

# Morenia ocellata - Burmese Eyed Turtle

## Burmese Eyed Turtle

### Other Names:

**Distribution:** Myanmar

**Physical Characteristics:** Length: up to 22cm

**International Conservation Status:**  
**CITES Appendix I**

**IUCN: VU**

**National Protection in Singapore:**  
Endangered Species (Import and Export) Act, 2006



*Morenia ocellata* (Burmese Eyed Turtle)

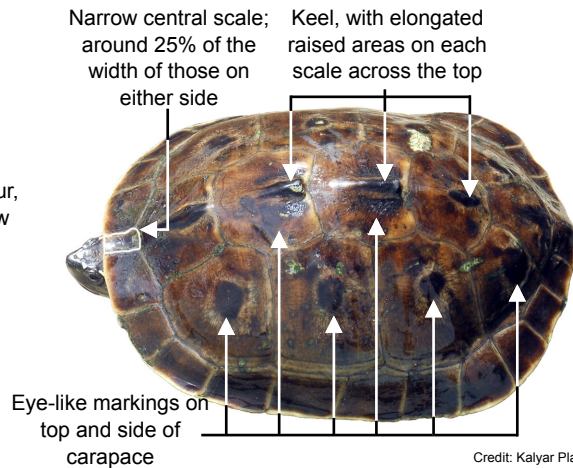
Credit: Kalyar Platt/TSA

**Traded as:** Meat and live as pets

### Distinguishing Features:

- Head short and non-protruding.
- Narrow central scale (nuchal scute) on carapace (top shell) around 25% of the width of those either side.
- Top shell olive, dark-brown or black in colour, with dark-bordered and dark-centred yellow eye-like markings. These fade with age.
- Keel across the top shell with elongated raised area on each scale across the top.

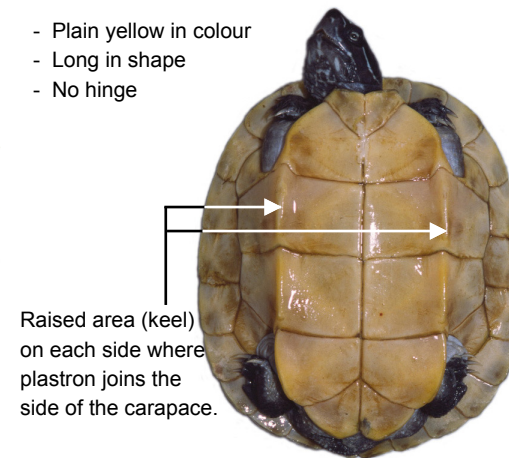
### Carapace (Top shell):



Credit: Kalyar Platt

### Plastron (Bottom shell):

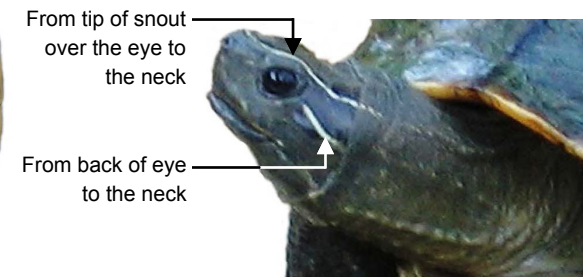
- Plain yellow in colour
- Long in shape
- No hinge



Credit: Peter Paul van Dijk

### Head:

- Snout short and does not protrude
- Two head stripes:



Credit: Kalyar Platt

### Similar to:

*Morelia persi* - Indian Eyed Turtle  
**Not CITES listed**

IUCN: VU.  
Size: up to 20cm

- Head is pointed and protruding
- Three yellow stripes on each side, 1) on top of the eyes, 2) over the jaws, 3) behind the eyes.
- Plastron (bottom shell) yellow, may have dark blotches on bridge and underside of some scutes (scales).

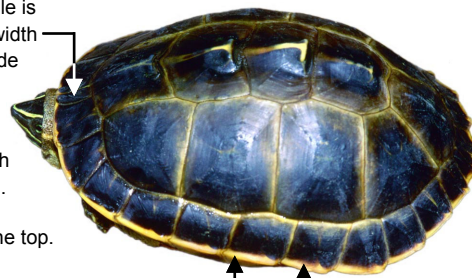
Distribution: Bangladesh, India

Central (nuchal) scale is around 50% of the width of those on either side

Keel across the top shell with elongated raised areas on each scale across the top.

Pale stripe across the top.

Each marginal scute (scale) has a pale vertical stripe



Credit: Indraneil Das

*Cuora amboinensis* - Southeast Asian Box Turtle

**CITES Appendix II**

IUCN: VU.  
Size: up to 20cm

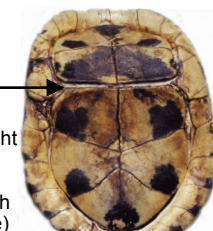


Credit: O. Caillabet/TRAFFIC SEA

Distribution: South and South-east Asia.

### Plastron (Bottom shell):

Hinge  
Yellow to light brown with large dark spot on each scute (scale)



Credit: D.Sharma

### Head:

Three yellow stripes  
Lower jaw and chin yellow



Credit: Chris R. Shepherd/TRAFFIC SEA