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APPENDIX

List of localities with quarter-degree references.

Dande Safari Area	1530CD
Gonono	1630BB
6 km W of Gwase flygate	1630BA
Kadzi Bridge	1630BB
Kanyemba	1530CB
15 km S of Kanyemba	1530CD
Kasuo	1630BD
Lower Dande River	1630BA
Mahuwe, 7 10 km NNW	1630BC
Mana-Angwa Camp (Chewore Safari Area)	1630AA
Marirangwe Range	1630AA
Mashumbi Pools	1630BA
9 & 20 km W of Mashumbi Pools	1630AB
Mukanga Bridge, & 10 & 18 km SE	1630AA
Mururuzi Bridge	1630AB
Musengezi Bridge	1630BD
Muzarabani West (Musengezi River)	1630BD
Ntumbe River (Chewore Safari Area)	1630AA
Nyamurombwe, Zumbo District, Mozambique	1530DA
Zumbo, Mozambique	1530CB

FISK'S HOUSE SNAKE (*LAMPROPHIS FISKII* BOULENGER) FROM THE PRINCE ALBERT AREA: A CORRECTION

S. J. Milton and W. R. J. Dean

Percy FitzPatrick Institute, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, 7700, South Africa

In a recent paper on the fauna and flora of the Tierberg study site, near Prince Albert, in the southern Karoo (Milton, Dean & Kerley 1992), we listed Fisk's House Snake *Lamprophis fiskii* as occurring on the site. Fisk's House Snake is extremely rare and is only known from approximately 12 specimens collected from scattered localities in the western Karoo, including a recent record from Beaufort West (Branch & Haagner 1992). It is thus likely that Fisk's House Snake could occur in the Prince Albert area. However, Dr W. R. Branch of the Port Elizabeth Museum has informed us that the snake we observed and listed (and photographed, but did not collect) was incorrectly identified, and was in fact a Dwarf Beaked Snake *Dipsina multimaculata* (W. R. Branch, *in litt.* August 1993).

It is opportune, in view of the growing interest in snake biogeography and biology, to point out that our record of Fisk's House Snake from Tierberg is based on a misidentification, and that there is still no positive record of its occurrence in the Prince Albert area.

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UNUSUAL FEEDING BEHAVIOUR OF THE COMMON ROUGH-SCALED LIZARD (*ICHNOTROPIS SQUAMULOSA*) IN CAPTIVITY

S.B.F.N. Hering-Hagenbeck

Institute for Molecular Parasitology, Humboldt University, Berlin.
Present address: Department of Veterinary Pathology, Medical University of Southern Africa,
P.O. Box 59, Medunsa 0204, South Africa.

The Rough-scaled Lizard, *Ichnotropis squamulosa*, is a small-headed, medium-sized lizard that is an active hunter of the sandy areas in the arid and mesic savannah (Branch 1994). The diet consists mainly of termites, but grasshoppers, beetles and other insects are also taken. These lizards grow rapidly and are known as "annuals"; it is unusual for an individual to live longer than 13 to 14 months. The females die soon after laying 8 - 12 eggs during April and May.

The habitat of *I. squamulosa* is shared with a few other lacertids of more or less similar size, resulting in competition for food (Jacobsen 1987).

Six adult specimens of the Common Rough-scaled Lizard were caught in traps in the Molopo Nature Reserve (25o 40'S, 22o 49'E) in the North-West Province, South Africa. They were brought to the laboratory in Pretoria and kept in a 140 x 34 x 33 cm terrarium together with six subadult Bushveld Lizards, *Heliobolus lugubris*, and four adult Kalahari Tree Skinks, *Mabuya spilogaster*, which were captured at the same locality. The bottom of the terrarium was partly covered with sand and partly with gravel, and a few stones and twigs were placed inside. Heat and light were supplied by a 100 W bulb which was installed on top of the tank. The animals were fed once a day with

insects, mostly grasshoppers, caught on the university campus.

Two instances of cannibalism were observed in a period of three days. In the first case an *I. squamulosa* was seen feeding on a *H. lugubris* which was swallowed within 90 seconds. Two days later the same *Ichnotropis* was found dead with the posterior part of the *H. lugubris* protruding from the mouth, indicating an unsuccessful attempt at regurgitating the prey.

Three days later a female *I. squamulosa* was seen chasing after a *H. lugubris*. The Bushveld Lizard was caught several times by one of its legs, held for a while and then released again. After about five minutes the *Heliobolus* was caught at midbody and was vigorously shaken, which caused its head to repeatedly strike a stone. This lasted for about two minutes. The by now subdued *H. lugubris* was then turned and swallowed head-first, which took about five minutes. It is worth mentioning that shortly before this event happened, the *I. squamulosa* was offered a few grasshoppers which were not taken. Two days later the regurgitated carcass of the *H. lugubris* was found in the terrarium.

Jacobsen (1987) stated that there was some competition for food between the two South African species of *Ichnotropis* as the size difference between them is rather small. The adults of *H. lugubris* and *I squamulosa* are also quite similar in size, the former reaching a maximum length of 22 cm and the latter 23 cm (Branch 1994). both these lizards favour the same kind of habitat which (although not reported in the literature) could lead to competition for food that might result in aggressive display or action between similarly sized individuals.

In this particular case, the *H. lugubris* specimens (that were seen to be eaten) were smaller than the *I. squamulosa* and may therefore have appeared like attractive prey. It is also possible that because of the close confinement in the terrarium, this might have provoked the *I. squamulosa* to attack the *H. lugubris* which had no place to escape.

Nevertheless the observed behaviour could be an indication of the competition between *I. squamulosa* and other lacertids in their natural environment (Jacobsen 1987; Broadley 1979).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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LIFE HISTORY NOTES

African Herp News publishes brief notes concerning the biology of the herpetofauna of the African continent and adjacent regions, including the Arabian peninsula, Madagascar, and other islands in the Indian Ocean.

A standard format is to be used, as follows: **SCIENTIFIC NAME; Common name** (using Bill Branch's *Field Guide to the Snakes and other Reptiles of Southern Africa*, 1988, for reptiles; and Passmore & Carruthers' *South African Frogs*, 1995, for amphibians, as far as possible); **KEYWORD** (this should be one or two words best describing the topic of the note, *e.g.* Reproduction, Avian predation, *etc.*); the **Text** (in concise English with only essential references quoted and in abbreviated form); **Locality** (country, province or state, location, quarter-degree unit, and latitude and longitude if available; elevation above sea level; use metric units); **Date** (day, month, year); **Collector(s); Place of deposition and museum accession number** (required if specimens are preserved). Submitted by: **NAME**, Address (in parentheses).

New South African Province names must be used.

ANURA

PIPIDAE

KASSINA SENEGALENSIS
Bubbling Kassina
REPRODUCTION, CLUTCH SIZE

During the 1991 rainy season (October to December) 12 *Kassina senegalensis* pairs were caught in amplexus at Bloemfontein, Free State (29o 05' 30"S, 26o 11' 10"E; 2926AA) and brought to the laboratory to complete the egg laying process. All the pairs were collected before egg laying started. The average size of the clutches was 316.92 (n = 12; SA = 87.26). The smallest clutch contained 128 eggs, while the two biggest clutches contained 426 and 464 eggs respectively. During the 1992/1993 breeding season two clutches of 484 and 504 eggs respectively were collected at the Vernon Crookes Nature Reserve, southern KwaZulu Natal (30o 15'S, 30o 37'E; 3030BC). According to Wager (1986, *Frogs of South Africa: their fascinating life stories*, Delta Books, Goodwood) and Duellman and Trueb (1994, *Biology of Amphibians*, Johns Hopkins University Press, London), who refer to Wager, the largest recorded clutch size for *K. senegalensis* is 400 eggs. The Vernon Crookes record extends the known clutch size record for *K. senegalensis* by 104 eggs.

Submitted by: **J.C.P. VAN WYK** (P.O. Box 16, Frankfort 9830, South Africa), **D.J. KOK & L.H. DU PREEZ** (Department of Zoology and Entomology, University of the Orange Free State, P.O. Box 399, Bloemfontein 9300, South Africa).