

**SOME ASPECTS OF ECOLOGY, BEHAVIOUR AND
REPRODUCTIVE BIOLOGY OF *Lyriocephalus scutatus* IN THE
MAHAUSAKANDE REGENERATING FOREST,
SRI LANKA**

By

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Abstract:

Lyriocephalus scutatus is an endemic and globally near threatened, arboreal agamid lizard representing the genus *Lyriocephalus* of Sri Lanka. This species is wide spread in the wet lowlands and the mid-hills from 25m up-to an elevation of 1,600ma.s.l. and mainly inhabits shaded forests, but are not uncommon in plantations and home gardens.

This study was planned to fill up the gap in information on ecology and behaviour of this lizard species. Also this study can be used to make an awareness of conservation value of this species among the public as well as other science community and this will be a foundation for future studies on this particular species by monitoring the population status and species conservation.

The study was started in mid January, 2013 and continued until late October, 2013. Observations were made for 24 days. Line transects method and Quadrature sampling method were used for population estimation in the sampling area of 129499.936m² in the Mahausakande Regenerating forest. 31 different individuals including 11 males, 9 females, 3 juveniles and 8 hatchlings were observed.

The results of this study indicate that the population of *Lyriocephalus scutatus* male dominant in the Mahausakande Regenerating Foresta and these lizard species shows the site fidelity behaviour. Also this reveals that *Lyriocephalus scutatus* lays about 10 white colour eggs in range 20mm long and 10mm wide during rainy season from March to May. Also this includes their microhabitat preferences as well as the predation impact.