



An observation of *Cryptozona bistrialis* (Gastropoda: Ariophantidae) feeds on *Aulopoma* sp. (Gastropoda: Cyclophoridae) in an Anthropogenic habitat, Sri Lanka

Cryptozona bistrialis is a native land snail that ranges across forests of the dry and intermediate zones; in the wet zone it is restricted to cultivated habitats below 1000 m elevation (Raheem & Naggs, 2006).

This short communication describes an observation of feeding behaviour in *C. bistrialis*. The observations were made on 29th June 2009 in a home garden located in Piliyandala, Honnanthara in Colombo District, 150 m from Kottawa-Piliyandala road. On a dry day, 2 or 3 days after rain at around 22:15 hr. on the pebble pavement of the house, a *C. bistrialis* was observed feeding on the flesh of the Caenogastropod *Aulopoma* sp. The surrounding garden was well vegetated. When first observed only the shell, operculum and a few pieces of flesh remained of the *Aulopoma* sp. and the *C. bistrialis* was not feeding but after about 10 minutes it repositioned and consumed the remaining flesh.

Some land snail groups, such as the Streptaxidae, are almost entirely carnivorous, often attacking and feeding on other land snails. While most land snails are essentially detritivores, feeding on dead plant matter, many supplement their diet with animal material (Runham, 1975) and will opportunistically feed on dead snails. This is likely to be the case reported here.

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