

BREEDING RESULTS

Have you bred snakes? If so, please ask the Secretary or one of the English Editors to send you a form on which you can fill in the data of your breeding results. Unsuccessful attempts are also important.

The result of your efforts will be printed in one of the future publications, to help other members with their breeding attempts.

Eryx colubrinus loveridgei.

The snakes are kept in a terrarium measuring 100x50x50 cm, with a layer of sand about 15 cm deep. At day the air temperature is 29-35⁰C while the temperature of the sand is 27-36⁰C. At night the air temperature is 23⁰C, and the sand 23.5⁰C.

Both parents are captive bred, the female is about 18 months old, the male about 4 years old.

The animals lived separately until 7 June 1983. Copulations were seen from 8 June until 10 July 1983.

On 15 October 1983 the female ate a mouse for the last time before the birth of the young.

On 25 October 1983 17 young snakes (F2) were born, measuring about 19 cm and with an average weight of 8 g.

The first sloughing was at 3 November 1983 and since 7 November 1983 all babies have eaten litter-mice freely, forcefeeding not being needed.

I want to thank Ton Markx (Veghel, NL) who (after long doubt) surrendered the male for this breeding attempt.

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Boaedon fuliginosus

The snakes (both first generation in captivity and over five years old) are kept in a terrarium measuring 65x40x50 cm (lxdxh). Day temperature was maintained at 26-29⁰C with the night temperature dropping to 20-23⁰C. No stimulus was used to induce copulation, and the female continued to feed during pregnancy.

Five eggs were laid on 23 May 1983. They were incubated at 30⁰C. Eggs measured 5.0 - 4.3 - 5.0 - 5.0 - 3.3 cm long. The last measured egg died, the other four hatched on 18 July 1983. The young weighed 5.5 - 3.0 - 5.5 - 6.0 g, and measured 24 - 20 - 25 - 25 cm in length. One juvenile (3.0 g, 20 cm) died after two weeks while the three remaining snakes had to be force-fed freshly killed new born mice.

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Elaphe guttata guttata

The parent snakes (both first generation in captivity) are more than seven years old. They are kept in a terrarium measuring 80x40x50 cm (lxdxh) with a day temperature of 26-29⁰C dropping to 20-23⁰C at night. No stimulus was used to induce copulation and the female continued to eat throughout pregnancy though the volume of food was less than normal.

Nine eggs were laid on 27 August 1983 and they were incubated at a temperature of 30⁰C. On 23 October eight young hatched, the ninth egg contained a dead youngster. Five of the young were force-fed freshly killed new born mice while three freely took new born mice. The parent snakes have bred before.

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Bitis arietans

The parent snakes are seven years old, second generation in captivity and have bred every year for the previous four years. They are kept in a terrarium measuring 150x60x100 cm (lxdxh) with a day temperature of 26-30°C dropping to 20-23°C at night. No stimulus was used to induce copulation. The female continued to feed throughout pregnancy. Sixteen young were born on 5 August 1983. About 30% of the young had to be force-fed freshly killed new born mice while the remainder freely ate new born mice.

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Trimeresurus albolabris

The parent snakes are both four years old and second generation in captivity. They are kept in a terrarium measuring 65x40x50 cm (lxdxh). Day temperature was maintained at 26-31°C with the night dropping to 20-23°C. No stimulus was used to induce copulation, and the female continued to feed during pregnancy.

Three young were born on 16 August 1983. Two died in the first week, and the third had to be force-fed freshly killed new born mice.

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Crotalus ruber x atrox

The parent snakes are about seven years old, third generation in captivity and have bred on three previous occasions. They are kept in a terrarium measuring 160x40x50 cm (lxdxh) with a day temperature of 26-29°C dropping to 20-23°C at night. No stimulus was used to induce copulation. The female continued to feed throughout pregnancy. On 23 July 1983 two live and three dead young were born. Two non fertilised yolk were also present. Of the two young one fed normally on new born mice, while the other was force-fed freshly killed new born mice.

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