

## Books Published by WHT: 1998

### **A companion to Spix & Agassiz's *Brazilian Fishes***

Edited by Rohan Pethiyagoda and Maurice Kottelat

ISBN 955-9114-03-4; 420 pp., 98 pl., 215x140 mm, hardback. US\$ 75; £ 45

J. B. Spix & L. Agassiz's (1829-31) *Selecta genera et species piscium quos in itinerera per Brasiliam...* ['A selection of genera and species of fishes from travels in Brazil...'] laid the foundation for ichthyology in Brazil, particularly the Amazon basin. The present volume presents the complete original Latin text; a full, annotated English translation by the Sri Lankan Latin scholar V. L. Wirasinha; all 98 plates in the original colours; and reprints of two scholarly papers on the work by Maurice Kottelat, and by Peter J.P. Whitehead and George S. Myers.

### **The butterflies of Ceylon**

By Bernard d'Abbrera

ISBN 955-9114-15-8; 224 pp., 275 x 210 mm, hardback; Rs 3,950 (Sri Lanka only).

*The butterflies of Ceylon* is the first major work in more than fifty years describing and illustrating the butterfly fauna of Sri Lanka. Each of the 197 species of True Butterflies (Papilionoidea) ever recorded from the island is provided a separate description, including the scientific name, common name, distribution information, taxonomic background, natural history, and where available, data on food plants and larval stages. Both surfaces of every species are illustrated life-size with high-quality colour photographs, and where sexual dimorphism is marked, both sexes are figured. (The 37 species of Hesperioidea are represented only by colour photographs and identifications).

### **Ours to protect: Sri Lanka's biodiversity heritage**

By Rohan Pethiyagoda

ISBN 955-9114-17-4; 156 pp., 290x490 mm (A3), hardback. Price: US\$ 80; £ 50; Rs 2,950.

A full-colour celebration of Sri Lanka's biodiversity, produced to coincide with the country's celebration of 50 years of post-colonial freedom in February 1998. This book is a pictorial celebration of Sri Lanka's fast-vanishing, unique biodiversity. It provides, through high-quality colour photographs, an overview of the island's wealth of animal life, from terrestrial and marine invertebrates to large mammals.

### ***Prodromus faunae Zeylanicae* [A reprint of 1852 edition]**

Author: E. F. Kelaart

ISBN 955-9114-16-6; 310 pp., 215 x 140 mm, hardback. US\$ 55; £ 35; Rs 1,950

Edward Frederic Kelaart's *Prodromus faunae Zeylanicae* was the first work that attempted to survey the entirety of the vertebrate fauna of the island of Sri Lanka. As the title suggests, the work was a preliminary one. The intended fuller treatment however, did not materialise, Kelaart having died in 1860. In addition to reproducing from the original letterpress the entire text of this rare and pioneering work, the book is prefaced with a reprint of Rohan Pethiyagoda's account of Kelaart's life and contribution to Sri Lanka's natural history, 'The life and times of Edward Fredric Kerlaart' (*J. South Asian Nat. Hist.*, 1997, vol. 2, part 2, pp. 217-246).