



FIG. 1. *Lampropeltis zonata* constricting and beginning to consume a bat (*Myotis* sp.) headfirst.

and their eggs, but larger individuals may occasionally consume mammals and birds.

At 1350 h, on 20 October 2009, one of us (CW) observed a *L. zonata* constricting a bat of the genus *Myotis* along the Rogue River trail of southwestern Oregon just off BLM Rd. 34-8-1 (42.663661°N, 123.611255°W; datum WGS84) (Fig. 1). This section of the trail is adjacent to a talus slide. It is likely that the kingsnake found and captured the bat within the talus, and the two subsequently fell and rolled onto the trail. The two were not disturbed and actual consumption of the bat was not observed. This is the first record of *L. zonata* attempting predation upon a bat.

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**LEPTODEIRA PUNCTATA** (Western Cat-Eyed Snake). **DIET.** Snakes in the genus *Leptodeira* prey primarily upon anurans and small lizards (Duellman 1958. Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. 114:1–152), along with other reptiles and amphibians (Burchfield 1993.



FIG. 1. *Leptodeira punctata* preying upon an adult *Smilisca fodiens* in Sinaloa, Mexico.

Bull. Chicago Herpetol. Soc. 28:266–267). Although species from the family Hylidae have been documented (Hardy and McDiarmid 1969. Univ. Kansas Publ. Mus. Nat. Hist. 18:39–252), *Smilisca fodiens* (= *Pternohyla fodiens*; Northern Casque-Headed Frog) has not been reported as prey of *Leptodeira punctata* (Duellman and Trueb 1966. Univ. Kansas Publ. Mus. Nat. Hist. 17:281–375). On 5 August 2008, at approximately 1930 h, we encountered an adult *L. punctata* with an adult *S. fodiens* in its grasp near the town of Concordia, Sinaloa, Mexico (23.2725°N, 106.03585°W; datum WGS84) (Fig. 1). The *S. fodiens* was inflated with air in an attempt to prevent the snake from consuming it. The *L. punctata* continuously chewed on the *S. fodiens* for approximately 45 min until the frog deflated and was consumed. This is the first documentation of a *L. punctata* preying upon a *S. fodiens*.

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**LIOPHIS DILEPIS** (Lema's Ground Snake) and **PHILODRYAS OLFERSII LATIROSTRIS** (Lichtenstein's Green Racer). **BROMELIAD REFUGIA.** *Liophis dilepis* is colubrid species with a disjunct distribution, including Caatinga and Cerrado areas in northeastern and southern Brazil, and Chaco areas of Paraguay, northern Argentina, and southern Bolivia (Giraudo 2001. Serpientes de la Selva Paranaense y del Chaco Húmedo. L.O.L.A., Buenos Aires, Argentina. 328 pp.). In Argentina and southern Paraguay, the species inhabits savannas, xerophilous and semi-xerophilous forests in the Chaco biogeographic province (Giraudo, *op cit.*). *Philodryas olfersii* is a colubrid snake that is widely distributed in tropical and subtropical areas of cis-Andean South America from Guiana, Venezuela, and Colombia, to subtropical areas of Argentina and Uruguay (Thomas 1976. A Revision of the South American Colubrid Snake Genus *Philodryas* Wagler, 1983. Ph.D. dissertation, Texas A&M University, College Station. 338 pp.). In Argentina, *P. o. latirostris* is found in the humid Chaco phytogeographical region and other mesophytic vegetation and gallery forests along the Paraná River (Thomas, *op cit.*; Giraudo, *op cit.*).

We conducted periodic diurnal surveys to investigate the fauna associated with colonies of *Aechmea distichantha* (Bromeliaceae) at El Perichón, 10 km NE of Corrientes City, Argentina (27.4321111°S, 58.7466111°W, datum: WGS84). The area is included within the Chacoan Domain, Oriental Chaco District (Carnevali 1994. Fitogeografía de la Provincia de Corrientes. Gobierno de la provincia de Corrientes e INTA. 324 pp.), and is characterized by the presence of numerous temporary, semi-permanent, and permanent water bodies. The original plant community at the study site was *Schinopsis balansae* “quebracho” forest, which is currently extremely degraded and largely replaced by sclerophyllous forest with prevalence of *Prosopis affinis*, *P. nigra*, *Acacia caven*, *Celtis* spp., and numerous colonies of *Aechmea distichantha* and *Bromelia* spp. (Carnevali, *op. cit.*). On 1 October 2007, at 1726 h, we found an adult *L. dilepis* inside

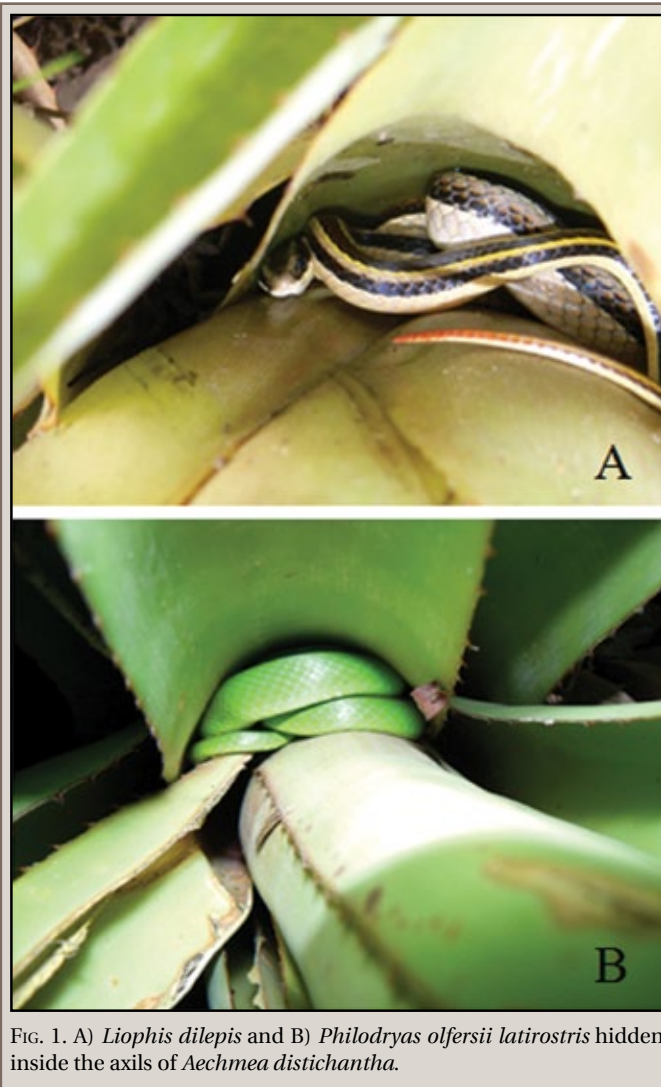


FIG. 1. A) *Liophis dilepis* and B) *Philodryas olfersii latirostris* hidden inside the axils of *Aechmea distichantha*.

an *A. distichantha* leaf axilla (Fig. 1A). Six days before, on 27 September 2007, at 1900 h, within another *A. distichantha* colony, we discovered an adult *P. o. latirostris* hidden inside a bromeliad axil (Fig. 1B). Considering that these snakes were found hidden in evening hours, it is possible that they use the axils of *Aechmea distichantha* as nocturnal shelter. It is also important to note that bromeliad axils have the capacity to store water for long periods and are used by several amphibian species. Thus, these plants may provide snakes abundant food in addition to shelter.

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**LIOPHIS EPINEPHELUS (Night Ground Snake). DIET.** *Liophis epinephelus* is found in South America from Venezuela to Peru, at or above 2200 m in Ecuador and Peru (Dixon 1989. *Smithson. Herpetol. Info. Serv. No. 79*). *Liophis* are thought to feed primarily on anurans, but their diet is also known to include invertebrates, lizards, fishes, birds, small rodents (Esqueda et al. 2009. *Acta Herpetol.* 4:171–175), and squamates (Michaud and Dixon 1989. *Herpetol. Rev.* 20:39–41), including only a few records from the family Geckkonidae. In this note I report the first record of a *Liophis* feeding on gecko of the genus *Lepidobleparis*.

On 7 August 2010, a *Liophis epinephelus* (SVL = 140 mm) was captured in a disturbed-regenerating portion of Reserva Las Gralarias, a private 1064-acre reserve located in northwestern Ecuador, Pinchincha (elev. 1750–2350 m). Almost immediately upon being handled the snake regurgitated a *Lepidobleparis conolepis* (SVL = 38.5 mm). The gecko showed little evidence of digestion, indicating this was a very recent meal. The *L. conolepis* specimen was collected and deposited in the herpetological collection of Museo de Zoología QCAZ, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador and identification was verified by Omar Torres Carvajal.

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**MICRURUS MIPARTITUS (Redtail Coralsnake). DIET.** New World coralsnakes are predators of elongate vertebrates, especially snakes, lizards, and amphisbaenians (Savage 2002. *The Amphibians and Reptiles of Costa Rica: A Herpetofauna between Two Continents, between Two Seas*. Univ. Chicago Press, Chicago, Illinois. 934 pp.). They apparently do not eat amphibians very frequently (Wells 2007. *The Ecology and Behavior of Amphibians*. Univ. Chicago Press, Chicago, Illinois. 1148 pp.), although some species prey upon caecilians (Roze 1996. *Coral Snakes of the Americas: Biology, Identification, and Venoms*. Krieger Publ., Malabar, Florida. 328 pp.). Here we report *Micrurus mipartitus* preying upon a caecilian, *Caecilia thompsoni*.

On 25 May 2010, at 1240 h, we observed a *M. mipartitus* (total length = 46.5 mm) struggling with a *C. thompsoni* (total length = 47.3 mm) for about 25 min at ICA (Instituto Colombiano Agropecuario) station in Tolima, Colombia (4.4388889°N, 75.2319444°W, datum WGS84; elev. 1150 m). We observed the coralsnake pursuing and biting the caecilian, primarily on the neck (Fig. 1A). Once the caecilian was immobile, it was ingested head-first (Fig. 1B). However, the caecilian, which was longer than the coralsnake, could not be totally consumed and was eventually regurgitated.

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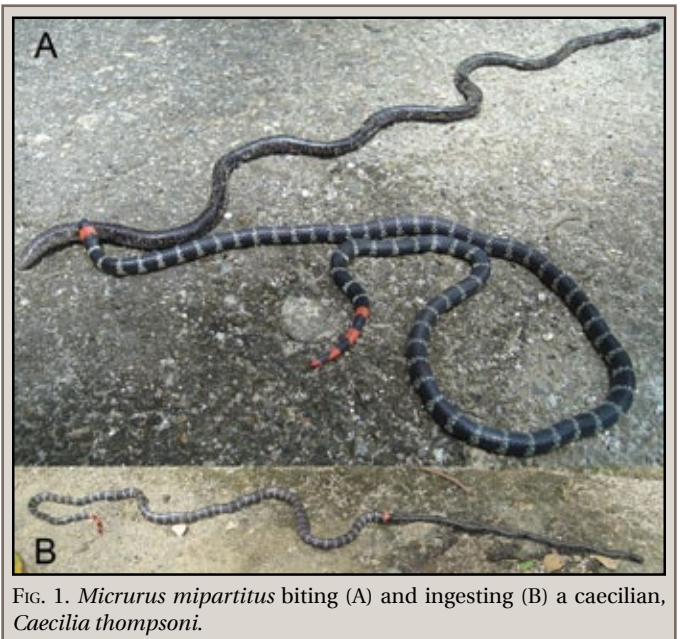


FIG. 1. *Micrurus mipartitus* biting (A) and ingesting (B) a caecilian, *Caecilia thompsoni*.