
CHAPTER 3
CROCODILES

CROCODILE IDENTIFICATION

Tomistoma schlegelii
FALSE GHARIAL
long, slender snout

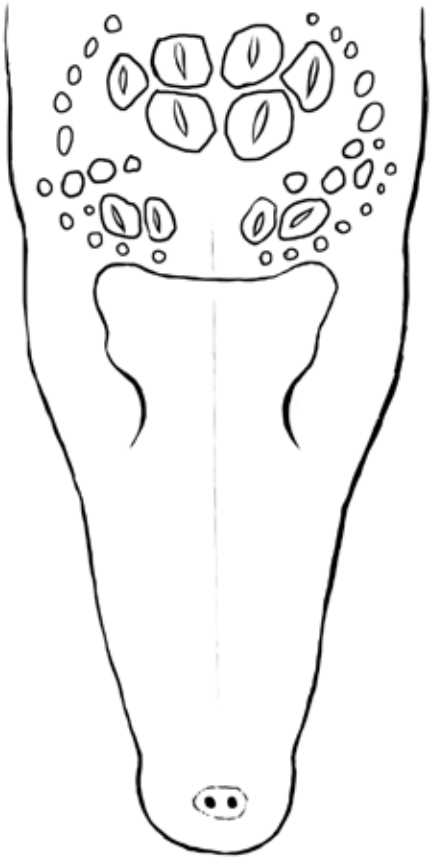


Crocodylus novaeguineae
NEW GUINEA CROCODILE
4-7 scutes behind head



Crocodylus porosus
SALTWATER CROCODILE

no scutes behind head
(if present, they are very small and
only up to 2)



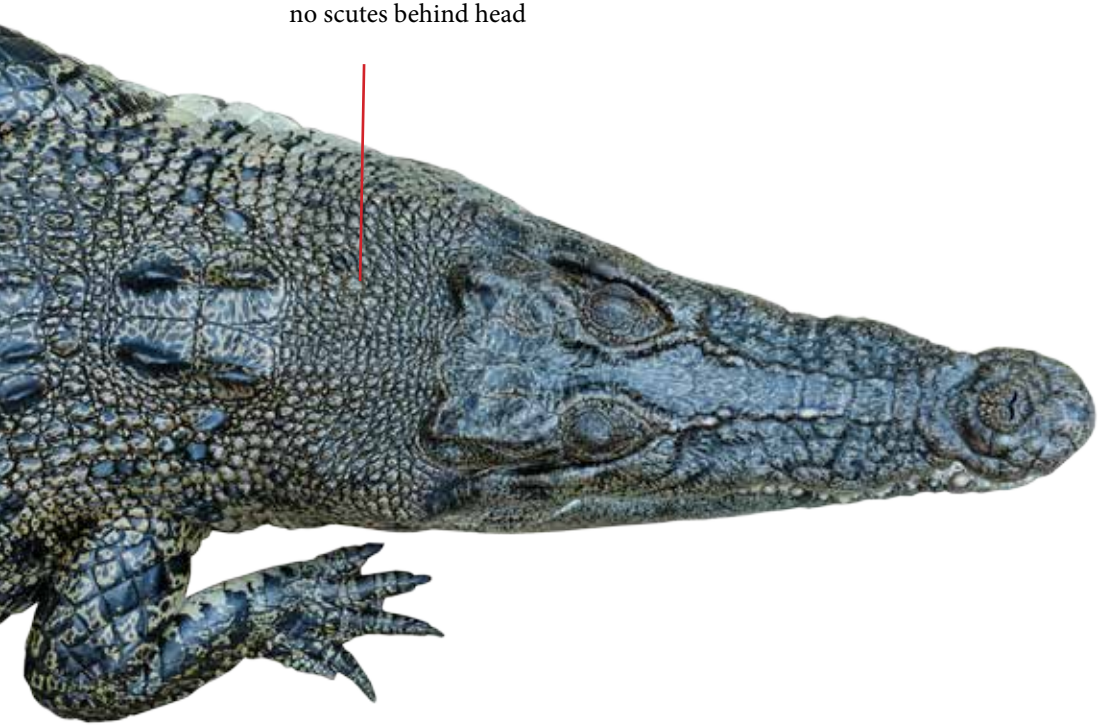
Crocodylus siamensis
SIAMESE CROCODILE

2-4 scutes behind head;
keel between eyes

SALTWATER CROCODILE

Crocodylus porosus

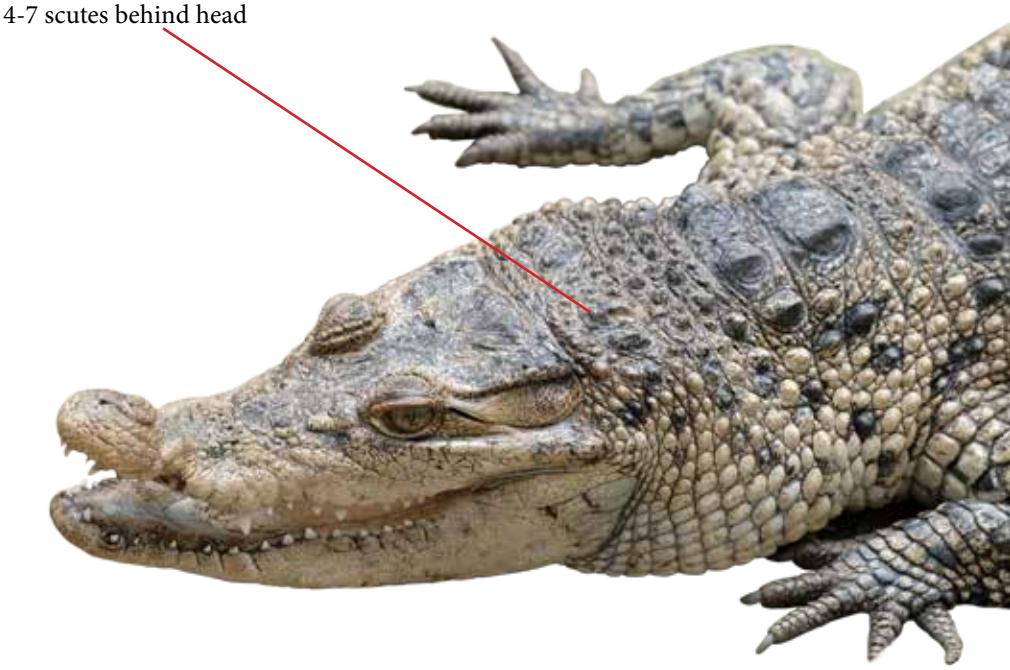
Indonesian Name: Buaya Muara
English Name: Estuarine Crocodile, Saltwater Crocodile
Distribution in Indonesia: Widespread
Identification: Heaviest reptile on earth. A defining feature of this species is the lack of scutes behind head. If any, they will be very small and only up to 2 in number. It is yellowish or gray in colour, with a light yellow/cream/white on the belly. Juveniles are gray/brownish yellow with black blotches that form bands, which fade as they grow.



NEW GUINEA CROCODILE

Crocodylus novaeguineae

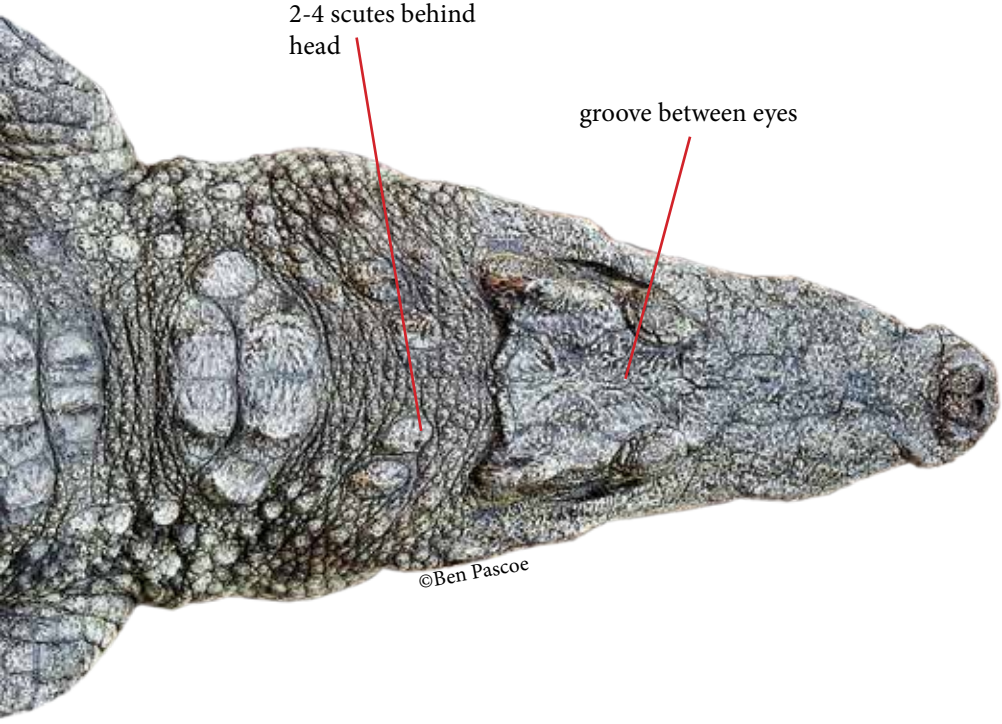
Indonesian Name: Buaya Irian
English Name: New Guinea Crocodile
Distribution in Indonesia: Papua
Identification: Nuchal scales are arranged tightly. Usually 4 scutes behind head (sometimes more, up to 7). Slender snout. Distinguishable from *C. porosus* which does not have scutes behind head, or if any they are very small. Differs from *C. siamensis* because it does not have a keel between the eyes. It is yellowish or olive gray in colour, with a light yellow/cream/white on the belly. Juveniles are gray/brownish yellow with black blotches that form bands, which fade as they grow.



SIAMESE CROCODILE

Crocodylus siamensis

Indonesian Name: Buaya Siam
English Name: Siamese Crocodile
Distribution in Indonesia: Kalimantan
Identification: A defining feature of this species is the keel between the eyes, which is absent in *C. porosus* and *C. novaeguineae*. It has 2-4 scutes behind eye. Scales on the side are large. It is usually yellowish in colour, with a light yellow/cream/white on the belly. Juveniles are gray/brownish yellow with black blotches that form bands, which fade as they grow.



FALSE GHARIAL

Tomistoma schlegelii

Indonesian Name: Buaya Sinyulong, Buaya Sumpit
English Name: False Gharial
Distribution in Indonesia: Sumatra, Kalimantan
Identification: Very unique species of crocodile which can be identified by its very long, slender snout. Usually reddish or grayish brown in colour, with black blotches on the body, and dark bands on snout and tail, which can be reduced or absent.

Bleeding Toad (*Leptophryne cruentata*)

CHAPTER 4
AMPHIBIANS

BLEEDING TOAD

Leptophryne cruentata

Indonesian Name: Kodok Merah
English Name: Bleeding Toad
Distribution in Indonesia: Java
Identification: This is the only protected species of amphibian in Indonesia. It has a slender body, with rough bumpy skin. It has a black base colour, with red blotches all over its body. A newly described species, *L. javanica*, is very similar in appearance however has yellow blotches on its body, which are absent on *L. cruentata*.

Leptophryne cruentata
PROTECTED

Leptophryne javanica
NOT PROTECTED

Above: *Leptophryne cruentata* (left, **PROTECTED**) has no yellow pattern whereas *L. javanica* (right, **NOT PROTECTED**) has yellow blotches on its body. ©Mirza Kusrini

Leptophryne javanica (**NOT PROTECTED**) ©Aldio Dwi Putra

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In conclusion, I hope this book can be useful for the readers and can produce a positive impact.

This book is an identification guide made for RAM (*Reptile and Amphibian Management*) Workshop, held in Cikananga Wildlife Centre, 30 July - 02 August 2019. This event is a collaboration between Cikananga Wildlife Centre, Indonesia Herpetofauna Foundation, Chester Zoo, and Indonesian Forestry Department, which aims to increase skill and capacity of personnel involved in the confiscation and/or conflict management of wild animals, especially reptiles and amphibians that are traded illegally.

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