

## Project Updates: September 2016

### Pilot field sampling

Pilot visits were conducted to identify suitable sampling sites for this research, representing Tea growing major agro-ecological zones. For that, we visited and explore the Udupussellawa, Maskelia (Dimbula region), Thalawakelle (Nuwara Eliya region), Kanneliya (Ruhuna region), Yatideriya (Kandy region) and Namunukula (Uva region). Permanent bat roosting sites within the tea estates were found from Udupussellawa, Maskeliya, Thalawakelle, Yatideriya, Namunukula and Kanneliya areas.

### *Udupussellawa (Udupussellawa region)*

Kondagala division of Luckyland tea estate.



Left: Entrance of the Sthripura tunnel, Udupussellawa. Right: Underground view of Sthripura tunnel.



Left: Measuring a caught bat by me and field assistant. Right: Face and leaf nose of *Rhinolophus rouxi*.

***Maskeliya (Dimbula region)***

Theberton division of Hapugasthenne estate.



Left: Bat roosting site in estate manager's office. Right: Enlarged view of the entrance of roosting site.



Roosting bats (*Pipistrellus ceylonicus*) in office ceiling.

***Thalawakelle (Nuwara Eliya region)***

Elgine division of Lippakelle estate, Thalawakelle.



Left: Rock cave at Lippakelle estate, Thalawakelle. Right: I am searching bats in rock cave.



Figure 9. View from the cave entrance.

***Kanneliya (Ruhuna region)***

Located inside a small holder's tea land.



Left: Size of the entrance of bat roosting site, Kanneliya. Right: View of the inside of old plumbago mine.

***Yatideriya (Kandy Region)***

Yatideriya estate



Left: Entrance of bat roosting site at Yatideriya estate. Right: *Hipposideros lankadiva* captured at Yatideriya estate.