

Fig. 1. Geranoaetus melanoleucus feeding on a) Pseudlsophis elegans and b) Bothrops pictus.

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CLELIA LANGERI. DIET. The pseudoboine snake, Clelia langeri, is a Bolivian endemic and inhabits the inter-Andean dry valleys of the Santa Cruz and Chuquisaca Departments, and possibly the dry valleys of Tarija Department (Reichle and Embert 2005. J. Herpetol. 39:379-383). Data on the diet of the species are lacking, as the only known prey item is a mouse (Muridae) found in one of the specimens from the original description (Reichle and Embert, op. cit.). Here we report a new prey item and the first occurrence of a snake in the diet of C. langeri.

On 8 February 2011, at 0730 h, we found a dead juvenile female C. langeri (SVL = 405 mm; tail length = 95 mm) that had been struck by a vehicle on the old Cochabamba highway (18.09°S, 64.14°W, datum WGS 84; elev. 1320 m), between the districts of Pampagrande and Mataral, Florida Province, Santa Cruz Department, Bolivia. When we inspected the C. langeri, we observed a snake protruding from the side of its body. Dissection confirmed that the previtem was a juvenile male Philodryas psammophidea (Chaco Racer; SVL = 255 mm, tail length = 105 mm) that had been consumed head-first. This observation not only provides the second known prey item for the species, but is also the first record of a snake in the diet of C. langeri. While anurans and small mammals are known previtems of Clelia species (Yanosky et al. 1996. Herpetol, Nat. Hist. 4:97-110), this report is consistent with previous observations of these species being ophiophagus predators (Delia 2002. Herpetol. Notes. 2:21-22, and references therein).

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COLUBER CONSTRICTOR (North American Racer). COMMU-NAL OVERWINTERING. At ca. 1500 h on 6 April 2008, we observed a snake hibernaculum at Swan Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Chariton Co., Missouri, USA (39.624962°N, 93.225670°W, datum WGS84; air temp. ca. 16°C) on the west embankment of a pond. The entrance of the den was a hole approximately 3 cm in diameter and four Coluber constrictor were attempting to emerge from the hole simultaneously, thus inhibiting other individuals from doing so. The lower jaw of one C. constrictor appeared severely dislocated or damaged, perhaps by the pressure of the three other individuals attempting to emerge, and at initial observation the snakes seemed dead. Further investigation revealed that the snakes were, in fact, alive. We were able to reach inside the den and capture 12 additional C. constrictor (more individuals were observed but we could not reach them for capture) and individuals of four other species: Pantherophis obsoletus (N = 4), Nerodia erythrogaster (N = 1), N. sipedon (N = 1), and Lampropeltis calligaster (N = 1). We believe this is the first reported instance of a "three stooges effect" in snake den emergence, whereby several individuals attempt to exit a hibernaculum and inhibit not only their own emergence, but also that of the other individuals. The "three stooges effect" poses several potential negative effects, including cranial damage that inhibits feeding, increased conspicuousness to predators, or ultimately direct mortality from injuries caused by this behavior.

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CROTALUS ADAMANTEUS (Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake). REPRODUCTION / FEBRUARY AND MARCH BREED-ING. The majority of North American rattlesnakes have a single. annual mating season extending from late summer through early autumn (Aldridge and Duvall 2002. Herpetol. Monogr. 16:1-25). Courtship and mating of Crotalus adamanteus occurs in August and September throughout the geographic range, except in extreme southern Florida where C. adamanteus may also breed in December and January (Timmerman and Martin 2003. Conservation Guide to the Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake, Crotalus adamanteus. SSAR Herpetol. Circ. 22). Here we provide observations of C. adamanteus engaged in breeding behavior outside of August and September in the northern half of the geographic range.

At 1440 h on 23 February 2012 (mostly cloudy, 27°C), JGP observed a copulating pair of adult C. adamanteus in Camden Co.,