

Phoenix. 115 pp.; G. R. Harper, pers. comm.). Although Lowe et al. (*op. cit.*) reported results from “field observations and laboratory experiments on foods and feeding” that “lizards taken” as *Micruroides* prey included skinks whose “young...have blue tails” (which could include *P. callicephalus* or *P. obsoletus*), they did not identify species of skink(s) or identify whether skinks had been fed to coralsnakes or found as natural prey items.

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MICRURUS SURINAMENSIS (Aquatic Coralsnake). BEHAVIOR. Coralsnakes (*Micrurus* spp.) are primarily fossorial and secretive, but arboreal behavior has been reported in *M. circinalis* (Sajdak 2000. Herpetol. Rev. 31:105), *M. fulvius* (Carr 1994. Naturalist in Florida: the Celebration of Eden. Yale Univ. Press, New Haven, Connecticut. 306 pp.), and *M. nigrocinctus* (Schmidt and Schmidt 1943. Field Mus. Nat Hist. Publ. Zool. Ser 12:129–134). *Micrurus surinamensis* is known to have aquatic habits and feeds mainly on fish and eels (Roze 1996. Coral Snakes of the Americas: Biology, Identification, and Venoms. Krieger Publ. Co., Malabar, Florida. 328 pp.). On 13 May 2013, at 1438 h (32°C), during an active search for amphibians and reptiles in the municipality of Cacoal, State of Rondônia, Brazil (11.488094°S, 61.438953°W; datum SAD69), we observed a juvenile male *M. surinamensis* (SVL = 400 mm) climbing on vegetation 2.38 m high within an open rainforest. This appears to be the first record of arboreality in *M. surinamensis*.

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NERODIA SIPEDON PLEURALIS (Midland Watersnake). ALBINISM. Although there are several reports of albinism in *Nerodia sipedon sipedon* (Baker et al. [ed.] 1959. Publ. Mus. Michigan St. Univ. Biol. Ser. 1:133–159; Dyrkacz 1981. SSAR Herpetol. Circ. 11:1–31) we are not aware of any published account documenting albinism in *Nerodia sipedon pleuralis*. An unsexed *N. s. pleuralis* (SVL = 425 mm, Arkansas State University, Herpetological Museum; photo voucher ASUMZ 32763) was collected near Jasper, Newton Co., Arkansas, USA, in June 2012. It was donated to the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission Fred Berry Conservation Education Center (CEC), where it remains for viewing. The specimen is a true albino (Fig. 1). Interestingly, there was another albino specimen of *N. s. pleuralis* collected with the above but its disposition is unknown.

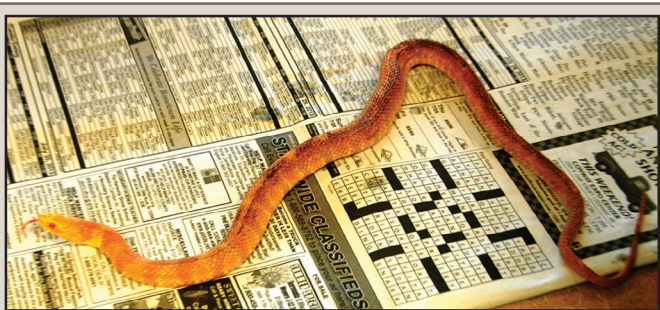


FIG. 1. Albino *Nerodia sipedon pleuralis* from Newton County, Arkansas.

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OXYURANUS SCUTELLATUS (Taipan). HOMING. Very little is known about the daily behavior of *Oxyuranus scutellatus* under natural conditions (Shine and Covacevich 1983. J. Herpetol. 17:60–69). A serendipitous observation recorded at Wetherby Station (a cattle-raising property popular with eco-tourists, approximately 20 km SW of Port Douglas (16.645368°S, 145.354280°E, datum WGS84; elev. 399 m, 12 Sep 2012) in North Queensland, Australia, suggests homing and burrow re-use in this species.

We arrived at Wetherby Station about 1800 h and were directed to viewing stands on a concrete platform erected for cattle auction attendees. Our horse-mounted host allowed about 12 cattle to enter the viewing pen. When his previously-calm horse became agitated, our host looked into the area between viewing paddock and tree line, approximately 12 m distant, and exclaimed “Taipan.” The snake was moving slowly but steadily—seemingly purposeful, head raised only slightly in the direction of the platform. Upon reaching the platform it turned without hesitation and crawled along the ground against the concrete edge of the platform in my direction. Stopping about 0.2 m from my foot, it reoriented and, seamlessly, crawled onto the concrete platform, passed beneath the viewing stand, and entered what was likely a rodent burrow located along the foundation for a barn just behind the viewing stand. Once in the burrow, the ~1.5-m Taipan re-emerged slightly, re-positioned and withdrew, leaving its head facing out from the burrow’s entrance (Fig. 1). As this individual passed rapidly, but unhurriedly, through a small herd of cattle to take shelter in a burrow without apparent searching, this observation suggests it was returning to a previous refuge site, thereby demonstrating homing ability.



FIG. 1. *Oxyuranus scutellatus* (Taipan) settled in a burrow following the homing event.

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PARIAS SUMATRANUS (Sumatran Pit Viper). DIET. *Parias sumatranus* is a large (to 1355 mm total length) arboreal crotaline viper from the Greater Sundas (southern Thailand, Peninsular