



Poisonous animals 2.6 Sea snakes :

Scientific name : hydrophinae and laticaudinae

Other Common names : coral reef snake

Identification :

1. All the Indian seas (Indian Ocean, Bay of Bengal, and Arabian Sea) abound in venomous sea snakes which are characterised by their **flattened, paddle shaped tails.**
2. The belly scales are generally not as broad as in the land snakes.
3. These snakes are generally **bluish, greyish, or greenish in colour**, and may have conspicuous bands on the back.
4. They generally grow up to **4 to 5 feet in length**, but may occasionally be 9 feet long.
5. Apart from the paddle shaped tail, these snakes can be distinguished by the **nostrils which (unlike in land snakes) are situated on the top of the snout. This enables them to breathe while in water.**

Nature of venom : predominantly myotoxic.