to the west. Riparian habitats were dominated by Fremont Cottonwoods (*Populus fremontii*). We deposited the snake into herpetological collections at the Sternberg Museum of Natural History (FHSM 16809), Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kansas, USA. This observation represents the northern edge of the distribution for *R. dissectus* in the region as our observation and an individual collected in 1964 from "along Gila River near Cliff" (Western New Mexico University 9089) are known from the immediate area (Degenhardt et al. 1996. Amphibians and Reptiles of New Mexico. University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque. 431 pp.). *Anaxyrus woodhousii* are known to consume a variety of prey items, including small arthropods such as Coleoptera, Hymenoptera, Lepidoptera, Isopoda, and arachnids (Gehlbach and Collette 1959. Herpetologica 15:141–143). This is the first observation of an *A. woodhousii* predating a *R. dissectus.*

This project was funded in part by the Share with Wildlife program of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish while one of us (KG) was researching mammals in the region. We thank Tom Giermakowski at the Museum of Southwestern Biology, University of New Mexico, and Jim Stuart, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish for assistance in tracking down locality data for the prior records of occurrence in the area.

KEITH GELUSO, Department of Biology, University of Nebraska at Kearney, Kearney, Nebraska 68849, USA (e-mail: gelusok1@unk.edu); **CURTIS J. SCHMIDT**, Sternberg Museum of Natural History, Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kansas 67601, USA (e-mail: cjschmidt@fhsu.edu); **MIKALAH M. BROWN**, and **LANDIS R. SLEPICKA**, Department of Biology, University of Nebraska at Kearney, Kearney, Nebraska 68849, USA.

***STORERIA DEKAYI* (Dekay's Brownsnake). DEFENSIVE BEHAVIOR.** *Storeria dekayi* exhibit a diverse array of defensive behaviors, including cryptic concealment, death-feigning, flattening, fleeing, gaping, head-hiding, inflation, immobility, lip-curling, musking, posturing, striking, and thrashing (reviewed by Gray 2014. Collinsorum 3:20–27). Gray (2015. J. N. Am. Herpetol. 2015:43–52) studied defensive behaviors of *S. dekayi* in the field and noted that before contact occurs (i.e., touching the snake in order to elicit a defensive behavioral response), *S. dekayi* will either remain immobile, attempt to flee, or occasionally engage in head-hiding behavior. Gray (2015, *op. cit.*) noted in his study that open-mouthed striking behavior in *S. dekayi* occurred only after contact.

In two of approximately 20 encounters with *S. dekayi* since 2008, I have observed open-mouthed striking behavior in *S. dekayi* in which the snake struck immediately upon detection without contact. Both observations occurred during summer 2008 while overturning debris (wooden paneling) in Scott Township, Columbia Co, Pennsylvania, USA (41.0058°N, 76.4150°W; WGS 84). On the first occasion, immediately after lifting cover, a small *S. dekayi* (total length ca. 18–20 cm) assumed a strike posture and subsequently preformed one open-mouthed strike before fleeing. On the second occasion, a *S. dekayi* (total length ca. 25 cm) immediately assumed a defensive posture upon removal of cover and preformed 3–4 open-mouthed strikes before fleeing, while a similar sized conspecific immediately fled. Although *S. dekayi* more typically displays inoffensive behaviors such as immobility or fleeing during the initial phase of encounter by a predator, as reported by (Gray 2015, *op. cit.*), the observations reported herein suggest that *S. dekayi* may also occasionally respond aggressively to predators before contact.

SEAN M. HARTZELL, Department of Biological and Allied Health Sciences, Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania 17815, USA; e-mail: smh14844@huskies.bloomu.edu.

***TANTILLA MELANOCEPHALA* (Crowned Snake). REPRODUCTION.** *Tantilla melanocephala* is a small and semifossorial snake distributed from Guatemala to Argentina and Uruguay (Uetz et al. 2016. The Reptile Database, http://www.reptile-database.org; accessed 17 May 2016). In Argentina, there are few records of the species (Giraudo et al. 2012. Cuad. Herpetol. 26:303–326) and reproductive data are scarce. Here, we present the first detailed reproductive data for *T. melanocephala* in Argentina. At 1522 h on 7 December 2014 a gravid female *T. melanocephala* (SVL= 26.9 cm; tail length = 7.9 cm; mass = 10.61 g) was found under a *Eucalyptus* sp. log in "Estancia Don Antonio" (28.925961°S, 56.407581°W, WGS 84; 72 m elev.) in General Alvear Department, Corrientes Province, Argentina. On 11 December 2014 in the laboratory, the female laid one egg, and on 12 December laid two more eggs. The eggs measured 21.10 × 7.76, 24.09 × 7.99, and 23.40 × 7.80 mm; weighed 1.22, 1.23, and 1.20 g; and the volume was 663.28, 801.16, and 743.18 mm^3, respectively. The total fresh clutch mass was 3.65 g and post-oviposition female body mass was 6.96 g. The Relative Clutch Mass (total clutch mass/body mass of mother after oviposition; Shine 1980. Oecología 46:92–100) was 0.52. The specimens were fixed and deposited at the Herpetological Collection of the Universidad Nacional del Nordeste as a voucher specimen (UNNEC 13012). At oviposition, the development embryo stage was 22 (Zehr 1962. Copeia 1962:322–329), similar to that reported for other snakes species (Blackburn 1995. J. Theor. Biol. 174:199–216). The reproductive data reported here are similar to those registered for *T. melanocephala* from Brazil (Marques and Puorto 1998. Amphibia-Reptilia 19:311–318; Do Santos Costa et al. 2006. J. Herpetol. 40:556–559) and other species of the genus (Easterla 1975. Herpetologica 31:234–236).

JOSÉ A. RUIZ-GARCÍA (e-mail: ruizgarciaja@gmail.com), **LUCILA M. CURI** (e-mail: lucilacuri@gmail.com), **MATÍAS F. LAMAS**, and **JORGE A. CÉSPEDEZ**, Laboratory of Herpetology, FaCENA-Universidad Nacional del Nordeste, Av. Libertad 5400, CP 3400, Corrientes, Argentina.