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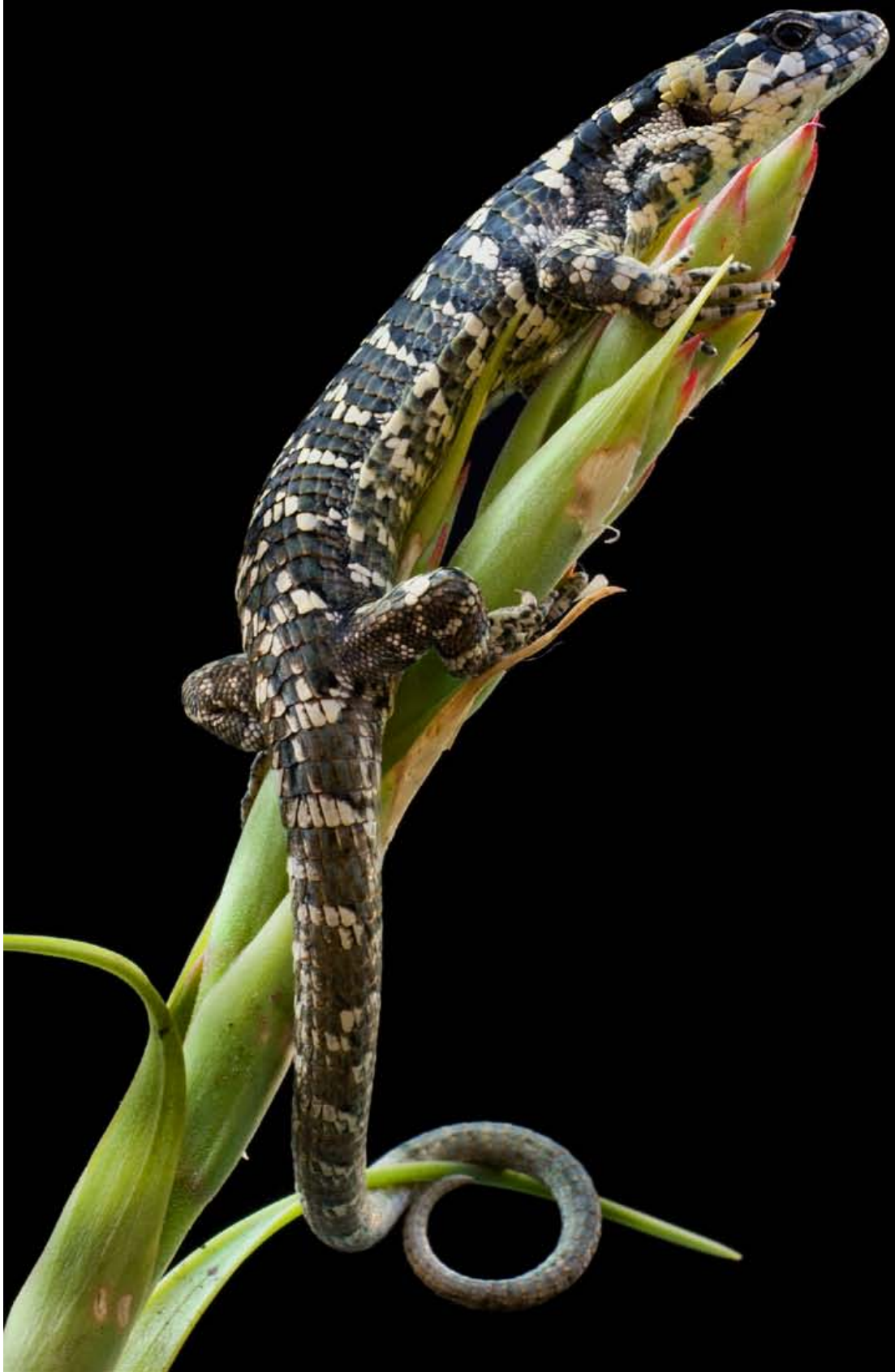

was potentially valuable, the individual was carefully removed from the field and transported to the lab to induce regurgitation. Approximately 15 minutes after removal, the snake was discovered dead. Although *Bitis* in captivity have died after consuming meals close to their own body mass (Haagner 1988. Koedoe 31:246), we attribute the snake's death to stress from transport. A post-mortem (Fig. 1) revealed that the snake had consumed a *Cephalophus natalensis* (Red Duiker). The antelope had been bitten in the lower abdomen, and a single fang was found entangled in its fur. The *C. natalensis* was 104% of the snake's body mass, which is the highest relative prey mass (RPM) recorded for *B. gabonica* and also the first record of ungulate predation by the species in South Africa.

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***BOA CONSTRICTOR* (Boa Constrictor). FORAGING BEHAVIOR.** *Boa constrictor* is often referred to as a sit-and-wait or ambush forager that chooses locations to maximize the likelihood of prey encounters (Greene 1983. *In* Janzen [ed.], Costa Rica Natural History, pp. 380–382. Univ. Chicago Press, Illinois). However, as more is learned about the natural history of snakes in general, the dichotomy between active versus ambush foraging is becoming blurred. Herein, we describe an instance of diurnal active foraging by a *B. constrictor,* illustrating that this species exhibits a range of foraging behaviors.

At 1120 h on 25 May 2007, on Cayo Cochino Grande, Cayos Cachinos, Honduras (15.9711928037812°N, 86.4739467195224°W, NAD 83/WGS 84), we saw several *Artibeus jamaicensis* (Jamaican Fruit Bat) fly from a living Cohune Oil Palm (*Attalea cohune,* Arecaceae) approximately 8 m above the ground. We noticed that the bats were disturbed from their daytime roost (likely beneath a frond of the *A. cohune*) by a *B. constrictor* (male; SVL = 760 mm; total length = 118 mm; 268 g including prey). The snake fell to the ground while simultaneously constricting four bats and continued to constrict and kill all four bats on the ground. Over approximately 1.5 h we observed the snake consume two of the four individuals (one adult male and one adult female) headfirst and then take refuge under nearby palm fronds on the forest floor. The two bats that were abandoned by the snake were a female (42 g) and a male (29 g). After measuring, we released the *B. constrictor* at the point of capture without palpating the two bats it had consumed.

Boa constrictor is known to prey upon at least four species of bats (including *A. jamaicensis*; Esbérard and Vrcibradic 2007. Rev. Brasil. Zool. 24:848–853). Previous observations of bat predation by *B. constrictor* describe snakes entering caves or tree cavities to capture roosting bats during the day (Arendt and Anthony 1986. Carib. J. Sci. 22:219–220; Thomas 1974. J. Herpetol. 8:188). Bats roosting in caves and tree cavities would be a predictable prey source for *B. constrictor*. In contrast, although female *A. jamaicensis* nested in tree hollows and moved day roosts infrequently on Barro Colorado Island, males roosted in foliage and changed day roost sites frequently (every 3–13 days; Morrison 1978. Ecology 59:716–723). We observed this mixed-sex group of *A. jamaicensis* roosting in foliage suggesting a relatively ephemeral roost site. Thus our observations suggest that *B. constrictor* uses active, sometimes diurnal foraging to locate prey such as roosting bats. Additionally, this observation is the first to document a *B. constrictor* apprehending and constricting multiple bats simultaneously.

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***BOIGA DENDROPHILA* (Mangrove Cat Snake). DIET.** *Boiga dendrophila* is a large (to 250 cm total length) colubrid snake, known from both primary and disturbed lowland forests and mangrove swamps of Southeast Asia (Das 2006. A Photographic Guide to the Snakes and Other Reptiles of Borneo. New Holland Publishers, Ltd., London. 144 pp.; David and Vogel 1996. The Snakes of Sumatra: An Annotated Checklist and Key with Natural History Notes. Edition Chimaira, Frankfurt am Main. 260 pp.). Its diet is known to include vertebrates such as frogs, lizards, birds, and rodents; one snake species (*Ahaetulla prasina*) has also been documented (Stuebing and Inger 1999. A Field Guide to the Snakes of Borneo, Natural History Publications, Sdn. Bhd. Kota Kinabalu. 235 pp.).

At 2000 h on 13 September 2009, an adult *B. dendrophila* (total length ca. 1 m) was encountered in tree branches on the bank of Sungei Bawang (01.0613°N, 110.1976°E, datum WGS84), a perennial stream flowing over granite-sandstone substrate at Kubah National Park at the Matang Range, Sarawak, East

FIG. 1. *Boiga dendrophila* consuming a *Parias sumatranus* in Kubah National Park, East Malaysia.

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Malaysia (western Borneo). This individual was observed to attack, subdue, and swallow a juvenile (total length < 1 m) *Parias sumatranus,* a large (to 1.6 m) and dangerously venomous viper. The prey was approached while it was resting on a horizontal branch of a tree overhanging the stream, ca. 3 m from ground. It was then seized by the head, rapidly followed by the tail, which arched forward to grab the neck region of the prey, which was then swallowed in ca. 30 min (Fig. 1). This observation represents the first reports of foraging behavior in *B. dendrophila*, as well as the first record of a venomous snake in its diet.

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***BOIGA IRREGULARIS* (Brown Treesnake). PREDATION AND DIET.** Introduced *Boiga irregularis* on the Western Pacific island of Guam feed on a wide variety of vertebrate prey. Stomach contents of juvenile *B. irregularis* specimens include a large proportion of lizards, especially geckos and skinks (Savidge 1988. J. Herpetol. 22:275–282). Guam is also home to *Varanus indicus* (Mangrove Monitor), which reach an adult size of ca. 560 mm SVL (Wikramanayake and Dryden 1988. Herpetologica 44:338–344). *Varanus indicus* are opportunists that feed primarily on arthropods (Dryden 1965. Micronesica 2:72–76), but they may prey on *B. irregularis* (Fritts and Rodda 1998. Annu. Rev. Ecol. Sys. 29:113–140; McCoid and Witteman 1993. Herpetol. Rev. 24:105). Occasionally the roles are reversed and the snakes prey on monitor eggs (Savidge 1988, *op. cit.*), but in general, interactions between *V. indicus* and *B. irregularis* remain poorly documented.

While working at our main study site in northwestern Guam in the late morning of 12 May 2010, the first two authors observed a large (ca. 500 mm SVL) adult *V. indicus* perched ca. 4 m above ground in a large Fagot Tree (*Neisosperma oppositifolia*). On the ground was a fresh bolus containing the regurgitated remains of a large *B. irregularis*. We scanned the bolus for a PIT tag since virtually all adult snakes in our study population have been previously tagged. The bolus contained the PIT tag from a large male snake that had been captured 22 days previous to this observation. On that date of capture, it measured 1305 mm SVL, 1645 mm total length, and weighed 307 g. At that time, it was in good health and had an above-average condition index of 1.35 (1.00 is the long-term average for snakes across Guam), so we have no reason to suspect the monitor had scavenged a snake that was already dead. Assuming the monitor measured 500 mm SVL, its weight should have been ca. 2 kg (Wikramanayake and Dryden 1988, *op. cit.*). Hence, the snake's mass was approximately 15% of the monitor's mass.

We found evidence for predator-prey role reversal while searching for snakes in the same part of Guam on the evening of 17 May 2010. The third author captured a male *B. irregularis* that was 865 mm SVL and had a gross weight of 71 g, which included an obvious food bulge in its stomach. As part of a study on stomach contents and reproductive characteristics, it was brought to the lab for euthanasia and necropsy the following day. The prey item was found to be a juvenile *V. indicus* (head and neck partially digested, weight of remains 7.8 g, tail length 134 mm).

Predation on *B. irregularis* by *V. indicus* may be uncommon, as the former normally seeks diurnal shelter in arboreal vine tangles, tree hollows, or even underground refugia (unpubl. data); all of which may be difficult for an adult monitor to access. However, the snakes can probably access virtually any nocturnal refugium used by a juvenile monitor, and we suspect that predation pressure may affect recruitment of monitors.

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***BOTHRIECHIS SCHLEGELII* (Eyelash Palm-Pitviper). DIET.** *Bothriechis schlegelii* has been recorded feeding on a variety of small vertebrates including frogs, lizards, birds, and small mammals (Campbell and Lamar 2004. The Venomous Reptiles of the Western Hemisphere. Comstock Publishing Associates, Ithaca, New York. 898 pp.). Given the nocturnal and arboreal habits of *B. schlegelii* it is not surprising that bats have been documented in their diet, yet records of chiropterophagy in this species are limited to only two accounts. In one case, a *B. schlegelii*, found in a shipment of bananas that was believed to have originated in Honduras, regurgitated the nectar-feeding bat, *Glossophaga soricina* (Groves 1961. Herpetologica 17:277). The other, a case from Costa Rica, involved a *B. schlegelii* that contained an unidentified bat in its stomach (Hardy 1994. Sonoran Herpetol. 7:108–113). Here we report the fist record of *B. schlegelii* consuming a *Myotis riparius*.

On 16 August 2008 at 1920 h, a subadult *B. schlegelii* (UF 155962; SVL = 40.6 cm; tail length = 6.8 cm) was found in the process of consuming a *M. riparius* (UF 31760; SVL = 3.6 cm). The incident was recorded by SLT and Juan Francisco López while walking a nocturnal transect, Pamka Buhna, in the Kipla Sait Tasbaika indigenous territory of Reserva de la Biósfera Bosawas, Departamento Atlántico Norte, Nicaragua (14.3653°N, 84.9349°W, datum: WGS84; elev. 186 m). The snake was encountered ca. 3 m above ground holding onto an epiphyte on the truck of a large tree, and was in the latter stages of consuming the bat. It took ca. 5 min for the snake to finish consuming the bat, after which, the snake was collected and later preserved. Both specimens were deposited in the Florida Museum of Natural History.

Approximately 20 species of snakes have been documented feeding on bats in the Neotropics, the majority being boiids and colubrids, with only four representatives of Viperidae (Esbérard and Vrcibradic 2007. Rev. Bras. Zool. 24:848–853). Esbérard and Vrcibradic (*op. cit.*) conclude that most documented cases of bat predation by snakes in the Neotropics are within or around the entrance of bat refuges, indicating the possibility that snakes are drawn to these areas due to the abundant concentration of prey. Hardy (*op. cit.*) stated that the *B. schlegelii* found with a bat in its stomach was encountered sitting near the opening of a tree trunk that led to a bat roost, which may suggest that this feeding strategy is also employed by this species. Although we did not witness the snake capture the bat in the predation event documented here, there was no evidence of a bat roost in the vicinity. Therefore, we suspect this event was an opportunistic prey capture.