

The Solomons Wedge Skink

Check out the Solomons wedge skink.

By Mark O'Shea

Distribution: Eastern Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands.

Habitat: Coconut plantations and rainforests.

Diet: Presumably small arthropods.

Max.length: 50mm SVL (110mm TL).

Reproductive strategy: Oviparous with clutches of 3 eggs.

The Solomons wedge skink is a cryptozoic, semi-fossorial skink with an elongate body, covered in smooth, shiny scales, and reduced limbs. It is generally encountered in the lower levels of the husk pile where it 'swims' through the loose fibrous soil resulting from the breakdown of husk pile material.

Sources for more information:

McCoy M. 1980 Reptiles of the Solomon Islands. Wau Ecology Handbook No.7. vi+80.

Mys B. 1988 The zoogeography of the scincid lizards from North Papua New Guinea (Reptilia: Scincidae). I. The distribution of the species. Bulletin de L'Institute Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique. 58;127-183.