

## Brown Tree Skink *Dasia grisea* at Kuala Juram, Taman Negara, Peninsular Malaysia

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**Observer:** Nick Baker.  
**Photograph by:** Nick Baker.  
**Subject identified by:** Nick Baker.

**Location:** Kuala Juram, Taman Negara, Pahang, Peninsular Malaysia. (Lat 4° 38.751'N Long 102° 07.941'E)  
**Habitat:** Lowland dipterocarp forest.  
**Date and time:** 11 September 2013, 12:10 hrs.

**Identity of subject:** Brown Tree Skink, *Dasia grisea* (Reptilia: Sauria: Scincidae).

**Description of observation:** One adult of estimated 10 cm snout-vent length. The subject was extremely shy, and upon disturbance quickly retreated backwards into a narrow fissure, 2 metres above the ground, between two tree trunks. A single photograph (Fig. 1) was taken after waiting 15 minutes for the subject to slowly re-emerge.



Fig. 1.

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**Remarks:** The subject is identified as *Dasia grisea* based on its head and body shape, body colour and narrow, dark bars on its dorsal surface. In Peninsular Malaysia this skink has been recorded west of the Titiwangsa Mountains (= 'Main Range'), and southwards to northern Johor : the distribution map in Grismer (2011) includes 6 locations within Peninsular Malaysia. This record is a rare sighting of the species east of the Titiwangsa Mountains. In Singapore the species appears to be more easily seen than in Peninsular Malaysia, typically in forest edge settings. The species also occurs in the Philippines, Sumatra and Borneo.

**Reference:** Grismer, L. L. (2011). *Lizards of Peninsular Malaysia, Singapore, and their Adjacent Archipelagos. Their Description, Distribution, and Natural History*. Edition Chimaira, Frankfurt am Main. 728 pp.