

Project Update: December 2017

In a report of activity plan for *Erymnochelys madagascariensis* it was said this species lay their eggs in sandy soil with between 2 and 38 eggs per clutch (Veloso and *al*, 2009), but we discovered one egg in a clutch at Ampanihy village with geographical coordinate S 16° 30' 52''. 45 and E 46° 3' 32''. 28 on December 23rd 2017.

This nest was marked with a wooden post and measured. General nest information collected included GPS coordinates, laying date, vegetative cover (open, shaded, plant species and height above nest), distance from the river, slope, and locality type (e.g. islet, riverside, field).

During excavation, this egg was marked temporarily so that it could be returned to the same location and orientation within the nest. An umbrella was used to shade the nest and eggs during data collection. Nest measurements for excavated nests included the minimum and maximum distance from the substrate to the bottom of nest, and the number of eggs in each layer of nest and number of layers per nest.



Fig N°1



Fig N°2

This nest was protected with a metal mesh cover (Figure 3,4) to protect this egg and hatchling from predators (e.g. lizards, snakes, birds).



Fig N°3



Fig N°4