snake breeder

The International Newsletter for Snake Enthusiasts

IN THIS ISSUE

* **Horned Vipers in Mali**
  by Andrew Qualtrough
* **Rescuing Razorback**
  by Allison McNeill
* **Reptile-Book Collecting #3**
  by Richard Trant
* **Italian Reptiles**
  by David Gange
* **The Northern Pine Snake**
  by James Coppen
* **Heating Problems, Part I**
  by Kelvin Waltho
* **Three's Company**
  by Chris & Marcia Martin
* **Mailbag, INFO**
  & Classified Adverts

JERRY COLE

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1991 Baird's Rat Snakes (E.b.)	£55.00
1991 Western Hognose Snakes (H.n.n.)	£45.00
1991 Boa Constrictors	from £95.00 to £200.00
1991 Brazilian Rainbow Boas (E.c.c.)	£250.00
California Kingsnakes 1990 £55.00 / 1991	£38.00
California Kingsnakes 1986 £80.00 / 1989	£70.00
1991 Albino California Kingsnakes (L.g.c.)	£50.00
1991 Mexican Black Kingsnakes	£45.00
1991 ♀ Yellow California Kingsnakes	from £50.00
Adult Corn Snakes (E.g.g.)	£85.00
1991 Snow Corn Snakes (E.g.g.)	£45.00
Amelanistic Corn Snakes 1990 £55.00 / 1991	£35.00
Carolina Corn Snakes 1990 £45.00 / 1991	£20.00
1991 Anerythristic Corn Snakes (E.g.g.)	£35.00
1991 Albino Gopher Snakes (P.m.a.)	£95.00
1991 Checkered Garter Snakes (T.m.)	£20.00
1991 Grey Rat Snakes (E.o.s.)	£24.00

Uninsured National carriage (door to door) £13

The Vivarium Volume Three, future issues only £4.25 post paid or one year subscription £23.70. Available now... *The Vivarium* vol 3/1. Due mid-Oct... General Care and Maintenance of Corn Snakes by P. de Vosjoli/ Colour Guide to Corn Snakes/ Arachnomania. Lots of accessories - phone for latest price list.

Telephone (03004) 738 * Fax (03004) 211

Rivendell, Piddletrenthide, Dorchester, Dorset DT2 7QX

It's Competition Time!

Win a copy of the ***A-Z of Snake Keeping*** by Chris Mattison

(Turn to page 12 for details)

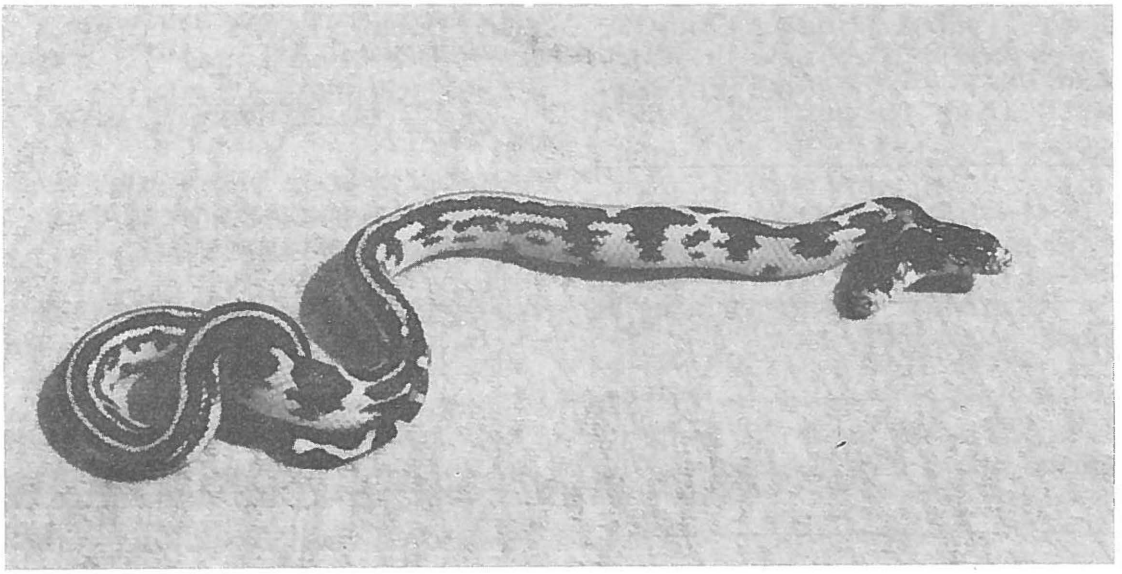


Photo: Jerry Cole

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for Snake Enthusiasts

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snake breeder
October 1991 10/91

Horned Vipers in Mali
by Andrew Qualtrough 3

Rescuing Razorback
by Allison McNeill 4

Reptile-Book Collecting #3
by Richard Trant 5

Italian Reptiles 6
by David Gange

The Northern Pine Snake
by James Coppen 7

Heating Problems, Part I
by Kelvin Waltho 7

Three's Company
by C & M Martin 8

INFO 9

Classified Adverts 11 & 12

FREE COPIES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Readers are invited to submit articles on any aspect of snake keeping and breeding whether they be crisply laser printed or hastily scribbled on the back of a cornflakes packet. Instead of offering money (which you would only squander anyway) we will send you five free copies of the issue containing your article and extend your subscription.

NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS AND RENEWALS

Thank you to the following people who have recently subscribed or renewed their subscriptions to snake breeder.

R Fisher, M Toomey, R Gibson, K Clarke
A Qualtrough, Mr & Mrs Detheridge, P Nash,
C Pickering, G Marzec (USA), P Tarling,
B Borysowich (Canada), L Rowe, R Tribe,
A Cooper, E Mead, Natural History Musueum,
J Landers (USA), E Lough & P Murphy.

Horned Vipers in Mali

by Andrew Qualtrough

Mali: A poor, landlocked nation in Western Africa. Most of the country is flat, arid desert which will support no agriculture or livestock. North of Tombouctou (Timbuktu) the land merges into the Sahara.

Camping for the night in the desert can be a marvellous experience; absolute silence, a clear starlit sky and respite from the sun.

On this particular night we had stopped an hour before dusk and I immediately went for a recce before dark. We had stopped between two rocky slopes about 30 feet high. On one side we were very close to a shallow horse-shoe shaped enclave facing west. The vegetation consisted of tussocks of grass and scattered thorn trees. The daylight search didn't reveal much of interest - a large mantis and a couple of agamas - usually much more plentiful in rocky areas.



After dark, with a torch, I met a colleague on the way back from the toilet. He had heard a noise and was shining his torch on the rocks a short distance away.

My more powerful torch lit up the unmistakeable sand print of a viper close to his sandalled feet and a sweep revealed another snake 20 to 30 feet away. That was enough for my companions; they were all afflicted with instant constipation for the rest of the night!

I then carried on around the horseshoe and came across four more vipers, at varying distances from the boulder slope, settling into the sand, in ambush, and many mice moving amongst them. In the torchlight it wasn't possible to tell if the mice were aware of their presence

One viper, prodded with a stick, produced a very loud rattling hiss with its scales and moved off rapidly into the rock bank. On the whole the snakes were very placid, allowing one to approach within feet.

All the snakes were between two and three feet in length. No juveniles were seen but it is more than likely that a great many more snakes could have lived in the boulder slopes and there was no shortage of mammalian prey.

None of the animals observed had prominent horns, unlike those observed in Algeria, and were possibly *Cerastes vipera*.

***Cerastes vipera*:** Occurs in Lebanon, Israel and Sinai, west to Saharan Morocco, Mauritania, Mali and Niger. Popularly referred to as the Avicenna Viper.
Source - Living Snakes of the World/ J Mehrtens

Rescuing Razorback

by Allison McNeill

One day in late December I came home from work and received the startling news that we had a new snake. The reason this news was so startling was that I had been forbidden to buy any more animals and now Dave had done what I was forbidden to do. Naturally, I was very curious about what the new snake was but when I asked Dave he just said, "It's in the bedroom. Go look at it."

I peered into the 10 gallon tank and saw the most pathetic looking Honduran Milksnake I'd ever seen. In fact, it was the most pathetic looking snake I'd ever seen! The snake was so emaciated that it looked like one of those really slender tree snakes with the huge heads. His body was triangular with his backbone sticking up all the way from neck to tail. His neck was only about twice the diameter of a pencil and his head appeared huge, not at all a normal shape for a *Lampropeltis*. While I was looking at him Dave asked me if he'd eaten any of the pinky mice he'd given him. "What pinkies?", I replied.

Dave had found Razorback, as we named him, in a pet store in Haverhill. The store was asking $200 for this starving snake. Dave questioned one of the employees about the snake and was told he wouldn't eat. No heat was being provided for the snake and it was cold in the store. Dave bargained with the employee, talked the price down to $50 and brought Razorback home with him. As soon as he had a chance to heat up in his new cage he ate for us.

When dealing with an animal that has been starving long enough to lose a lot of bodyweight it's important to proceed slowly. It's tempting to stuff the snake with food but huge meals will surely cause digestive problems and could cause death. The digestive system has to have a chance to 'warm up' before being worked hard. Also, animals that have been starving are usually seriously dehydrated and rehydrating them is just as important as feeding them, if not more so. In fact the starving tortoise and turtle we had rescued earlier were more interested in water than food at first and spent several days drinking and soaking before showing any serious interest in food.

We started off with Razorback by offering him meals consisting of one fuzzy mouse or pinky rat every few days. We also wormed him with Panacur, using Gatorade to wash the medication down the tube in order to help rehydrate him.

When we first got him he was about three feet long and weighed 110 grams. Our female Honduran, a normal-sized animal, weighed four times as much at about that length!

Over the last five months, Razorback has made wonderful progress. He had to be helped with his first shed on the 2nd of January, probably because he was still dehydrated, but he's shed fine ever since. He ate progressively bigger meals, even eating while opaque, and slowly filled out. He is now round and normal looking, with the typical *Lampropeltis* 'no neck' appearance, and weighs

360 grams. Fortunately his condition was caused by bad husbandry and not illness. He is an extremely pleasant Honduran to work with because he is fairly calm. At first I thought he was calm because he was weak but now that he is healthy he's still calm. He did reveal his Honduran nature and bit Dave once (a favourite Honduran pastime).

Any time you rescue an animal that is not doing well you are taking a risk. We've been really lucky; all the animals we have rescued have been the victims of poor husbandry and have not actually been ill. We have been able to help all but one without any veterinary care and the one that required it was a tortoise who needed only a vitamin A injection. Any time we bring a rescue case in, we keep it separate from our other animals. So far all the animals we've rescued, except Razorback, were given to us free, even a beautiful yellow foot tortoise (another animal that supposedly wouldn't eat who ate for us right away after we had warmed her up). It's amazing how much you can accomplish with proper husbandry and a little TLC, and it's really rewarding to watch an animal become healthy and beautiful.

This article originally appeared in the July issue of 'Herptales', the New England Herpetological Society's newsletter, and is reproduced with permission.

Reptile-Book Collecting #3

by Richard Trant

The Reptile World
by Clifford H Pope (1899-1974).
325 pages. 233 b/w photographs.
Published by Routledge & Kegan Paul. First published 1955 (Great Britain 1956).
Price in the range of £25 to £50 depending on condition.
Possible source is JG Animals and Natural History Books, Streatham Vale, London.

Anyone who is starting a reptile book collection should have this classic book at the top of their list. Fortunately this book is often found on dealers' lists and is not scarce. Pope, like Ditmars, has a wonderful style of writing that guides the reader without stifling their interest with unnecessary technical jargon. The author allows the relevant facts to emerge in an interesting and thoroughly readable manner.

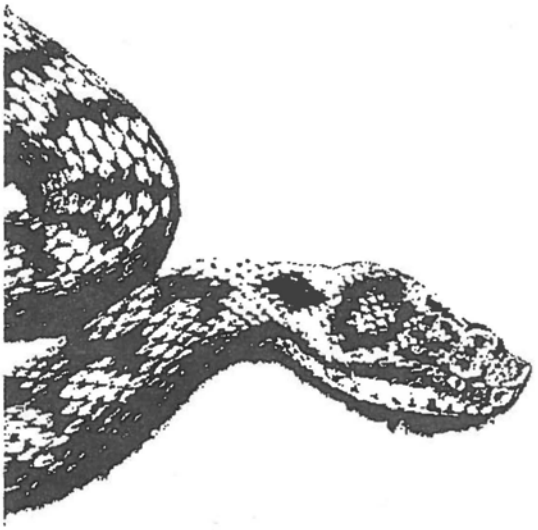
The Reptile World is divided into sections to cover all the reptile groups. A general description is then given followed by an account by families. A bibliography is included at the end of each section. The chapter on snakes contains 103 pages and covers blind snakes, boas, pythons, colubrids, elapids, vipers, *et al*.

The plates are excellent and have that wonderful 1950s look about them. My praise for this book is endless and it is essential reading for any collector. In 1958 an abridged version was published entitled *Reptiles Round the World*.

Italian Reptiles

by David Gange

Recently I went to the town of Riva on Lake Garda in Northern Italy with my wife, Julie. When we explored the town itself we discovered an exhibition of reptiles and amphibians including a beautiful green mamba, a Cape Cobra, Timber Rattlesnake, Cascavel and several different vipers. We visited the exhibition three times!



Vipera aspis

We were first alerted to the presence of reptiles in the area when we started to see Italian Wall Lizards (*Podarcis muralis*) close to the beach. Many of the lizards were basking on walls (not surprisingly) and a lot frequented walls of loose rocks.

As a result of seeing these lizards we kept our eyes open for other reptiles and luckily our efforts paid off. On a mountainside close to Riva is a tower called Bastione which can be reached using a tarmac zig-zag road. This provides an ideal habitat for the reptiles of this region, namely loose rocks, wild slopes of sun and shade, leaf litter and pine needles. We saw many lizards, mainly Italian Wall Lizards, but about halfway up to the tower Julie called me over as she had found a snake. It was about 30cm long, brown with narrow incomplete black bands and heavily built. Its head was typically viper-shaped and its eye pupil was elliptical. Having observed such a snake in the exhibition I realised it was an Asp Viper (*Vipera aspis*). Cautiously we watched it disappear into a shrub and a few minutes later it came out and then slithered away. Of course I couldn't get the camera set up in time! We didn't know how dangerous the Asp is so we didn't follow it. Nevertheless it was a thrilling experience to see such a beautiful snake in the wild.

We continued our walk with eyes focused on anything that moved. Later on we came across an old sink hidden in the undergrowth and we carefully looked inside. There was a beautiful sub-adult Grass Snake hunting for fish. It seemed typically inquisitive and didn't seem afraid of us. It continued to look for food, then got out of the tank and into the undergrowth.

It had been a really exciting day. It seems such a shame that you have to go abroad to see reptiles in the wild. Unfortunately my Italian was not good enough to tell the natives what we had seen. Still, reptiles are probably part of their everyday lives anyway.

The Northern Pine Snake

by James Coppen (age 13)

I acquired my Northern Pine Snake (*Pituophis melanoleucus*) on November the 11th 1990. He is a male, named Arnold, and he was purchased from Anne Clegg and Kim Loader.

Northern Pine Snakes are often noted for being aggressive but although Arnold hisses and inflates his throat occasionally he has never attempted to bite.

Northern Pine Snakes are very attractive snakes. They have keeled scales, are creamy in colour and marked with dark brown to black blotches. Underneath they are normally white, yellow or brown. (The specimen I have has a porcelain white belly.)

There are ten subspecies including *P.m. mugitus, P.m. lodingi, P.m. catenifer* and *P.m. sayi*.

The Northern Pine Snake usually grows to 6' in length but can occasionally reach 8'. My snake feeds on mice, five a week at present, and he is 5'5".

Arnold is housed in a vivarium measuring 48" x 12" x 12". He has a medium-sized water bowl and a large hide box. I use forest bark as a substrate as it is pleasing to look at and easy to clean. In late December I will be buying a mature female and next season I hope to breed them. I will write more articles if I am successful.

Heating Problems, Part I

by Kelvin Waltho

While checking on my snakes before bedtime I noticed my female Royal Python was beginning to go milky. What was more noticeable was a burn on her neck caused by climbing onto the Phillips tubular heater that heats her vivarium. The main problem was that it wasn't guarded! I have guards on all my other heaters so why wasn't that one guarded? I must put this down to my fault. I don't want this to turn into another heater debate but it should serve as a warning as to what can happen without a little thought.

I visited the vet the next morning to see if Mr Scholes, the vet who knows about reptiles, was on duty. He wasn't but the nurse spoke to him on the phone and, after listening to the details he prescribed Dermisol cream (which aids in the removal of necrotic tissue). I had to apply the cream daily.

After the snake had sloughed the wound was more open and the cream was difficult to apply as it didn't stick to the wound. However, each day the cream was easier to apply and I can now see an improvement. Obviously the skin will be better after a few more sloughs. My aim in writing this article is get across the message that these heaters get incredibly hot and guards are a must. A follow up to this article will cover scarring.

Many thanks to my wife, Mr Scholes and the veterinary practice.

MAILBAG

snake breeder
159 Stanley Hill
Amersham
Bucks HP7 9EY



Dear Sirs,

We are interested in importing snakes from your country to France. We take this opportunity to ask if you know of any snake breeding farms, groups or societies interested in this matter. By the way, it could be very helpful for us to know the law of your country regarding snake exportation.

With best regards,

Patrick Bock & Nicolas Queloz
Bas de Limay
71470 Montpont (Bresse)
France

Dear **sb** readers,

My name is Jim Hatfield and I am collecting source information about the Common Green Iguana (*Iguana iguana*). If you could take a moment out of your day to complete my questionnaire it may save the lives of thousands of iguanas. The information collected will be made available to pet owners like yourself to help raise the Green Iguana properly.

Sincerely,

James W Hatfield III
PO Box 102
Lake Oswego
OR 97034-0014, USA

(fax (503) 635 8405)

Editor's note: We can supply copies of Jim's questionnaire to UK readers upon receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. Completed forms can be returned to snake breeder.

Three's Company

by Chris and Marcia Martin

Our 18', 15 year old Burmese Python has been breeding since 1982. She was just over 10' and weighed 50 lbs when she laid her first clutch.

For all her breeding life she has been kept in the same vivarium. The temperature has been set up for a day/night system with a controlled photoperiod.

She has spent all her breeding life with two males (except when she was recovering from breeding). Back in 1989 her daughter was old enough to breed so the two females and the two males were put together; both females laid eggs that year. Last year (1990) the snakes were put in pairs but although mating between one pair was witnessed no eggs were laid although we knew that the male was fertile. In 1991 the snakes were all put together again, resulting in two gravid females.

Breeding snakes can be difficult when you only have one male. A second male is competition; usually a non-breeding pair can be coaxed into breeding by the second male. Take care when placing male snakes (strangers) with females: fighting can occur, resulting in severe injuries and even fatalities are possible.

Anyone is welcome to visit us (by appointment only). Our address is 18 Ballinode Close, Cheltenham, Gloucs. Telephone (0242) 573477.



INFO

SNAKES IN PRINT

The Herptile
Volume 16 Number 3
The International Herpetological Society, 65 Broadstone Avenue, Walsall, West Midlands WS3 1JA.

▸ **The southern or Gironde Smooth Snake** by Francois Dupres. (2 pages.)

▸ **The Aspic Viper, *Vipera aspis*** by Francois Dupres. (2 pages.)

▸ **The Common Viper, *Vipera berus*** by Francois Dupres. (1 page.)

▸ **Further Notes on Hybrid Australian Pythons** by Raymond T Hoser. (6 pages, 2 b/w plates.)

▸ **Early Experiences with a Royal Python, *Python regius*** by Lucy Browne. (2 pages.)

▸ **Notes on a Case of Double-clutching in the Viperine Snake, *Natrix maura*** by Steve Petch. (2 pages.)

▸ **Captive Care and Breeding of the Russian Ratsnake, *Elaphe schrenckii schrenckii*** by Mark Hemmings. (3 pages.)

▸ **Failure to Breed the Mexican Milksnake, *Lampropeltis triangulum annulata*** by Kevin J Hingley. (2 pages.)

Reptile and Amphibian Magazine
Sept/Oct 1991
Norman Frank, R & A Magazine, RD3, Box 3709, Pottsville, PA 17901, USA. (Available in the UK from Nick Gilchrist, 151 Cranmore Avenue, Park South, Swindon, Wiltshire SN3 2EW.)

▸ **Garter Snakes by Roy Pinney.** (9 pages, 5 colour plates.)

TCHG Magazine
Number 121 October 1991
Thames and Chiltern Herpetological Group, 7 Teasdale Close, Burns Road, Royston, Herts SG8 5TD.

▸ **Common Conditions of Lizards and Snakes** by Keith Lawrence. (9 pages.)

EVENTS

Items for inclusion in this column are welcome and should include time, date, venue and a contact telephone number.

19th October 1991 9.30am - 5pm

Dutch Snake Day
University Centre 'De Uithof'
Veterinary Dept
Yaleaan 1
Utrecht, Holland

Enquiries to Guido Gomes on 079-416592 (The Netherlands).

MISCELLANEOUS

New SRAS Secretary

The Snakes, Reptiles and Amphibians Society have announced that Mr M Powell has taken over as acting secretary. He can be contacted at 44 Wedderburn Road, Barking, Essex IG11 7XG, telephone (081) 591 3484.

Captive Breeding Directory

The Wildlife For All Trust has undertaken the task of compiling a Directory of Captive Breeding of Amphibains and Reptiles. After conducting a two year investigation into the import/export trade the Trust concluded that the situation was intolerable and need not be supported if there was a suitable alternative. The Trust believe the Directory will provide an important link between those who wish to obtain reptiles and those who have a surplus as a result of captive breeding. Genuine breeders wishing to be included are invited to complete a simple form available from Iain Scott, The Wildlife For All Trust, The Oasis Nursery, Highbrook Lane, West Hoathly, Sussex RH19 4PL, telephone (0342) 313957. The Directory will be available this autumn free of charge (50p in stamps is requested to help cover postage charges).

The End of Royal News

Lee Bowler (who has edited and published *Royal News* since 1989) has decided to cease publication following the October issue. Lee cites lack of articles and support from subscribers for the decision which is a sad day for *Python regius* owners. Correspondence and requests for help on all 'Royal' matters will still be welcome even though *Royal News* is no more.

Reptiles in Cabaret - Petition

After seeing a cabaret act in which members of the audience had the head of a large python put into their mouths and female members of the audience had the snake's head pushed down the front of their blouses Mrs Mary Bates was horrified. So horrified, in fact, that she has decided to petition Parliament to amend the current laws relating to the Performing Animals Act (1948) in the hope of banning the use of reptiles in cabaret acts. Mary feels that snakes, due to their special requirements (temperature, feeding, housing etc.) are totally unsuitable as performing animals. For further information write to Mary at the Punchbowl Hotel, Bradford Road, Bailiff Bridge, Brighouse, West Yorkshire HD6 4DY or phone (0484) 713718.

BOOK REVIEW

The General Care and Maintenance of Burmese Pythons **by Philippe De Vosjoli.**
Published by Advanced Vivarium Systems, PO Box 408, Lakeside, CA 92040, USA.

This book is a 'must' for the large number of people who keep these beautiful snakes. Its forty four pages of clear, concise information cover selection, housing, feeding, breeding and accidents and is fascinating reading; I've read my copy many times.

There are lots of superb photographs, although only black and white. In my opinion it's the best £3 you could spend and I can thoroughly recommend it to Burmese Python owners. If you are not able to get it locally it can be purchased from fellow **snake breeder** reader Jerry Cole, telephone (03004) 738.

Reviewer: Kelvin Waltho

CLASSIFIED ADVERTS

FOR SALE

Breeding pair of **Tokay Geckos** £30. Breeding trio of **Eyed Skinks** £30. 1991 **Eyed Skink** £5. **Blue-tongued Skink** £40. Consider swap for python, boa, Corn Snake, Monitor Lizard or anything interesting. Telephone (0422) 833610 (Yorks).

Breeding pair of **Northern Pine Snakes** £175. Pair of **Southern Pine Snakes**, yearlings £150. **Alligator Snapping Turtle**, 5", £40. Hatchling amelanistic **Corn Snakes**, all feeding, £20 each. Phone (0524) 811135 (Lancs).

Good second-hand laboratory mouse cages with bottles. £3 each. Telephone Lee on (0533) 532670 (Leics).

Chequered Garter Snake hatchlings (*Thamnophis marcianus*). Captive-bred 4/9/91. £15 each or £25 pair. Captive-bred hatchling **Red-sided Garter Snakes** (*Thamnophis sirtalis parietalis*). Feeding on frozen fish. £7.50p each, discounts for pairs/trios. Phone Rob or Simon on (0273) 553303 (East Sussex).

1991 captive-bred hatchlings. Carolina **Corn Snakes** £15 each. Anerythristic **Corn Snakes** £30 each (assist feeders £25). Aberrant **California Kingsnakes** £30 each. **California Kingsnakes** (desert phase) £35 each. **Dusky Hognose Snakes** £35 each or £60 a pair. One pair of **Pueblan Milksnakes** £160. Also 1.1 yearling Carolina **Corn Snakes** £30 each. Adult male **Corn Snake** £45. Breeding pair of **Corn Snakes** (male is orange Carolina type, female normal) £130 pair. Adult, male, banded **California Kingsnake** £65. Telephone (06973) 43944 (night) or (0768) 890289 (day) (Cumbria).

Two unrelated **Common Boas**. 6½' and 4' in 5' x 3' x 2' vivarium with ceramic heating and day/night temperature system. £350 ono. Telephone Steve on (0753) 645209 (Bucks).

Hatchling **Cook's Tree Boas**. Born 23/9/91. £35 each. Phone Paul on (0226) 245436 (Yorks).

Baby **Burmese Pythons** (*Python molurus bivittatus*) for sale. Healthy and feeding, £45 each. Discounts for pairs/trios. Telephone Simon on (0273) 553303 (Sussex)

<u>1991 hatchling snakes</u>; **Florida Kingsnake** £18, **California Kingsnake** (striped) £20, **Mexican Black Kingsnake** £35 to £40, **Sonoran Desert Kingsnake** £35, **Blotched Kingsnake** £35, **Potosi Kingsnake** £60, **Sinaloan Milksnake** £40, **Northern Pine Snake** £35, **San Diego Gopher Snake** £35, albino **Black Rat Snake** £30, **Rosy Rat Snake** £20, **Western Hognose Snake** £20, <u>Yearlings</u>; **Chain Kingsnake** £20, **Florida Kingsnake** £25, **California Kingsnake** (striped) £25, **Blotched Kingsnake** £45, **Queretaro Kingsnake** £60, **Potosi Kingsnake** £70, **Gray-banded** (*alterna*) £80, *thayeri* £75, albino **Black Rat Snake** £40. All snakes captive-bred and feeding well (records supplied). Telephone Anne Clegg or Kim Loader on (081) 555 3548.

Florida Blue-sided Garter Snakes (*Thamnophis sirtalis similis*) £10 to £12 each. **Plains Garter Snakes** (*Thamnophis radix ssp.*) £10 each. **California Kingsnake** hatchlings £30 each, pairs £55. Young **Alpine Newts** £1.50p each or swap for *Pituophis*

melanoleucus affinis, annectans or other Gopher Snakes. Phone George on (0475) 87002 (Renfrewshire).

Hatchling banded **California Kingsnakes** (black/yellow 50/50), £30 each, unrelated pairs available. Also trio (1.2) of **Boa Constrictors**, nice, all mature. Offers invited. Mature banded **California Kingsnake** (black/yellow) £80. Phone Henry or Fiona on (0203) 442054 after 6pm (Coventry).

Captive-bred **Corn Snakes**. Good colours, all feeding on defrosted pinks. Normals £15 each, amelanistic £25 each, snow £35 each, hetero for snow and amelanistic £20 each. Adult female **Corn Snake**, proven breeder. Laid nine eggs (1991) with 100% hatch rate. £50. Phone Tony on (0778) 341167.

Burmese Python, 52". Feeds on dead or alive. Unable to accomodate in coming years. £50. Phone (081) 319 1766.

California Kingsnakes, banded, striped and aberrant, £25 each or £45 pair. **Eastern (Chain) Kingsnakes**, £22 each or £40 pair Amelanistic **Corn Snakes**, £20 each. Snow **Corn Snakes** £30 each. **African House Snakes** from £15. (A few young **House Snakes** from xanthic parents are available at £25.) Further 10% discount on orders over £200. Carriage (Amtrak) not included. Phone Kevin on (0384) 457368 or Mark on (0384) 253563 (W Mids).

WANTED

Cheap supplier of frozen rats and mice. Telephone Halifax (0422) 833610.

Mature, albino, male, banded California Kingsnake. Phone Henry or Fiona on (0203) 442054 after 6pm.

Green Cat Eye Snakes, *Boiga cyanea*, any age or sex. Phone (0524) 811135.

*****

Advertisements from private individuals are printed in this section without charge. We are normally able to accept items for inclusion up to the final day of the month. Send your advert by post or telephone to **snake breeder**, 159 Stanley Hill, Amersham, Bucks HP7 9EY. Telephone (0494) 722769.

It's Competition Time!

Pictured on the front cover is the two-headed California Kingsnake recently hatched by Dorset snake breeder Jerry Cole. The snake is healthy and feeding well but doesn't yet have a name - that's where you come in.

Jerry is offering a copy of Chris Mattison's excellent 'A-Z of Snake Keeping' to the sender of the most apt name.

Send your suggestions, a maximum of five per entry, to **snake breeder**, 159 Stanley Hill, Amersham, Bucks HP7 9EY, England. The closing date for the competition is the 31st of October 1991. The winner's name will be printed in the November issue of **snake breeder**.