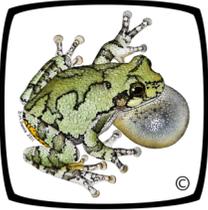


SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES



Publisher of *Journal of Herpetology*, Facsimile Reprints in *Herpetology*, *Herpetological Review*,
Catalogue of American Amphibians and Reptiles, *Herpetological Circulars*,
Contributions to Herpetology, and *Herpetological Conservation*

Officers and Editors for 2011

President

JOSEPH R. MENDELSON III
Zoo Atlanta
Atlanta, GA 30315, USA

President-Elect

ROBERT D. ALDRIDGE
Department of Biology
Saint Louis University
St Louis, MO 63103, USA

Secretary

MARION PREEST
Joint Science Department
The Claremont Colleges
Claremont, CA 91711, USA

Treasurer

KIRSTEN NICHOLSON
Department of Biology
Central Michigan University
Mt Pleasant, MI 48859, USA

Publications Secretary

BRECK BARTHOLOMEW
P.O. Box 58517
Salt Lake City, UT 84158, USA

Immediate Past-President

BRIAN CROTHER
Department of Biological Sciences
Southeastern Louisiana University
Hammond, LA 70402, USA

Directors (Class and Category)

DAVID CUNDALL (2012 R)
Lehigh University, USA
KEVIN de QUEIROZ (2012 R)
Smithsonian Institution, USA
TIFFANY DOAN (2014 R)
Central Connecticut State Univ., USA
PATRICK GREGORY (2012 Non-US)
University of Victoria, CANADA
TRAVIS LADUC (2014 Reg Soc)
University of Texas, USA
ANN PATERSON (2012 R)
Williams Baptist College, USA
JENNIFER PRAMUK (2014 Cons)
Woodland Park Zoo, USA
CAROL SPENCER (2014 R)
University of California, USA

Trustee

GEORGE PISANI
University of Kansas, USA

Journal of Herpetology

ERIN MUTHS, Co-Editor
U.S. Geological Survey
Fort Collins, CO 80526, USA
GAD PERRY, Co-Editor
Texas Tech University
Lubbock, TX 79409, USA

Herpetological Review

ROBERT W. HANSEN, Editor
16333 Deer Path Lane
Clovis, CA 93619, USA

Contributions to Herpetology

KRAIG ADLER, Editor
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14853-2702, USA

Facsimile Reprints in Herpetology

AARON BAUER, Editor
Villanova University
Villanova, PA 19085, USA

Catalogue of American Amphibians & Reptiles

ANDREW H. PRICE, Editor
Texas Natural Science Center
Austin, TX 78758, USA

Herpetological Circulars

JOHN J. MORIARTY, Editor
3261 Victoria Street
Shoreview, MN 55126, USA

Herpetological Conservation

JOSEPH C. MITCHELL, Editor
Mitchell Ecol. Res. Service
P.O. Box 5638
Gainesville, FL 32627-5638, USA

Dear Author,

Attached please find a gratis pdf file of your article/note published in *Herpetological Review*. You are receiving this pdf at no charge as a benefit of SSAR membership, and it is for your personal use only (see copyright notice below).

Sincerely,

SSAR Publications Office

Notice warning concerning copyright restrictions: The copyright law of the United States (title 17, United States Code) governs the making of copies or other reproductions of copyrighted material such as PDFs. One of these specific conditions is that the copy or reproduction is not to be "used for any purpose other than private study, scholarship, or research." If a user makes, or later uses, a PDF, copy, or reproduction for purposes in excess of "fair use," that user may be liable for copyright infringement. The Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles (SSAR) holds the copyright to this PDF. SSAR authorizes the author to use this PDF to fill reprint requests for private study, scholarship and research purposes. It is a violation of SSAR's copyright to distribute this PDF via mass emails, or by posting this pdf on any website for download — Except the author's own personal (not business) website / webpage.

potential complications for the mother, some fluid was drained from the egg using a syringe. Shortly following this procedure the egg was passed, which was rubbery and slightly shriveled. The three potentially viable eggs were placed on wet vermiculite (1:1 weight ratio of water to vermiculite) in an incubator at 24°C. Unfortunately, none of the eggs hatched (UTA R-59481 for all four eggs).

The female was collected in July at the beginning of the rainy season, which is consistent with the previous reports of gravid females being found in Colima and Jalisco during the rainy season between July and October (Hale, *op. cit.*; Kofron, *op. cit.*). The number of eggs produced is also consistent with previous observations, further suggesting this species has a clutch size ranging from 2–5 eggs.

We thank O. Flores-Villela, A. (Beto) Mendoza Hernández, and C. Franklin for assistance obtaining permits, and A. Pires da Silva for providing animal room space. This study was supported by National Science Foundation (NSF) grant DEB-0613802 to J. A. Campbell and O. Flores-Villela.

COLEMAN M. SHEEHY III, JEFFREY W. STREICHER, CHRISTIAN L. COX, RUBEN U. TOVAR, and JACOBO REYES-VELASCO, Amphibian and Reptile Diversity Research Center, Department of Biology, University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, Texas 76019, USA (e-mail: cmsheehy@uta.edu).

DRYMARCHON COUPERI (Eastern Indigo Snake). JUVENILE OBSERVATIONS. *Drymarchon couperi* is one of the largest North American serpents (to 2.63 m total length; Conant and Collins 1991. A Field Guide to Reptiles and Amphibians of Eastern and Central North America. 3rd ed. Houghton Mifflin, Boston, Massachusetts. 616 pp.). In the northern part of their range (i.e., northern Florida and Georgia), adult *D. couperi* have an intimate association with *Gopherus polyphemus* (Gopher Tortoise) burrows, which they use as overwintering sites (Hyslop et al. 2009. Copeia 2009:458–464). As a result, cool-season (November 1–March 31) visual encounter surveys (VES) of *G. polyphemus* burrows in xeric sandhills are an effective way to survey for *D. couperi*. Stevenson et al. (2009. Herpetol. Cons. Biol. 4:30–42) conducted a mark-recapture study of *D. couperi* on the Fort Stewart Military Reservation, Georgia, USA (31.88°N, 81.57°W, datum: WGS84). During multiple cool-season surveys conducted between 1998 and 2007, they captured and marked 93 *D. couperi*. However, only two (2%) individuals were young-of-the-year (i.e., juveniles, 35–90 cm SVL) and 19 (20%) were subadults (90.1–120 cm SVL). This apparent inability to detect juvenile and subadult *D. couperi* has resulted in a large deficiency in our understanding of the ecology of these age classes. Here we report additional observations of juvenile *D. couperi* in southern Georgia gleaned from on-going surveys at Fort Stewart (J. Macey, unpubl. data), the literature, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources' Natural Heritage Program database, major museum collections in Georgia and Florida, and interviews with local herpetologists.

Between 2007 and 2011, four additional juvenile *D. couperi* were captured on Fort Stewart during cool-season VES. All four of these observations were of snakes on the surface near or on the apron of active/inactive (N = 3) or abandoned (N = 1) *G. polyphemus* burrows. In contrast, 54 adults and 11 subadults were captured during those same surveys. We identified 13 additional observations of juvenile *D. couperi* in Georgia between 1975 and 2008. These observations included three juveniles found on the surface during the cool season near *G. polyphemus* burrows (N = 1), *Dasyatis novemcinctus* (Nine-banded Armadillo) burrows (N

= 1; Williamson and Moulis. 1994. Savannah Sci. Mus. Spec. Publ. No. 2., 418 pp.), and stump hole refugia (N = 1). Two observations were individuals alive or dead on roads during the fall (September 10 and October 2), another was in a trap at a drift fence array (October 21; Hyslop et al. 2009. Florida Sci. 72:93–100), and a third was under anthropogenic debris (April). Six observations were of individuals active on the surface but not associated with any cover, including four recent hatchlings found on the same day at the margin of a cypress pond (30 August; Williamson and Moulis, *op. cit.*). At least six of our 13 additional observations (46%) were made in xeric sandhill habitat and three (23%) were in the cool-season.

We are unsure of the reasons behind the extreme disparity between juvenile and adult *D. couperi* observations during cool-season surveys on xeric sandhills or the general paucity of juvenile *D. couperi* records. The success of cool-season VES on xeric sandhills in southern Georgia for finding adults suggests that juvenile detection rates are extremely low, juveniles rarely use *G. polyphemus* burrows as cool-season shelter, and/or juveniles use different habitats than adults. Lower detection rates could be a result of smaller size, more cryptic behavior, or fewer numbers of individuals. We feel this last possibility is unlikely since our Fort Stewart study site contains a robust, reproducing population (Stevenson et al. 2009, *op. cit.*). The small size of juvenile *D. couperi* may allow them to use smaller shelters as overwintering sites, although thermal data indicate that *G. polyphemus* burrows provide the warmest microclimates during the cool season (J. Bauder, unpubl. data). Juveniles may also rarely bask outside of or move among burrows, a behavior that adults readily exhibit (Stevenson et al. 2003. Southeast. Nat. 2:393–408). Juveniles may also avoid *G. polyphemus* burrows used by adults because of the threat of cannibalism, as adult *D. couperi* are strongly ophiophagous (Stevenson et al. 2010. Southeast. Nat. 9:1–18). However, on Fort Stewart we have observed juveniles using burrows < 100 m of burrows used by adults in the same season. Although juvenile *D. couperi* do use xeric sandhills during the cool-season, it is possible that juveniles also overwinter in habitats other than xeric sandhills.

We thank E. Pierson Hill and Kenny Wray for contributing field observations and T. Beaty, K. Briggs, L. Carlile, A. Day, K. Dyer, M. Elliott, K. Enge, N. Hyslop, C. Jenkins, J. Jensen, D. Jones, D. Mincey, R. Moulis, S. Osborn, K. Ravenscroft, M. Ravenscroft, R. Redmond, K. Stohlgren, J. Waters, and B. Willis-Stevenson for support in various aspects. This research was conducted under Georgia Department of Natural Resources permit #29-WBH-11-53.

JAVAN M. BAUDER, The Orianne Society, 579 Highway 441 South, Clayton, Georgia 30525, USA (e-mail: jbauder@oriantesociety.org); **JOHN N. MACEY**, US Department of Defense, Fort Stewart Fish and Wildlife Branch, 1177 Frank Cochran Drive, Building 1145, Fort Stewart, Georgia 31314, USA (e-mail: john.macey@us.army.mil); **MARK P. WALLACE**, The Orianne Society, 784 Kelsall Drive, Richmond Hill, Georgia 31324, USA (e-mail: wallacempwjr@aol.com); **FRANKIE SNOW** (e-mail: Frankie.Snow@sgc.edu); **ADAM B. SAFER**, Math/Science Division, South Georgia College, Douglas, Georgia 31533, USA (e-mail: Adam.Safer@sgc.edu); **DIRK J. STEVENSON**, The Orianne Society, 414 Club Drive, Hinesville, Georgia 31313, USA (e-mail: dstevenson@oriantesociety.org).

EPICRATES CENCHRIA (Rainbow Boa). DIET AND FORAGING BEHAVIOR. Predation on bats by snakes has been reported infrequently. Esbérard and Vrcibradic (2007. Rev. Brasil. Zool. 24:949–953) reviewed this phenomenon in the Neotropics and