STRIKING BEHAVIOUR OF CORALLUS ENYDRIS IN THE TERRARIUM.

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Since March 1986 the author has kept a pair of Corallus enudris enudris. Both snakes refuse to eat mice, despite attempts to induce them to do so. They only accept birds up to the size of a canary. I usually feed them in the evening, although they will also accept prey during the day. One evening the male caught and killed a Zebra finch on the terrarium floor. When the bird was dead the snake carried the dead bird in some coils of the abdomen and tail and took it to the upper part of the terrarium to eat at his leisure. This snake regularly exhibited this behaviour pattern, which I had never previously encountered. I suppose that the animal acted instinctively because the snake is more vulnerable when eating on the ground than in the tree.