

Lace Monitor

Varanus varius



Adaptation to environment

- Patterned skin is effective camouflage
- Common in forests and woodlands
- Tough, loose skin protected by an armour of small bead-like scales
- Powerful limbs with large curved claws for climbing
- Very sharp recurved teeth
- Claws & teeth, along with a strong tail, are effective defensive weapons.

Feeding relationships



What do I eat?

- Dead animals (carrion)
- Small lizards, birds, mammals
- Eggs & chicks from birds' nests
- Turtle eggs.

What eats me?

- This top predator has few enemies.
- Young & eggs are eaten by birds, snakes & other lizards.

- Length: 140 cm (one of Australia's largest lizards)
- Breeding: lays eggs in termite mounds, which are then sealed up by termites providing protection; 4-5 months later, mother returns to dig out young that have hatched.