

the head, complete digestion of the forelimbs, and partial digestion of the anterior three-fourths of the trunk. *Ambystoma talpoideum* employ several active defensive behaviors in the presence of small colubrid snakes, including biting, which can repel small snakes (Dodd 1977. J. Herpetol. 11:222–225). The *D. punctatus* may have envenomated and immobilized the salamander, enabling it to overcome the salamander's defenses (O'Donnell et al. 2007. Toxicon 50:810–815).

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**DREPANOIDES ANOMALUS (Amazon Egg-eating Snake). DIET / OPHIOPHAGY.** On 22 October 2012 at 2300 h the Fauna Forever herpetology team came across a *Drepanoides anomalus* during a night walk at ARCC (Amazon Research and Conservation Centre), Las Piedras Province, Péru. The specimen was a female in good condition (SVL = 46 cm; total length = 61 cm; 38 g post-regurgitation), and was found in leaf litter by an aged oxbow lake of the Rio Las Piedras (12.0558°S, 69.6597°W; WGS 84). The capture took place during the dry season when there was no standing water nearby. When checked the next day the snake had regurgitated two unidentified lizard eggs (most likely *Gonatodes* sp. due to length of < 1 cm) and two juvenile *Helicops angulatus* in a peculiar pose (Fig. 1). Previous studies describe *D. anomalus* as a dietary specialist on lizard eggs (Martins and Oliveria 1998. Herpetol. Nat. His. 6:78–150; da Silva et al. 2010. Rev. Brasil. Zool. 12:165–176), with lizard eggs comprising > 70% of the diet (Alencar et al. 2013. S. Am. J. Herpetol. 8:60–66; Gaiarsa et al. 2013. Pap. Avul. Zool. [São Paulo] 53:261–283). This is the first record of ophiophagy in *D. anomalus*, suggesting that *D. anomalus* may alter its foraging strategies to include larger food items within its prey repertoire, despite successfully foraging for relatively small lizard eggs.

It is unknown how the unusual position of *H. angulatus* occurred—pre-ingestion, or post-ingestion due to struggling or gut peristaltic action. We suggest it is a result of the two juveniles, possibly littermates since they were of a similar size, struggling while still alive inside the stomach of the *D. anomalus*. *Helicops angulatus* is facultatively oviparous, but has been recorded as being predominantly viviparous in eastern Brazil and southern Péru (Duellman 2005. Cusco Amazónica: the Lives of Amphibians and Reptiles in an Amazonian Rainforest. Cornell University Press, Ithaca, New York. 372 pp.).

We thank Matt De Couto and Freddy Harvey Williams for their assistance in the field.

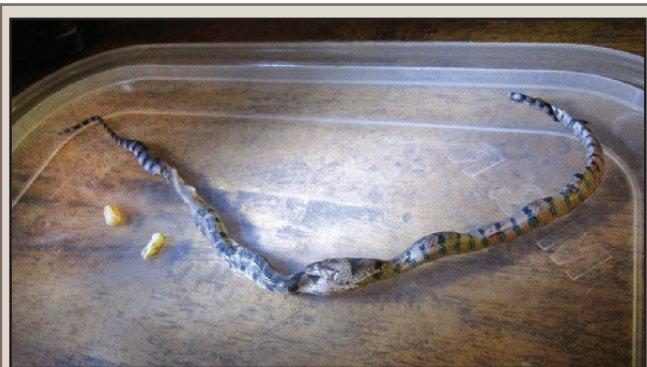


FIG. 1. Stomach contents of *Drepanoides anomalus*, consisting of two lizard eggs (most likely *Gonatodes* sp.) and two juvenile *Helicops angulatus* in a peculiar pose.

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**ERYTHROLAMPRUS TYPHLUS (Green Smoothsnake). DIET.** *Erythrolamprus typhlus* is a diurnal and predominantly terrestrial species (Martins and Oliveira 1998. Herpetol. Nat. Hist. 6:78–150), widely distributed in Brazil, occurring in several states and biomes (Wallach et al. 2014. Snakes of the World. A Catalogue of Living and Extinct Species. CRC Press, Boca Raton, Florida. 1227 pp.). It is a small species, reaching ca. 74 cm (males) and ca. 85 cm (females) and its diet consists mainly of frogs (Martins and Oliveira, *op. cit.*). In Jan 2009, in Manicoré, state of Amazonas, northern Brazil (5.32476°S, 61.94183°W; WGS84; elev. 42 m), we observed predation by *E. typhlus* upon *Rhinella* gr. *proboscidea* (Fig. 1). Bufonid species, including *R. proboscidea*, present highly toxic skin secretions (Jared and Antoniazzi 2009. In Cardoso et al. [eds.], Animais Peçonhentos no Brasil. Biologia, Clínica e Terapêutica dos acidentes, pp. 317–330. Sarvier Publishing, São Paulo, Brazil) as a primary defense mechanism, especially against visually oriented predators (Lima et al 2005. Guide to the Frogs of Reserva Adolpho Ducke, Central Amazonia. Atema Design Editorial, Manaus, Brazil. 56 pp.). A few species of frog-eating snakes, such as *Xenodon merremi* and *Philodryas argentea* (Vidal 2002. Alimentación de los Ofidios de Uruguay. Asociación Herpetología Española, Barcelona. 126 pp.; Menin 2005. Herpetol. Rev. 36:299) are able to feed on highly toxic prey. Our observation suggests that *E. typhlus* is another species that is able to feed on these highly toxic prey.



FIG. 1. *Erythrolamprus typhlus* preying upon *Rhinella* gr. *proboscidea* in Manicoré, Amazonas, Brazil.

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**HELICOPS ANGULATUS (Brown-banded Watersnake). PRE-DATION.** *Helicops angulatus* is a mildly venomous snake that inhabits still or slow-flowing waters of Venezuela, Guiana,