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Since its original description in 1883 by Boulenger, the dainty little Small Tree Frog was lost to science for over a century until its rediscovery from Coorg in India in 1998. The slender hopper is known not only for its quick costume change act—it can change its bright green overalls into bright brown in a matter of seconds—but also for its unique and novel nesting behaviour—it deposits its eggs in gel and packs them into a purse made out of a single leaf hanging above water. Shot at Coorg by S. Molur, ZOO; posted on 01 Jul 2019.



The geometric elegance of beehives has gotten us buzzing since time immemorial. The high-precision engineers of these architectural marvels are also the world's most prolific pollinators. Be it social skills, cooperation, or hard work, there's indeed much to learn from the busy bees! Shot at Coimbatore by B. Ravichandran, ZOO; posted on 28 Jun 2019.



During winter, when food resources become scarce, the Hairy Bergenia blooms in dense clusters of white, pink, or purple flowers, nourishing a diverse group of pollinating insects in the Himalaya. The perennial herb grows in rocky and stony habitats and is well-recognized for its use in traditional medicine for the treatment of kidney stones, earning it its local name that means 'the breaker of stones' (पत्थर तोड़). Shot at Chamba by V. Ahuja, ZOO; posted on 24 Jun 2019.



With its heavily spotted grey-brown plumage, it is easy to see where the Spotted Owlet gets its name from. Adapted to a wide range of habitats—even human settlements, this small and stocky bird of prey roosts in small groups in holes, hollows, and crevices in rocks, trees, and buildings, and emerges at night to control the pests in its neighbourhood! Shot at Coimbatore by B. Ravichandran, ZOO; posted on 20 Jun 2019.

We bring to you every week shots and tidbits of incredibly diverse species from around the natural world! Follow us on Instagram to be part of a growing community that celebrates our natural heritage: https://www.instagram.com/threatenedtaxa/

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Captions by Vidya Mary George, ZOO.