

Lace Monitors



Lace Monitor (*Varinus varius*)

Robyn Howard

Lace Monitors are often seen at the Wetlands Sanctuary. This specimen was beside the boardwalk near the river, but they are often seen in the Casuarina Forest or in and around the gardens.

After shedding, the skin tone is very dark with bright yellow markings, but fades to dark grey with bands of pale spots, and broad bands on the long tail.

They prefer to lay their eggs in termite nests, where the termites reseal the damage, providing perfect conditions for incubating the eggs. The female is required again when the young emerge. She hears the calls of the juveniles and digs into the termitaria to release them, but takes no further care of them.



Adult Lace Monitor – having recently shed



Adult climbing tree