

RHABDOPHIS MURUDENSIS (Gunung Murud Keelback). **DIET.** Little is known of the diet or natural history of *Rhabdophis murudensis* (reviewed by Stuebing and Inger 1999. A Field Guide to the Snakes of Borneo. Natural History Publications [Borneo] Sdn Bhd., Kota Kinabalu. 254 pp.). Stuebing and Tan (2002. Raffles Bull. Zool. 50:227–230) mention that captives of this natricine have been maintained on a diet of frogs (*Limnonectes kuhlii*) and occasionally white mice (presumably albinistic *Rattus rattus*).

An adult female *R. murudensis* (USDZ 2.5991; 738 mm SVL; head width 18 mm) collected 5 May 2003 on the ridge leading from Tukap Murud to Batu Linanit (03°55'N; 115°31'E, elev. 2200 m), Gunung Murud, Limbang Division, Northeast Sarawak, Malaysia (Borneo), regurgitated a recently-ingested adult megophryid frog (*Megophrys* sp.; ID-7779) with a head width of 34.5 mm and an SVL of ca. 79 mm. Although the condition of the frog (swallowed vent first) precluded specific identification, several traits suggest it is allied with *M. kobayashii*, a Gunung Kinabalu endemic (Malkmus et al. 2002. Amphibians & Reptiles of Mount Kinabalu [North Borneo], A. R. G. Gantner Verlag K.G., Ruggell. 424 pp.), from which it differs in lacking dermal projections at angle of jaws, paired conical tubercles on forehead, parallel rows of dark spots on abdomen, and by the presence of a dark dorsal saddle-like marking and a pale patch anterior to a dark interorbital bar. The systematic status of *M. kobayashii* is currently under study. The snake also regurgitated a large nematode (78 mm TL). All three specimens are deposited with the Zoological Museum of Universiti Malaysia Sarawak, Kota Samarahan, Sarawak, Malaysia.

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SAPHENOPHIS BOURSIERI (NCN). **HABITAT, REPRODUCTION and DIET.** *Saphenophis boursieri* is a neotropical snake known from the western slopes of the Andes (elev. 1100–1890 m) in Ecuador and southern Colombia, with disjunct records on the Amazonian lowlands of eastern Ecuador (Myers 1973. Amer. Mus. Novitates 2522). The genus *Saphenophis* is poorly represented in scientific collections (Myers, *op. cit.*; pers. obs.), and almost nothing is known of the natural history of any species of this genus. Myers (1969. Amer. Mus. Novitates 2385; *op. cit.*) reported “at least four large oviductal eggs, one (revealed by dissection) measuring 9 by 23 mm” in the paratype of *Saphenophis sneiderni* (394 mm SVL), and “large eggs in the oviducts” in the holotype of *Saphenophis antioquiensis* (ca. 506 mm SVL). A specimen of *Saphenophis tristriatus* found “between 11 and 12 A.M. . . was lying in the sun on a wood bridge.” Unfortunately, none of the specimens had collection dates. Herein I provide novel data on habitat, reproduction, and diet for *S. boursieri*.

Two female *S. boursieri* (DFCH-USFQ 701–702) were collected from the “Río Guajalito” protected forest (78°49'W, 0°14'S, elev. 1900 m), at the beginning of the dry season in June 2001 at 1400 h. This private reserve is located 59 km W of Quito among montane cloud forest on the northwestern slope of the Andes in Pichincha Province, Ecuador. One of the snakes (DFCH-USFQ 701) was found lying motionless upon sunlit leaf litter in the bottom of a dry ditch, ca. 5 m from the river and 25 m from human habitations. The other specimen (DFCH-USFQ 702) was found on the forest floor near a small trail, ca. 40 m from the river and 100 m from human habitations. Both females were gravid. Dissection revealed that DFCH-USFQ 701 (467 mm SVL, mass without eggs of 43.3 g) had five soft-shelled eggs that had a mean length of 30.4 mm (range 28.0–31.8 mm), mean width of 11.9 mm (range 10.1–13.0 mm), mean mass of 2.6 g (range 2.3–3.3 g, total clutch mass = 12.9 g), and a mean volume of 2.3 cm³ (range 1.7–2.8 cm³). The second female (DFCH-USFQ 702; 410 mm SVL) contained five immature ovarian eggs, the largest was 16.2 mm in length. Another female (FHGO-USFQ 003; 610 mm SVL) collected in April 1996 at San Antonio, Imbabura Province (near Ibarra, 78°09'W, 00°20'S, elev. 2500 m) contained seven unshelled oviductal eggs. Eggs had a mean length of 24.2 mm (range 15.7–29.6 mm). The stomach of one specimen (DFCH-USFQ 701) contained a larval hymenopteran and an orthopteran nymph (volume of both items = 0.2 cm³). The other specimen (DFCH-USFQ 702) contained a partially digested gymnophthalmid lizard, *Proctoporus* cf. *unicolor* (volume = 0.6 cm³). These observations of *S. boursieri* support Myers' hypothesis (1973, *op. cit.*) that snakes of the genus *Saphenophis* are principally diurnal. Moreover, *Saphenophis* seem to be essentially terrestrial and feed on a variety of prey from invertebrates to lizards. The three females and eggs are deposited at the Laboratorio de Anfíbios y Reptiles, Universidad San Francisco de Quito.

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THAMNODYNASTES STRIGATUS (NCN). **DIET.** Snakes are important predators of anurans, particularly in the tropics where anuran diversity is high. Species of *Thamnodynastes* are frequently cited as predators of adult anurans (Bernarde et al. 2000. Rev. Brasil. Biol. 60:695–699; Ruffato et al. 2003. Phyllomedusa 2:27–34). On 23 March 2004 at ca. 1530 h, we collected a *Thamnodynastes strigatus* (Museu de Ciências Naturais PUC Minas, MCNR 987, 220 mm SVL) foraging in a forest stream at Serra do Caraça, Minas Gerais State, Brazil. Upon dissection, a partially digested *Crossodactylus* cf. *bokermanni* (16.8 mm SVL, tibia 8.3 mm) was found in its stomach. SVL was estimated through correlative morphometric comparisons of tibia and SVL measurements with specimens of *Crossodactylus* cf. *bokermanni*. On 26