

our observation is the first report of *T. scincoides* in the diet. The large size of the *T. scincoides* relative to the *V. panoptes* is significant and would have made ingestion of the prey difficult, particularly with the prey being inflated. However, *V. panoptes* has been observed to consume large prey including carrion and other varanids (Bennett 1992. British Herpetol. Soc. Bull. 39:28–30; Rhind et al. 2013. Herpetol. Rev. 44:516–517). By rubbing the *T. scincoides* into the ground we assume that the predator was trying to kill or dismember the prey.

DAVID RHIND, P.O. Box 1082, Humpty Doo, Northern Territory 0836, Australia (e-mail: david.a.rhind@gmail.com); **CHASE ENLOE** and **J. SEAN DOODY**, Department of Biological Sciences, University of South Florida – St. Petersburg, St. Petersburg, Florida 33701, USA (e-mail: jseandoodo@gmail.com).

SQUAMATA — SNAKES

ANTARESIA CHILDRENI (Children's Python). DIET. Innumerable knowledge gaps exist in snake diets, especially for species from remote tropical areas. Pythons feed primarily on mammals and birds; however, a few smaller species, including *Anteresia childreni*, include frogs in their diet (Shine and Slip 1990. Herpetologica 46:283–290). *Anteresia childreni* is widespread across much of tropical northern Australia (Cogger 2018. Amphibians and Reptiles of Australia. 7th Edition. CSIRO Publishing, Clayton, Australia. 1096 pp.). Copland's Rock Frog (*Litoria coplandi*) is a common, semi-arboreal species inhabiting rocky escarpments from the Kimberley region of Western Australia to western Queensland (Clulow and Swan 2018. A Complete Guide to the Frogs of Australia. Australian Geographic, Sydney. 336 pp.; Cogger 2018, *op. cit.*). Here, we report an observation of an *A. childreni* preying upon an *L. coplandi* in tropical northwestern Australia.



FIG. 1. An adult *Anteresia childreni* preying upon an adult *Litoria coplandi* from Western Australia.

At 2058 h on 19 May 2019 we discovered an adult *A. childreni* preying upon an adult *L. coplandi* near the entrance of Amalia Gorge at El Questro Wilderness Park, Western Australia (15.97994°S, 128.02710°E; WGS 84; 124 m elev.). The python, which was ca. 50 cm long, had the hind legs of the frog in its mouth upon discovery, with one coil around the waist of the frog (Fig. 1). The frog was alive and had inflated itself, likely as an antipredator tactic (Williams et al. 2000. J. Herpetol. 34:431–443). The snake proceeded to swallow the frog back-end first; by 2 min 33 s later the snake had completely swallowed the frog and began moving away. The habitat was a stony dry wash ca. 30 m from broken pools of shallow water (Amalia Creek), and the interaction occurred among rocks ranging in size from fist-sized to football-sized.

Anteresia childreni appears to be a generalist with respect to diet (Shine and Slip 1990, *op. cit.*; Trembath et al. 2007. Northern Territory Natur. 19:58–59). Shine and Slip (1990, *op. cit.*) dissected 189 individual *A. childreni*, including 84 adults, finding the following prey items in their stomachs: mammals (N = 16), frogs (N = 14), lizards (N = 11) and birds (N = 2). Frog species found were *Platyplectrum ornatum* (N = 1), *Litoria nasuta* (N = 1), *Litoria* sp. (N = 1), *Platyplectrum* spp. (N = 2) and unidentified frog (N = 9). Based on the commonness of both *A. childreni* and *L. coplandi* at our site and across rocky gorges in northern Australia (e.g., Doughty et al. 2012. Rec. Australian Mus. 81:109–124), and given their very similar geographic distributions, we suspect that *L. coplandi* is a common prey item of *A. childreni*.

CHASE ENLOE, BRETT BARTEK, J. SEAN DOODY (e-mail: jseandoodo@gmail.com), **CALLIE GRAY, KARA KIMES**, Department of Biological Sciences, University of South Florida–St. Petersburg, St. Petersburg, Florida 33705, USA; **SIMON CLULOW, STEPHANIE DEERING, HARRY FRYER, KARI SOENNICHSEN, and GRANT WEBSTER**, Department of Biological Sciences, Macquarie University, Balaclava Road, Macquarie Park, New South Wales 2109, Australia.

ATRACTUS CRASSICAUDATUS (Thickhead Ground Snake). NEW MORPHOTYPE. *Atractus crassicaudatus* is endemic to Colombia, where it is found in the departments of Boyacá, Cundinamarca, Santander, and Meta. It presents enormous variability in color patterns. The most abundant pattern is a black back with light yellow transverse lines, with the belly in a balanced mixture of yellow and black (Fig. 1). Some individuals have the same pattern with the lighter parts (yellow) replaced with red, ocher, gray, and orange; however, they can present the whole body in the colors mentioned above (Paternina and

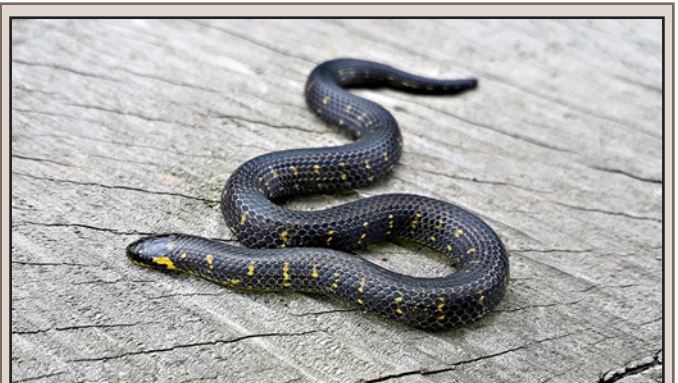


FIG. 1. Dorsal view of most common morphotype (Black-Yellow) of *Atractus crassicaudatus*.