

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.

Elaphe obsoleta rossalleni - Everglades rat snake.

The snakes are kept in a terrarium measuring 100x100x100 cm. The daytime temperature varies between 25°C and 29°C, the night temperature between 17°C and 21°C.

The ages of the snakes are unknown. A transition of daylength from 10 to 16-18 hours light a day was the stimulus for copulation, which went unobserved. About one month before laying the eggs, the female regularly refused food. On 22 July 1985 twentytwo eggs were laid; these were incubated at 28.5°C. Between 3 and 7 August 1985 twenty-one eggs hatched. The young snakes weighed 10-13 g and measured 30-35 cm. The first slough was eight to ten days after hatching. Immediately after this slough they ate litter mice, so force-feeding was unnecessary.

In 1984 I have also bred from the same snakes under the same circumstances.

Gerard Heijnen, Saturnusbaan 16, 7891 ET Klazienaveen, The Netherlands.

Vipera aspis (female) x Vipera ammodytes (male).

The terrarium measures 160x80x65 cm. The daytime temperature is 28-32°C in summer, and in winter

20-24°C. The night temperature falls to 24°C (summer) and 14-18°C (winter). The female was eighteen months old and about 70 cm in length, the male was four years old and about 75 cm of length. In January 1985 a three week period of low temperature was achieved by replacing 60 Watt bulbs with 40 Watt equivalents. Copulation was observed on 9, 12 and 15 March 1985. Five weeks after mating, the female refused food. On 18 June 1985 ten young snakes were born, of these two were dead. Two unfertilized eggs were also found. The babies were second generation captive bred. They were 18-24 cm of length and sloughed for the first time on 21 June 1985. Following this slough they fed freely on litter mice.

Before I have bred with the same male and a female *Vipera ammodytes*. The circumstances were the same.

R. Karstens, Saeftinge 78, 2036 GB Haarlem, The Netherlands.