

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.

Liasis mackloti - Macklot's python.

The animals (about five years old) are maintained in a terrarium measuring 100x60x75 cm (lwxh). By day the temperature is 28°C in summer and 25°C in winter. Temporary separation of the sexes was the stimulus for copulations observed between 13 August and 11 November 1985. It is probable that fertilization occurred on 16 August 1985. From that day onwards the female refused all food. On 7 November 1985 twelve eggs were laid, of which seven turned out to be fertile and five infertile. The eggs were incubated at 32°C. On 16 and 17 January 1986 four young snakes hatched (probably second generation captive bred), weighing 24 to 30 g. On 28 and 30 January 1986 they sloughed for the first time. Two of them were force-fed on little mice, the other two fed freely from 28 January 1986 onwards.

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Vipera ursinii renardi - Meadow viper.

The age of these wild-caught animals is unknown. Their length is about 50 cm. They live in a terrarium measuring 40x50x35 cm (lwxh) with a day tem-

perature in summer of about 30°C, in winter of about 25°C. The night temperature is 20-25°C in summer and 15-18°C in winter. Hibernation for three months at 4°C stimulated the animals to mate on 4 March 1985. The female refused to feed during pregnancy. On 28 June 1985 eighteen young snakes were born, measuring 12-13 cm. Most of them were force-fed on crickets and mouse-legs, 25% fed freely on crickets. I had not bred from these snakes before, but the former owner had three young snakes on 11 August 1983, all three feeding freely on crickets.

Author's note: When raising young vipers, cannibalism is a severe problem. I lost some young snakes in that way. I had so many baby snakes, that it was not possible for me to keep them separate.

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