

# Checklist of the snakes of Sri Lanka (as at April 2008)

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## Family Acrochordidae Bonaparte, 1831

1. *Acrochordus granulatus* (Schneider, 1799) Wart Snake/ Cloth Snake froskhd\$ ob\$ f. dhd

## Family Boidae Gray, 1825

2. *Gongylophis conicus* (Schneider, 1801) Common Sand Boa  
*Gongylophis conicus brevis* (Deraniyagala, 1951)<sup>+</sup> Sri Lankan Sand Boa fl dg mblq\$ j e, smblqd

## Family Colubridae Oppel, 1811<sup>2</sup>

3. *Ahaetulla nasuta* (Lacepède, 1789) Green Vine Snake weyegqad  
4. *Ahaetulla pulverulenta* (Duméril, Bibron & Duméril, 1854) Brown Vine Snake fykl | hd  
5. *Amphiesma stolatum* (Linnaeus, 1758) Buff Stripped Keelback wyr | † ad  
6. *Argyrogena fasciolata* (Shaw, 1802)<sup>1</sup> Banded Racer j , a. erçhd  
7. *Aspidura brachyrrhos* (Boie, 1827)<sup>\*#</sup> Boie's Rough-side f, aueä, ad  
8. *Aspidura copei* Günther, 1864<sup>\*#</sup> Cope's Rough-side l ^ ueä, ad  
9. *Aspidura deraniyagalae* Gans & Fetcho, 1982<sup>\*#</sup> Deraniyagala's Rough-side l ÷ ueä, ad  
10. *Aspidura drummondhayi* Boulenger, 1904<sup>\*#</sup> Drummond-Hay's Rough-side fl aj , aueä, ad  
11. *Aspidura guentheri* Ferguson, 1876<sup>\*#</sup> Günther's Rough-side l v d ueä, ad  
12. *Aspidura trachyprocta* Cope, 1860<sup>\*#</sup> Common Rough-side o, j ueä, ad  
13. *Atretium schistosum* (Daudin, 1803) Olive Keelback l fvd, \$ ob\$ j %khd  
14. *Balanophis ceylonensis* (Günther, 1858)<sup>\*#</sup> Sri Lankan Blossom Krait ksy ^ j \$ u, al rj , d  
15. *Boiga barnesi* (Günther, 1869)<sup>\*</sup> Barnes's Cat Snake m=re udmsd  
16. *Boiga beddomei* (Wall, 1909)<sup>6</sup> Beddome's Cat Snake l y udmsd  
17. *Boiga ceylonensis* (Günther, 1858) Sri Lanka Cat Snake k\$udmsd  
18. *Boiga forsteni* (Duméril, Bibron & Duméril, 1854) Forsten's Cat Snake f, audmsd \$ kd. udmsd  
19. *Boiga trigonata* (Bechstein, 1802) Common Cat Snake  
*Boiga trigonata trigonata* (Bechstein, 1802) Common Indian Cat Snake ? kaudmsd  
20. *Cerberus rynchops* (Schneider, 1799) Dog-faced Water Snake  
*Cerberus rynchops rynchops* (Schneider, 1799) Dog-faced Water Snake l Kqb l ^ j d  
21. *Cercaspis carinatus* (Kuhl, 1820)<sup>\*#</sup> Sri Lanka Wolf Snake odr l rj , \$ odr rokl hd  
22. *Chrysopelea ornata* (Shaw, 1802) Ornate Flying Snake  
*Chrysopelea ornata sinhaleya* (Deraniyagala, 1945)<sup>+</sup> Ornate Flying Snake fmd, a, al rj , d  
23. *Chrysopelea taprobanica* Smith, 1943<sup>\*</sup> Sri Lankan Flying Snake oÖr oKard  
24. *Coelognathus helena* (Daudin, 1803) Trinket Snake l gl ^ j d  
25. *Dendrelaphis bifrenalis* (Boulenger, 1890)<sup>\*</sup> Boulenger's Bronze-back m=re yd, aKard  
26. *Dendrelaphis caudolineolatus* (Günther, 1869) Striped-tailed Bonze-back j hssyd, aKard  
27. *Dendrelaphis oliveri* (Taylor, 1950)<sup>\*1</sup> Oliver's Bronze-back T, j %f. ayd, aKard  
28. *Dendrelaphis schokari* (Kuhl, 1820) Schokari's Bronze-back fl dl d\$ f. Ayd, aKard  
29. *Dendrelaphis tristis* (Daudin, 1803) Common Bronze-back ; fe yd, aKard  
30. *Dryocalamus gracilis* (Günther, 1864)<sup>1</sup> Günther's Slender Bridal Snake ó. eg l rj , d  
31. *Dryocalamus nympha* (Daudin, 1803) Common Bridal Snake . eg l rj , d  
32. *Gerarda prevostiana* (Eydoux & Gervais, 1837) Glossy Marsh Snake fmfj di af. aob nrbd  
33. *Haplocercus ceylonensis* Günther, 1858<sup>\*#</sup> Black-spined Snake l fekal rj , \$ r; al rj , d  
34. *Liopeltis calamaria* (Günther, 1858) Reed Snake mkarbd  
35. *Lycodon aulicus* (Linnaeus, 1758) Common Wolf Snake w ^ rokl hd  
36. *Lycodon osmanhilli* Taylor, 1950<sup>\*</sup> Flowery Wolf Snake u, arokl hd  
37. *Lycodon striatus* (Shaw, 1802) Barred Wolf Snake  
*Lycodon striatus sinhaleys* Deraniyagala, 1955<sup>+</sup> Shaw's Wolf Snake l nr rokl hd  
38. *Macropisthodon plumbicolor* (Cantor, 1839) Green Keelback  
*Macropisthodon plumbicolor palabariya* Deraniyagala, 1955<sup>+</sup> Sri Lankan Green Keelback m, dnrbd  
39. *Oligodon arnensis* (Shaw, 1802) Common Banded Kukri Snake wrKso; al eáhd  
40. *Oligodon calamarius* (Linnaeus, 1754)<sup>\*</sup> Templeton's Kukri Snake l nr o; al eáhd  
41. *Oligodon sublineatus* Duméril, Bibron & Duméril, 1854<sup>\*</sup> Streaked Kukri Snake mqaso; al eáhd  
42. *Oligodon taeniolatus* (Jerdon, 1853) Russell's Kukri Snake  
*Oligodon taeniolatus ceylonicus* (Wall, 1921)<sup>+</sup> Variegated Kukri Snake j hss; al eáhd  
*Oligodon taeniolatus fasciatus* (Günther, 1864) Indian Streaked Kukri Snake mqaso; al eáhd  
43. *Ptyas mucosa* (Linnaeus, 1758) Rat Snake  
*Ptyas mucosa maximus* (Deraniyagala, 1955)<sup>+</sup> Sri Lankan Rat Snake . erçhd  
44. *Sibynophis subpunctatus* (Duméril, Bibron & Duméril, 1854) Black-headed Snake  
*Sibynophis subpunctatus ceylonicus* de Silva, 1969<sup>+</sup> Black-headed Snake oe; \$ dærhd  
45. *Xenochrophis asperrimus* (Boulenger, 1891)<sup>\*</sup> Sri Lankan Keelback ob\$ nrbd  
46. *Xenochrophis piscator* (Schneider, 1799)<sup>3</sup> Checkered Keelback ob\$ khd

## Family Cyliodrophiidae Fitzinger, 1843

47. *Cylindrophis maculatus* (Linnaeus, 1758)<sup>\*</sup> Sri Lankan Pipe Snake fom; &hd \$ j gW, ad  
1

**Family Elapidae** Boie, 1827 <sup>2</sup>

48. *Bungarus caeruleus* (Schneider, 1801)  
 49. *Bungarus ceylonicus* Günther, 1864 \*  
*Bungarus ceylonicus ceylonicus* Günther, 1864 +  
*Bungarus ceylonicus karavala* Deraniyagala, 1955 +  
 50. *Calliophis melanurus* (Shaw, 1802)  
*Calliophis melanurus sinhaleyus* Deraniyagala, 1951 +<sup>3</sup>  
 51. *Calliophis* sp. \*<sup>5</sup>  
 52. *Naja naja* (Linnaeus, 1758)

- Common Indian Krait  
 Sri Lankan Krait  
 Sri Lankan Krait  
 Sri Lankan Krait  
 Slender Coral Snake  
 Sri Lankan Coralsnake  
 Blood-bellied Coralsnake  
 Indian Cobra/ Spectacled Cobra

f; , al rj , d̥ u. urej d  
 uy̥ l rj , d  
 y; al rj , d  
 • , xl d fom; al ^ j d  
 nv r; = fom; al ^ j d  
 khd̥ kd. hd

**Family Hydrophiidae** Boie, 1827 <sup>4</sup>

53. *Astrotia stokesii* (Gray, 1846)  
 54. *Enhydrina schistosa* (Daudin, 1803)  
 55. *Hydrophis bituberculatus* Peters, 1873  
 56. *Hydrophis cyanocinctus* Daudin, 1803  
 57. *Hydrophis gracilis* (Shaw, 1802)  
 58. *Hydrophis lapemoides* (Gray, 1849)  
 59. *Hydrophis mammillaris* (Daudin, 1803)  
 60. *Hydrophis ornatus* (Gray, 1842)  
*Hydrophis ornatus ornatus* (Gray, 1842)  
 61. *Hydrophis spiralis* (Shaw, 1802)  
 62. *Hydrophis stricticollis* Günther, 1864  
 63. *Kerilia jerdonii* (Gray, 1849)  
*Kerilia jerdonii jerdonii* (Gray, 1849)  
 64. *Lapemis curtus* (Shaw, 1802)  
 65. *Laticauda colubrina* (Schneider, 1799)  
 66. *Pelamis platurus* (Linnaeus, 1766)  
 67. *Praescutata viperina* (Schmidt, 1852)

- Stoke's Sea Snake  
 Hook-nosed Sea Snake  
 Peter's Sea Snake  
 Chittul/ Annulated Sea Snake  
 Small-headed Sea Snake  
 Persian Gulf Sea Snake  
 Bombay Gulf Sea Snake  
 Gray's Sea Snake  
 Gray's Sea Snake  
 Narrow-banded Sea Snake  
 Günther's Sea Snake  
 Jerdon's Sea Snake  
 Jerdon's Sea Snake  
 Shaw's Short Sea Snake  
 Yellow-lipped Sea Krait  
 Yellow-bellied Sea Snake  
 Viperine Sea Snake

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 nv l y̥ au̥y̥ khd  
 fmd̥f<dx̥ au̥y̥ khd

**Family Pythonidae** Fitzinger, 1826

68. *Python molurus* (Linnaeus, 1758)  
*Python molurus molurus* (Linnaeus, 1758)

- Rock Python  
 Indian Rock Python

m̥b̥qd̥

**Family Typhlopidae** Merrem, 1820 <sup>2</sup>

69. *Ramphotyphlops braminus* (Daudin, 1803)  
 70. *Typhlops ceylonicus* Smith, 1943 \*<sup>1</sup>  
 71. *Typhlops lankaensis* Taylor, 1947 \*<sup>1</sup>  
 72. *Typhlops leucomelas* Boulenger, 1890 \*  
 73. *Typhlops malcolmi* Taylor, 1947 \*<sup>1</sup>  
 74. *Typhlops mirus* Jan, 1860 \*  
 75. *Typhlops porrectus* Stoliczka, 1871  
 76. *Typhlops tenebrarum* Taylor, 1947 \*<sup>1</sup>  
 77. *Typhlops veddae* Taylor, 1947 \*<sup>1</sup>  
 78. *Typhlops violaceus* Taylor, 1947 \*<sup>1</sup>

- Brahminy Blind Snake  
 Smith's Blind Snake  
 Lanka Blind Snake  
 Pied Blind Snake  
 Malcolm's Blind Snake  
 Jan's Blind Snake  
 Stoliczka's Slender Blind Snake  
 Taylor's Blind Snake  
 Veddha's Blind Snake  
 Violet Blind Snake

yugql KW, ad  
 i ā; ā. al KW, ad  
 , l al KW, ad  
 l nr l KW, ad  
 ue, ā i f. al KW, ad  
 y&al KW, ad  
 i āgd, s̥āādf. ai̥ ykal KW, ad  
 fÜ, ʒ̥f. al KW, ad  
 j eoāōā. al KW, ad  
 oi l KW, ad

**Family Uropeltidae** Müller, 1832 <sup>2</sup>

79. *Platyplectrurus madurensis* Beddome, 1877  
*Platyplectrurus madurensis ruhunae* Deraniyagala, 1954 +<sup>1</sup>  
 80. *Pseudotyphlops philippinus* (Müller, 1832) \*<sup>#</sup>  
 81. *Rhinophis blythii* Kelaart, 1853 \*  
 82. *Rhinophis dorsimaculatus* Deraniyagala, 1941 \*  
 83. *Rhinophis drummondhayi* Wall, 1921 \*  
 84. *Rhinophis homolepis* (Hemprich, 1820) \*  
 85. *Rhinophis oxyrhynchus* (Schneider, 1801) \*  
 86. *Rhinophis philippinus* (Cuvier, 1829) \*  
 87. *Rhinophis porrectus* Wall, 1921 \*<sup>1</sup>  
 88. *Rhinophis punctatus* Müller, 1832 \*  
 89. *Rhinophis tricoloratus* Deraniyagala, 1975 \*  
 90. *Uropeltis melanogaster* (Gray, 1858) \*  
 91. *Uropeltis phillipsi* (Nicholls, 1929) \*  
 92. *Uropeltis ruhunae* Deraniyagala, 1954 \*<sup>1</sup>

- Madurai Shieldtail  
 Madurai Shieldtail  
 Large Shieldtail  
 Blyth's Shieldtail  
 Orange Shieldtail  
 Drummond-Hay's Shieldtail  
 Hemprich's Shieldtail  
 Schneider's Shieldtail  
 Cuvier's Shieldtail  
 Willey's Shieldtail  
 Muller's Shieldtail  
 Deraniyagala's Shieldtail  
 Gray's Earth Snake  
 Phillip's Earth Snake  
 Southern Earth Snake

uy̥rd̥i s̥i xW, ad  
 uy̥ i xW, ad  
 f. d̥ar ; v̥qad̥  
 ; i̥ nm̥k̥s̥j , ad wenhd  
 ; fmd̥a; v̥qad̥  
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 W, a; v̥qad̥  
 l ēh̥ʒ̥f. aj , ad wenhd  
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 l ^ j l gqad̥  
 brsj l gqad̥  
 rey̥k̥qj l gqad̥

**Family Viperidae** Boie, 1827 <sup>2</sup>

93. *Daboia russelii* (Shaw & Nodder, 1797)  
*Daboia russelii russelii* (Shaw & Nodder, 1797)  
 94. *Echis carinatus* (Schneider, 1801)  
*Echis carinatus sinhaleyus* Deraniyagala, 1951 +  
 95. *Hypnale hypnale* (Merrem, 1820)  
 96. *Hypnale nepa* (Laurenti, 1768) \*  
 97. *Hypnale walli* (Gloyd, 1977) \*  
 98. *Trimeresurus trigonocephalus* (Sonnini & Latreille, 1801) \*

- Russell's Viper  
 Indian Russell's Viper  
 Saw-scaled Viper  
 Sri Lankan Saw-scaled Viper  
 Merrem's Hump-nosed Pit Viper  
 Millard's Hump-nosed Pit Viper  
 Wall's Hump-nosed Pit Viper  
 Sri Lankan Green Pit Viper

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 j e, f̥md̥<Öd̥  
 fmd̥f<dx̥ f; , s̥āā d̥ l̥ K̥l̥ g̥q̥d̥  
 uq̥ , kaf; , s̥ā d̥  
 l v̥d̥ uq̥ , kaf; , s̥ā d̥  
 m, d̥ fmd̥<Öd̥

\* Endemic species / + Endemic sub species / # Relict species†

## Footnotes

<sup>1</sup> More specimens are required to confirm the taxonomical status or/and its status in Sri Lanka

<sup>2</sup> Several new species belonging to this family have being discovered and await description

<sup>3</sup> Vogel & David (2006) regarded the Sri Lankan *X. piscator* as a new, undescribed species, sharing characters of both 'true' *X. piscator* and *X. flavipunctatus*

<sup>4</sup> There's a possibility of few more species including *Hydrophis fasciatus fasciatus*, *Hydrophis caerulescens* and *Hydrophis nigrocinctus* being recorded in Sri Lankan waters

<sup>5</sup> Smith, Manamendra-Arachchi & Somaweera (in preparation)

<sup>6</sup> *Boiga ranawanei* Samarawickrama *et al*, 2005 is now a junior synonym of *Boiga beddomei* (Wall, 1909) [Manamendra-Arachchi & Pethiyagoda, 2007]