

Growth estimation of *Anguilla bicolor bicolor*  
McClelland in the Garanduwa lagoon of southern Sri  
Lanka

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*Anguilla bicolor bicolor* McClelland captured from Garanduwa lagoon in southern Sri Lanka, were tagged with numbered jaw tags and were released after measuring their total length, back to the lagoon. Larger eels for which the jaw tags were not possible to use, were tagged with floy tags fixed on the dorso-lateral side just in front of the origin of their dorsal fin. Tagged eels were recaptured upto 445 days after tagging (from 17th March 1992 to 24th December 1993) and their total lengths were measured in order to calculate the growth.

Some eels showed a zero growth or a negative growth upto 114 days after tagging and for growth estimations only those showed a growth of 5 mm or more were considered. Thirty four out of sixty four eels recaptured showed a positive growth and their growth rate varied from 9.1 to 273.3 mm per year with a mean growth of  $56.4 \pm 54.2$  mm per year. Results indicate that *A. bicolor* in Garanduwa lagoon have a slow growth rate that varies within a wide range.