

Project Update: January 2012

My focus over the first year of the project has been to gather data on remnant and refugial habitat patches that are likely to support native land snails, and to assess what snail species survive in such habitats. This has involved extensive study of maps, discussions with a range of different people (e.g. commercial plantation staff, small holders, local villagers), and field surveys. The habitats visited include old-growth and re-growth forest patches on commercial plantations, abandoned cultivation/re-growth forest forming part of privately owned property or village lands, and village home gardens. A surprising number of restricted-range endemic species are apparently able to survive in small and highly disturbed patches of old-growth forest, abandoned cultivation and home gardens in landscapes largely dominated by intensive agriculture. Such species include *Aulopoma grande*, *Aulopoma itieri*, *Corilla colletti*, *Corilla odontophora*, *Landouria radleyi*, *Tortulosa barnaclei*, *Tortulosa colletti*, *Tortulosa nevillei*, and *Theobaldius bairdi*.



Left: Home gardens, near Bandarawela, Upper Uva, habitat of *Corilla odontophora* and *Theobaldius bairdi*. Right: *Tortulosa barnaclei*, a species restricted to the lower Kelani Valley.