



COUSINE ISLAND
SEYCHELLES



November Newsletter

2021

Where nature thrives and man is a silent observer.

4° 20 MINS 55.73 SOUTH / 53° 38 MINS 53.24 EAST

Balance & Harmony

This hawksbill turtle season is having a very slow start, by this time last season Cousine Island had seen a little over 30 nests while this season, to date, there have been only 9 nests laid. The good news is there are quite a few turtles exploring our beach as a possible nesting site. Some of the females are even newcomers with no identification tags on their flippers, indicating that have not yet been encountered.

The Lesser noddy colony has moved on and all that is left behind are a few stragglers and late blooming juveniles that have yet to pass flight school. Although, the majority of the colony leaves Cousine island until the next breeding season a small resident group remains behind for the rest of the year.

Brahminy blind snake (*Indotyphlops braminus*)

While it may appear to be your common earth worm, this is in fact the smallest known snake species, the Brahminy blind snake (*Indotyphlops braminus*). Small, translucent scales which cover the eyes render these snakes almost entirely blind. This non-venomous snake feeds on the larvae, eggs and pupae of ants and termites. Measuring only 5.1 to 10.2 cm long spotting Cousine's only snake species can prove quite challenging.

