



FIG.1. *Rhinobothryum lentiginosum* (decapitated) with juvenile *Iguana iguana* that it had consumed.

larger than the largest (total length = 1498 mm) reported by Cunha and Nascimento (*op. cit.*). Thus, this event is noteworthy not only because it reports a new prey species and additional case of saurophagy in *R. lentiginosum*, but also because the snake likely represents the maximum size for this species. Additionally, this note documents a novel predator for juvenile *Iguana iguana* (Greene et al. 1978. *J. Herpetol.* 12:169–176).

I thank Ian-Arthur Sulocki for reporting the event and contributing photographs.

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SIBON ANNULATUS (Ringed Snail-eater). **MAXIMUM SIZE.** *Sibon annulatus* is a small snake for its genus and has previously been recorded to a maximum total length of 557 mm (Savage 2002. *Amphibians and Reptiles of Costa Rica: A Herpetofauna Between Two Continents, Between Two Seas.* Univ. Chicago Press, Chicago, Illinois. 934 pp.). At 2230 h on the 31 December 2004, during a nocturnal visual encounter transect for amphibians, we found an adult female *S. annulatus* in *Manicaria* swamp forest at Caño Palma Biological Station (8 km N of Tortuguero, Limón Province, Costa Rica). The snake was found at a perch height of 4.5 m in a *Loreya* sp. (Melastomataceae) tree. The live snake measured 362 mm SVL, 214 mm tail length, and weighed 8.8 g. At 576 mm total length, this specimen is the longest known *S. annulatus*. The specimen was collected under permit (Resolución No. 171-2004-OFAU) and deposited in the herpetological collections at Universidad de Costa Rica.

We thank the Canadian Organization for Tropical Education and Rainforest Conservation (COTERC) for permission to study at Caño Palma Biological Station, Xavier Guevara at the Ministerio de Recursos Naturales Energía y Minas (MINAE) for permits, Federico Bolaños of Universidad de Costa Rica for access to collections, and Farnborough College of Science and Technology for assistance with literature.

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SISTRURUS CATENATUS EDWARDSII (Desert Massasauga). **DIET, PREY SIZE, AND FEEDING-RELATED MORTALITY.** *Sistrurus catenatus edwardsii* feeds on lizards, small mammals, small snakes, centipedes, and anurans (Holycross and Mackessy 2002. *J. Herpetol.* 36:454–464). Whiptails of the genus *Aspidoscelis* have been reported to be in the diet of *S. c. edwardsii*, however *A. marmorata* (Marbled Whiptail) has not yet been identified as prey (Holycross and Mackessy, *op. cit.*). This is rather intriguing, given the overlap that exists for both species' known geographic ranges (Degenhardt et al. 1996. *Amphibians and Reptiles of New Mexico.* Univ. New Mexico Press, Albuquerque. 431 pp.). Furthermore, little published information exists regarding prey size for *S. c. edwardsii*. Here, I report feeding-related mortality of an *S. c. edwardsii* following consumption of an adult *A. marmorata*.

At 1018 h on 7 August 2008, I discovered a deceased female *S. c. edwardsii* (TCWC 93556) lying in the bottom of a large sand dune blowout in Lea County, New Mexico, USA (32.7847°N, 103.8089°W; datum WGS 84; elev. 1173 m). The individual was lying dorsum up, appeared bloated, and had recently deceased. Both lizard and snake tracks were observed near the dead snake. The individual was collected and dissected to determine what was causing the large bulge in the snake's mid-section. Upon dissection, I discovered that the snake had consumed a female *A. marmorata* (TCWC 93557). The lizard's girth had caused a 35 mm long rupture in the snake's stomach which was likely the ultimate cause of death for the snake.

The *S. c. edwardsii* measured 310 mm SVL and 18 g mass post mortem and the *A. marmorata* measured 100 mm SVL and 21 g mass post mortem. This indicates that the snake attempted to ingest a prey item 1.17 times its own mass. This measurement is slight in comparison to the record for snakes (relative prey mass = 1.72; Mulcahy et al. 2003. *Herpetol. Rev.* 34:64); however, perhaps it illustrates a differential consumption/mortality threshold exists among species or individuals.

This observation is noteworthy for two reasons. First, although *S. c. edwardsii* and *A. marmorata* overlap in geographic range, their trophic relationship had not yet been clarified. Second, it indicates the consumption of large prey items may result in increased energy stores for *S. c. edwardsii*, but the potential threat of death due to a ruptured stomach exists.

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