

**COLUBER CONSTRICTOR MORMON** (Western Yellow-bellied Racer). **CANNIBALISM.** Cannibalism has been reported for multiple subspecies of racers including *C. c. constrictor* (Conant 1938. Amer. Midl. Nat. 20:53), *C. c. priapus* (Hamilton and Pollock 1956. Ecology 37:519–526; Jackson 1971. J. Herpetol. 5:196), and *C. c. flaviventris* (Fitch 1963. Univ. Kansas Publ. Mus. Nat. Hist. 15:351–468). Here, we report cannibalism by *C. c. mormon*. On 21 August 2006 at 1810 h, we encountered an adult (678 mm SVL) *C. c. mormon* in the act of ingesting another snake (headfirst) on a hillside adjacent to Greenwood State Beach, Mendocino Co., California, USA (39°07'40"N, 123°42'56"W). Approximately 10 cm of the ingested snake's tail protruded from the mouth of the predator and was securely wrapped around a poison oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*) stem, deterring further ingestion. The predator vigorously struggled to pull the snake's tail free, but was unsuccessful. After 15 min, we carefully extracted the racer from among the dense vegetation to obtain a body measurement and voucher photograph. In doing so, the ingested snake, still secured to the plant stem by its tail, was released from the racer's grasp and pulled completely free from the racer's gut. The partially ingested snake was an apparently unharmed (no visible bite marks) *C. c. mormon* (436 mm SVL) and was immediately active and seemingly alert upon removal from the larger racer. Voucher photographs of the two snakes were taken (CUSC 2348; Campbell Museum, Clemson University) and both snakes were released at the capture site. Cunningham (1959 Herpetologica. 15:17–19) reported consumption of conspecifics by captive *C. c. mormon*, but to our knowledge this is the first reported observation of cannibalism by this species in the wild.

We thank Stanlee Miller of the Campbell Museum, Clemson University for archiving the voucher photographs.

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**CROTALUS AQUILUS** (Queretaran Dusky Rattlesnake). **MAXIMUM SIZE.** The maximum total length recorded for *Crotalus aquilus* is 678 mm, but most adults are less than 500 mm (Campbell and Lamar 2004. The Venomous Reptiles of the Western Hemisphere. Cornell University Press, Ithaca, New York. 870 pp.). During July and August of 2006 we measured three adult male *C. aquilus* that exceed the previously reported maximum size. All three were found near Acambay, Estado de México, México at an elevation of ca. 2510 m. We preserved a male captured on 12 July 2006 with a total length of 681 mm (618 mm SVL, 63 mm tail length, 237.3 g). This specimen was deposited in the herpetological collection of the Museo de Zoología de la Facultad de Ciencias at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (MZFC 19258). Additional males captured on 5 August 2006 (619 mm SVL, 66 mm tail length, 203.4 g) and 6 August 2006 (633 mm SVL, 61

mm tail length, 230.7 g) also exceeded the previously reported maximum length. Because three of 17 male *C. aquilus* exceeded the recorded maximum length, we suggest that animals of this size are not unusual at this location.

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**CROTALUS AQUILUS** (Queretaran Dusky Rattlesnake). **MORTALITY.** In México, forest fires follow one of two seasonal patterns. In most of the country, the fire season runs from January to June, but in northeastern México the fire season begins in May and ends in September. Both fire seasons coincide with the dry season (SEMARNAP 2000. Texto Guía Forestal. Subsecretaría de Recursos Naturales, Dirección General Forestal-SEMARNAP. México, D.F., 150 pp.). Forest fires have the potential to negatively affect forest faunas, and in particular, amphibians and reptiles (Bury 2004. Conserv. Biol. 18:968–975). Fire-induced formation of light gaps in forest canopies can favor certain reptiles, but reptiles may also have greater difficulty finding refuge in fire-affected sites (Bury, *op. cit.*; Ernst et al. 1995. Herpetol. Rev. 26:185–187). However, few data exist indicating the vulnerability of reptiles in Mexico. Hence, here we provide an observation from the Mexican state of Hidalgo suggesting that *Crotalus aquilus* may sometimes be at risk from fires.

During a visit to the state of Hidalgo at 0030 h on 16 July 2005, we found a *C. aquilus* in an area known as El Calicanto at kilometer 13.5 on Highway 105 between Pachuca and Tampico, municipality of Mineral del Chico (20°09'01"N, 98°40'51"W, elev. 2590 m, NAD27). The area lies in the Sierra de Pachuca and has a mixed oak (*Quercus*) forest vegetation with *Q. laurina*, *Q. affinis*, *Q. mexicana*, and *Pinus teocote* present. The snake, a juvenile female (270 mm SVL; 18 mm tail length), died a few days later. The tail, which was missing the rattle, appeared burned to a distance 22 mm anterior to the vent, and displayed wrinkled and infected tissue dorsally. Although we did not weigh the snake, she appeared emaciated.

During 12–23 June 2005, a forest fire had swept through this entire area (Jimenez-Rosenberg et al. 2004. Biodiversitas 52:1–10). The appearance of the snake suggested that it was either exposed to fire directly or to a hot substrate. Our visit to the site occurred about a month after the fire, and we suggest that this animal survived the fire but succumbed from fire-related injuries.

The *C. aquilus* (ITAH1278) was deposited in the herpetological collection of the Instituto Tecnológico Agropecuario de Hidalgo, Mexico.

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**CROTALUS AQUILUS** (Queretaran Dusky Rattlesnake). **REPRODUCTION.** Published reports of litter size in *Crotalus aquilus* are few, although Armstrong and Murphy (1979. The Natural History of Mexican Rattlesnakes. Univ. Kansas Mus. Nat. Hist. Spec. Publ. 5:1–88) reported that litter size ranged from 6–7 young that ranged in size from 153–177 mm SVL. On 03 March 2004 a gravid female *C. aquilus* (459 mm SLV, 139.55 g) was collected by Jessica Cortes, in Cerro del Tenayo, Estado de México, México. She was maintained in captivity (Laboratorio de Herpetología de la Facultad de Estudios Superiores Iztacala, UNAM) on a diet of mice. On 26 March she gave birth to six live offspring. The neonates averaged  $161.3 \pm 6.0$  (range 134–177) mm SVL and  $4.8 \pm 0.3$  g (range 4.4–5.1) g in mass. Relative clutch mass (Vitt and Price 1982. Herpetologica 38:237–255) was 0.271.

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**CROTALUS MOLOSSUS MOLOSSUS** (Northern Black-tailed Rattlesnake). **DIET.** Many snake species are known to prey upon bats, primarily by capturing them while they are roosting, although some snakes capture flying bats that are either emerging or returning from roosts or while the bats are foraging (Hutson et al. 2000. Microchiropteran bats. IUCN Global Status and Conservation Action Plan. IUCN/SSC Chiroptera Specialist Group. IUCN, Gland, Switzerland). The only rattlesnakes known to prey on bats are *Crotalus helleri* and *C. horridus* (Klauber 1972. Rattlesnakes: Their Habits, Life Histories, and Influence on Mankind, Second Edition. University of California Press, Berkeley, California; Uhler et al. 1939. In Transactions of the Fourth North American Wildlife Conference, pp. 605–622. Washington, D.C.). Here we report an instance of predation by *Crotalus m. molossus* on Pallid Bats (*Antrozous pallidus*). At ca. 0200 h on 17 September 2006, in Brewster Co., Texas, USA (NAD 1927, 029°39'N, 103°06'W, ca. 742 m elev.), we watched an adult *C. m. molossus* striking at Pallid Bats flying in and out of a roadway bridge. A small colony of bats were roosting in the internal structure of the bridge. The snake was positioned on the bridge at the edge of the pavement with its anterior extended into the air near where the bats were flying in and out of the culvert. We captured the snake and palpated a single recently ingested bat from its stomach. Lumps present in the snake (but not palpated) suggest additional recently ingested food items.

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**CROTALUS WILLARDI AMABILIS** (Del Nido Ridge-nosed Rattlesnake). **DIET.** The diet of *Crotalus willardi* is known to include mice, lizards, centipedes, and birds (Holycross et al. 2002. In Schuett et al. [eds.], Biology of the Vipers, pp. 243–252. Eagle Mountain Publishing, Eagle Mountain, Utah). However, there are only a few diet records for *Crotalus willardi amabilis*. These include a Southern Pocket Gopher, *Thomomys umbrinus* (Bryson and Holycross 2001. Herpetol. Rev. 32:262), the mention of a rodent in one stomach (Smith et al. 2005. Bull. Chicago Herpetol. Soc. 40:210), and mention of unidentified rodent hairs in the scat of wild specimens (Armstrong and Murphy 1979. The Natural History of Mexican Rattlesnakes. Univ. Kansas Mus. Nat. Hist. Special Publ. 5:1–88).

Here we report the presence of an adult squirrel (*Tamias dorsalis*) in the stomach of an adult female *C. w. amabilis* (Colección de Anfibios y Reptiles del Laboratorio de Ecología de la Unidad de Biología, Tecnología y Prototipos, LE-UBIPRO 14490). The snake was collected 21 September 2005 at the bottom of a deep canyon near the crest of the Sierra del Nido, Chihuahua (29°29'37.7"N, 106°43'21.8"W, 2550 m elev.). The squirrel was at least twice the normal diameter of the snake's body.

We thank David Armstrong for identifying the squirrel.

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**CROTALUS WILLARDI** (Ridge-nosed Rattlesnake). **REPRODUCTION.** On 8 August 2004, one of us (KS) encountered a gravid female *Crotalus willardi* (453 mm SVL, 43 mm tail length, 99.1 g) in the northern Sierra San Luis, Sonora, México (31°17.2'N, 108°46.2'W, 2104 m elev.). Surrounding habitat consists of young oak woodland-scrub regenerating from a 1989 wildfire. The female was maintained in captivity until parturition on 30 August 2004. On the morning of 30 August, the female gave birth to four live healthy neonates, and a single live deformed neonate. The four healthy neonates were measured, weighed and sexed (172, 181, 172, 176 mm SVL; 5.5, 6.8, 6.1, 6.2 g; sex male, male, female, female). The deformed neonate was eyeless, smaller than siblings, had failed to completely absorb available yolk prior to birth, weighed 4.1 g, and died soon after birth. The female weighed 63.5 g immediately following parturition. Relative clutch mass (including 1.9 g of undigested yolk) was 0.31. This litter was born later in the year than all but one previously reported parturition event (Holycross and Goldberg 2001. Copeia 2001:473–481). Clutch size and neonate sizes fall within previously reported ranges (Holycross and Goldberg, *op. cit.*)



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**CROTALUS WILLARDI** (Ridge-nosed rattlesnake) **DIET.** *Crotalus willardi* are known to consume small mammals, lizards, centipedes, and birds (Holycross et al. 2002. In Schuett et al. [eds.], *Biology of the Vipers*, pp. 243–252. Eagle Mountain Publishing, Eagle Mountain, Utah). To date, only six accounts of avian prey items have been recorded from the diet of *C. willardi*, five from *C. w. obscurus* in the Animas Mountains and the Sierra San Luis (Holycross et al., *op. cit.*), and an additional record from *C. w. willardi* in the Huachuca Mountains (Parker and Stotz 1997. *Bull. Maryland Herpetol. Soc.* 13:123). Three of these prey items were identified to species, all small passerines; *Aimophila ruficeps*, *Myadestes townsendi*, and *Wilsonia pusilla* (Parker and Stotz, *op. cit.*; Holycross et al., *op. cit.*).

Here we report another observation of avian predation by *C. willardi*. At 1640 h on 4 October 2003, one of us (EMD) observed an adult female *C. willardi* (465 mm SVL, 78.8 g) attempting to ingest an adult male Hermit Thrush (*Catharus guttatus*) (30.1 mm tarsus length, 101.6 mm wing chord length, 153 mm total length). The snake was found beneath a manzanita shrub within a meter of a small pool of a mostly dry intermittent stream in the northern Sierra San Luis (Chihuahua, México; 31°17.3'N 108°45.5'W, 2068 m elev.). The snake regurgitated the thrush when we disturbed it. However, because the widest part of the bird's body had already been ingested, we believe the snake would have been able to completely swallow the bird had it not been disturbed. Feces obtained while processing this snake contained feathers, suggesting that the snake had consumed a bird prior to the witnessed attempt. The thrush was deposited in the Colección de Aves of the Museo de Zoología de la Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (MZFC 19304).

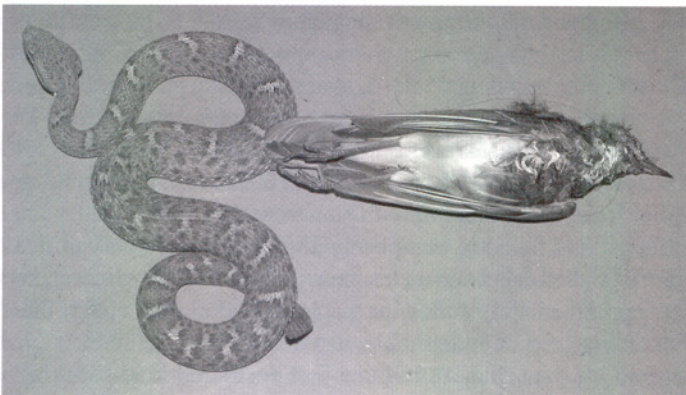


FIG. 1. Female *Crotalus willardi* with a male *Catharus guttatus* she attempted to swallow.

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**ELAPHE CARINATA CARINATA** (Keeled Rat snake). **DIET.** Keeled rat snakes appear to be dietary generalists and have been known to prey on mice, rats, birds, bird eggs, frogs, lizards, snakes and reptile eggs (Schulz 1996. A monograph of the Colubrid snakes of the genus *Elaphe* Fitzinger. Koeltz Scientific Books, Würselen, Czechoslovakia. 439 pp.).

In September 2004 a monitoring program was initiated in a wetland habitat near an industrial park of Taoyuan County, northern Taiwan. We collected YOY *Elaphe carinata carinata* with prey items in their stomachs in permanent drift fence/funnel traps on 18 February, 26 March and 31 March, 2 males (391 and 393 mm SVL, 28 and 33 g) and 1 female (410 mm SVL, 37.7 g), respectively. The fence was set along the bank of a pond, where the dominant vegetation consists of *Bambusa oldhamii*, *Broussonetia papyrifera*, *Lantana camara*, and *Pennisetum purpureum*. Forced regurgitation revealed that the snakes had consumed one *Crocidura attenuata* (Tanaka's Gray Shrew), two newborn *Apodemus agrarius* (Formosan Striped Field Mouse), one *Laevicaulis alte* (garden slug), and one *Takydromus stejnegeri* (Stejneger's Grass Lizard). In Taiwan, a chick, a beetle (Scarabaeidae), a grasshopper (Acridiidae), a damselfly (Euphaeidae) (Lin et al. 1995. Foods of snakes from Taiwan. *NOW* 3:19-21), *Dinodon rufozonatum* (Lee and Lue 1996. A preliminary study on the food habits of snakes in Taiwan. *Biol. Bull. National Taiwan Normal University.* 31:119-124), *Ptyas mucosus* (Hsien-Pin Chu, pers. comm.), and *Rattus rattus* (Norval pers. obs.) have been recorded as prey of *Elaphe carinata carinata*. To our knowledge this appears to be the first record of this snake species preying on shrews and land slugs.

We thank Ying-Ping Fang and Wei-Shin Jenq for assistance with identifications.

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**ELAPHE VULPINA** (Western Foxsnake). **HABITAT USE.** *Elaphe vulpina* is a state endangered species (Missouri Dept. Conservation 2006. Missouri Species and Communities of Conservation Concern, Jefferson City, Missouri. 58 pp.) that occurs in northern Missouri, including Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge (SCNWR). Past research conducted on SCNWR suggests this spe-



cies avoids wetland centers and is associated with wetland prairies, wetland edges and developed lands (Shew 2004. Spatial Ecology and Habitat Use of the Western fox Snake (*Elaphe vulpina vulpina*) on Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge. Masters thesis. Southwest Missouri State University, Springfield, Missouri. 51 pp.). Although observations have been made of this species preying upon duck nests on wetland edges (Wheeler 1984. Wildl. Soc. Bull. 12:77–78), they have not been reported to utilize wetland centers containing relatively deep water habitat (> 90cm).

During the period of May through mid-June 2005 and 2006, ca. 50 *E. vulpina* were observed utilizing deep water wetland habitats in a 239-ha marsh located on the southwest portion of SCNWR, Holt County, Missouri, USA. Individuals were typically observed in cattail (*Typha* sp.) patches coiled on Red-wing Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) and Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) nests, ca. 60–90 cm above the surface of the water. Using a geographic information system we calculated that the snakes had to swim a minimum of 130 m to reach the cattail patches where they were located. Utilization of this habitat type has been observed on SCNWR annually since 2001 by refuge staff members.

Although *E. vulpina* were never observed feeding on eggs or nestlings, depredation was suspected as this appears to be one of the major food resources in this habitat type during this time period which coincides with nesting period of several bird species. The three dominant species of arboreal nesting birds located in this habitat include the aforementioned blackbirds and Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*). Additionally, five other species of platform nesting birds may also be found in this habitat including Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*), American Bittern (*Bontaurus lentiginosus*), Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*), American Coot (*Fulica americana*), and Common Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*). The eggs and nestlings of all of these species represent potential prey items. Cattail patches as well as other deep water wetland vegetation may play a more significant role in the spatial ecology of the species than previously suspected. This relationship is likely on a temporal basis that coincides with wetland breeding bird activity. Further research on the habitat use of *E. vulpina* within managed wetlands may prove useful in fully understanding the ecology of this species.

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**FARANCIA ABACURA REINWARDTII** (Western Mud Snake). **REPRODUCTION.** Information regarding reproduction of *Farancia abacura reinwardtii* is limited due, in part, to its secretive habits. Specifically, copulation has only been reported once, by Anderson (1965. The Reptiles of Missouri. Univ. Missouri Press, Columbia. 330 pp.). Herein, we report on copulation of *F. a. reinwardtii* from Reelfoot Lake, Lake County, Tennessee, USA.

On 05 June 2005 at 1100 h, we observed (from a boat) a large (142 cm SVL, 162 cm TL) *F. a. reinwardtii* on the northwest bank of Horse Island Ditch at Reelfoot Lake, Tennessee (36°24'57"N, 89°22'30"W, NAD27). Upon approach, we noticed that the snake

was copulating with a smaller individual. We captured the pair after 2–3 minutes of observation, and discovered that the larger individual was a dead, bloated female. The pair was transported, *in coitus*, to the University of Tennessee-Martin Reelfoot Lake Research and Teaching Center at Samburg, Tennessee. Copulation continued until 1430 h, when the smaller male separated from the dead female. The male (ca. 95 cm TL) was returned to the point of capture the following day. The female was deposited into the Herpetology Collection at Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU 178S).

We could determine neither the cause nor timing of death of the female, or if copulation was initiated before or after the female died. Although from the bloated appearance of the female, we speculate post-mortem initiation of copulation. In field experiments, several snake species have followed chemical trails left by (and courted with) recently deceased females (Shine et al. 2000. Behaviour 137:727–739). Besides providing an additional observation of post-mortem copulation, our observation on 05 June appears to be the earliest report of copulation for *F. a. reinwardtii*. Copulation in Western Mud Snakes has been observed as early as 13 June in southeastern Missouri (reported by Max Nickerson in Anderson 1965, *op. cit.*). Additionally, this observation supports the conclusions of Robinette and Trauth (1992. Proc. Arkansas Acad. Sci. 46:61–64) that the reproductive cycles of both male and female *F. a. reinwardtii* peak in May and June. Research was supported by a grant to VAC from the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (Contract Num. ED-05-01679-00). Specimen was collected under authorization of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (permit no. 1798).

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**LAMPROPELTIS PYROMELANA** (Sonoran Mountain Kingsnake). **PIGMENT LOSS.** On 22 September 2003 we captured a normally pigmented adult female *Lampropeltis pyromelana* (622 mm SVL, 74.0 g) in the northern Sierra San Luis (Chihuahua, México; 31°18.1'N, 108°45.9'W, 1878 m elev.). We surgically implanted a radio transmitter, and released her on 27 September 2003. Between 28 September and 2 November 2003 we relocated this individual five times, however we observed her only once, on 2 November, at which time she weighed 71.3 g, and remained normally pigmented. We next relocated this snake on 17 May 2004. Although she had lost considerable weight (mass 59.6 g), and had an open, dry wound along her side exposing a small section of the transmitter antenna, the snake seemed to be in good health otherwise, and exhibited no signs of infection or systemic disease. However, she had lost some pigment. Most orange bands exhibited areas where the orange had been replaced by an uneven alabaster to faded salmon coloration. Pigment loss was most severe dorsally, with pigment loss extending down towards the venter in some bands. Most white bands were unchanged, however small areas along the dorsum of some bands had changed from cream to alabaster. Black bands were unaffected by any pigment loss. Coloration on both the head and tail remained unchanged.



Mid-body bands were more severely impacted than were bands closer to the snake's head and tail. The snake's venter remained normally pigmented along the length of the snake. Pigment loss was not centered at the site of the surgical scar, nor did the snake display any natural wounds or evidence of skin disease. We removed the transmitter from this individual on 18 May 2004 and did not again observe her after her release. Hence, we cannot speculate on the permanence of this color change. We observed 28 other *L. pyromelana* in the Sierra San Luis and contiguous areas of the Sierra Pan Duro during 2002–2004, all of which were typically colored.

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**LEPTOTYPHLOPS BORRICHIANUS** (NCN). **PREDATION.** *Leptotyphlops borrichianus* is known from La Rioja, San Juan, Mendoza, and Rio Negro provinces in Argentina (Ceñ 1993. Reptiles del centro, centro-oeste y sur de la Argentina. Herpetofauna de zonas áridas y semiáridas. Mon. IV Mus. Reg. Sci. Nat. Torino. 524 pp). Here we report an incidence of predation on *L. borrichianus* in San Juan, Argentina (31°31'44"S, 68°41'44"W). A male (140 mm SVL) *L. borrichianus* was discovered in the stomach of a male *Bufo arenarum* (89 mm SVL) during the course of a dietary study. The *B. arenarum* had been collected from a desert shrubland dominated by *Prosopis* sp., *Bulnesia retama*, *Solanum eleagnifolium*, *Caparis atamisquea*, *Grabousquia obtusa*, and *Tamarix gallica*.

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**LIOPHIS MILIARIS** (Common Water Snake). **PREY.** In the wild *Liophis miliaris* feeds on a wide array of ectothermic prey, including a variety of amphibians (adults, larvae, and eggs), lizards, amphisbaenids, and fish (Michaud and Dixon 1989. Herpetol. Rev. 20:39–41; Chicarino et al. 1998. XXII Congresso Brasileiro de Zoologia, Recife 271–272). In August 2005 we collected a juvenile female of *L. miliaris* (310 mm SVL, 70 mm tail length, 16.3 mm head length; 10 g) moving along an unpaved road at Caucaia do Alto, São Paulo, Brazil (23°41'S, 47°01'W, 895 m elev.). The snake contained a recently ingested juvenile *Bufo ornatus* (29 mm SVL, 1.3 g). To the best of my knowledge, this species has not been previously documented in the diet of *L. miliaris*. Both specimens are deposited in the Coleção Herpetológica "Alphonse Richard Hoge," São Paulo, Brazil (IBSP 73.469).

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**LYSTROPHIS HISTRICUS** (Rayed or Jan's Hog-nosed Snake). **DIET.** No specific prey records have been published for *Lystrophis histricus*, probably because the species is scarce throughout its distribution and poorly represented in zoological collections. Several authors suggest that amphibians appear in the diet (Amaral 1977. Serpentes do Brasil: Iconografia Colorida. Univ. São Paulo, Ed. Melhoramentos, Inst. Nac. Do Livro y Universidade de São Paulo. 248 pp.; Schouten 1931. Rev. Soc. Ci. Paraguay 1:5–32) but do not cite specific records.

We discovered prey remains in the guts of two of three specimens held in the Uruguay Museum of Natural History collection (MNHN). A male (MNHN 58; 270 mm SVL) collected in 1914 in Departamento Maldonado contained two reptilian eggs (11 × 5 mm and 10 × 6 mm). A female (MNHN 87; 249 mm SVL) collected on 23 March 1935 in the Departamento Cerro Largo contained one eggshell that measured ca. 25 mm length. Based on the comparison with reptile eggs deposited in the Faculty of Sciences Collection, we believe that the eggs eaten by MNHN 58 are *Cercosaura schreibersii* (supported by number of eggs, size, color, and shape). The shell found in MNHN 87 appears to be that of an amphisbaenid (based on shape and size). These observations indicate that the diet of *L. histricus* includes the eggs of other reptiles.

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**MASTICOPHIS SCHOTTI SCHOTTI** (Schott's Whipsnake). **MAXIMUM SIZE RECORD.** *Masticophis schotti schotti* is a large, long-tailed (to 38% TL), boldly striped whipsnake inhabiting arid scrub and grassland throughout south central Texas in the United States westward through eastern Coahuila, northern Nuevo Leon, and extreme northern Tamaulipas, Mexico (Camper 1996. Cat. Amer. Amphib. Rept. 638.1–638.4). The maximum size listed for *M. s. schotti* is 1676 mm total length (Boundy 1995. Bull. Chicago Herpetol. Soc. 30:109–122.; Conant and Collins 1998. A Field Guide to Reptiles and Amphibians: Eastern and Central North America. 3rd ed. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, Massachusetts. 616 pp.). However, no supporting information exists for this record (locality and date of collection or disposition of the specimen). Herein, we report a new maximum size record for this species.

On 30 September 2005 at 1750 h an exceptionally large female *DOR Masticophis schotti schotti* was collected on Sage Road ca. 120 m east of the junction with farm road 1898 (27°32.292N, 097°52.589W) Kleberg County, Texas, USA. The specimen measured SVL 1169 mm, TL 1681 mm. This exceeds the maximum length previously recorded for this species. The specimen is deposited in the Laboratory for Environmental Biology, Centennial Museum, University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP 19302).