

A photograph of a lizard, possibly a monitor lizard, climbing a tree trunk. The lizard is positioned vertically, facing downwards, with its head near the bottom of the frame. The tree bark is dark and textured. The background is a lush green forest with sunlight filtering through the leaves.

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On the Cover: *Varanus cerambonensis*

The *Varanus cerambonensis* depicted on the cover and inset of this issue were photographed on Buru Island, Maluku province, Indonesia by **Valter Weijola** on 19 and 23 March 2009. Both specimens were encountered in mangroves on the eastern part of the island at 1250 and 1330 h, and measured approximately 100 cm (specimen pictured on cover) and 70 cm (specimen pictured below) in total length..

Belonging to the *V. indicus* species group, *V. cerambonensis* was described in 1999 (Philipp, K.M., W. Böhme and T. Ziegler. 1999. The identity of *Varanus indicus*: redefinition and description of a sibling species coexisting at the type locality [Sauria: Varanidae: *Varanus indicus* group]. Spixiana 22[3]: 273-287.), and is reported to occur on several neighboring islands within the central Moluccas, including Ambon, Banda, Buru, Obi, and Seram. Field observations of *V. cerambonensis* have been scarce, and little has been published on its natural history and occurrence.

