



Fig. 1. *Dasypeltis scabra*. Foto: F. Bardulla.

# 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.*

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## Dasypeltis scabra

The ages of the adults is unknown but the male has been in my possession for five years and the female two years.

They are housed in a terrarium measuring 90x40x50 cm with day temperatures between 24-27°C and night temperatures between 20-24°C.

On 29 July 1982 copulation was observed (without the use of any stimulus). The female continued to eat.

On 29 August 1982 13 eggs were laid. They were removed from the terrarium and placed in a plastic box where they were sprayed with water every day, to maintain a regular level of humidity. Incubation temperature was 28°C in August, 26°C in September and 24°C in October.

On 29 October 1982 2 eggs hatched (the others having dried up). The young weighed 5 g and averaged 20 cm in length.

Both young sloughed after one week and started to eat eggs after two.

Previously I have had 5 eggs from these snakes, but they all dried up for no known reason. I am sure that the circumstances were the same.

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Boaedon fuliginosus fuliginosus (3x).

A male and 2 females (all born 10 November 1980) are maintained in a terrarium 120x50x40 cm (lwxhx). The terrarium has a daytime air temperature of 23-25°C with part of the ground reaching 30°C; night temperature drops to 15-20°C due to no heating. As a stimulus for copulation there was no heating and a short daytime between December and February. Though there are two females the male is known to copulate only with one, between January and April 1982 and 1983. In 1982 and 1983 the one female produced three clutches of eggs:

1. 7 eggs laid on 27 April 1982; incubated at 24-28°C (average 26°C). All the eggs hatched 7 and 8 July 1982.
2. 10 eggs laid on 2 May 1983; incubated at 23-30°C (average 25°C). Seven eggs hatched between 12 and 16 July 1983, two were infertile.
3. 8 eggs laid on 6 July 1983; incubated at 23-30°C (average 25°C). All eight eggs hatched between 15 and 19 September 1983.

The weight of all the young was 4-6 g, their length 18-25 cm. No force-feeding was needed as all the young freely took bloody mice after their first slough 8-10 days after hatching.

Note: no copulation was seen between batch 2 and 3.

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Elaphe obsoleta obsoleta x rossalleni.

The parent snakes (F1, born between 19 and 27 November 1979) are of a male *obsoleta* and female *rossalleni* and both are coloured as *rossalleni*. They are maintained in a terrarium measuring 60x70x100 cm (lwxhx). Day temperature varies between 25-28°C, the night temperature 15-20°C. As a stimulus for copulation the snakes are hibernated for four

months. The snakes copulated on 6 June 1983. The female ate mice on 19 June 1983 and then refused food until after she laid her eggs on 8 July 1983. The thirteen eggs were incubated at 23-30°C (usually at 25°C). Between 16 and 18 September 1983 twelve eggs hatched with the thirteenth containing a dead youngster. The young varied between 6-8 g in weight, and 23-26 cm in length. First slough occurred between 23 and 25 September 1983. Eight of the young had to be force-fed bloody mice while four fed freely (on bloody mice).

The parents had bred the previous year (1982).

It is of interest that the young (F2) are also of *rossalleni* colouration, with no *obsoleta* colours in either the parents (F1) or the young (F2).

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