

A STUDY ON THE CONSERVATION STATUS OF MABUYA MULTIFASCIATA, ON THE BASIS OF ETHNOZOOLOGICAL SURVEY, IN KOKRAJHAR DISTRICT OF ASSAM, INDIA

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ABSTRACT

The conservation status and eco biological behaviour of available species of Mabuya multifasciata, from the region of Assam has very less worked out. This paper deals with the study, to access the biology and conservation of Mabuya multifasciata in Kokrajhar district of Assam. To study the conservation status of Mabuya multifasciata, in Kokrajhar District, Assam, India, on the basis of ethno zoological survey, the villages and town were selected randomly. Total five areas of Kokrajhar were selected. The places are inhabited by various indigenous and tribal groups. In the present field study, the survey was carried out from June 2013 to May 2014. The survey was carried out by performing personal interviews, making questionnaires of both structured and non-structured form. Total number of 50 individual was recorded, during the period of which 35 were adults and 15 were juveniles. From indirect survey among the local people, it was concluded that there was steady decline in the Mabuya population in the last few years. The study concluded, covering out with the result that 60% of the tribal population believes and takes Mabuya species as medicine for skin disease, 20 % people are not aware of it and 20 % are non reporting categories. The information on remedial uses of the skink was collected. They use variety of zoo therapeutic medicine along with Mabuya like Varanus, many insects etc f in the tribes for different ailments in their own way. The skink population is declining during the last few years. Killing of the species for the market value, for meat, habitat encroachment, for therapeutic uses were the main causes of decline. In order to protect and conserve the species from future destruction it is essential to develop conservative approach and policies. If there is medicinal values this traditional zoo therapeutic remedies of the skink species would go a long way and will help in future drug designing.

KEYWORDS: Conservation, Kokrajhar District, Mabuya, Traditional Medicine

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