snake breeder

The International Newsletter for Snake Enthusiasts

IN THIS ISSUE

* **It's Just the Beginning - My Experience with Florida Kingsnakes** by Jason Edwards

* **Reptile-Book Collecting #1** by Richard Trant

* **Extravagance or Necessity? The Need for a Reptile House** by Kevin J Hingley

* **MAILBAG, *snake bite* & INFO**

International Herpetological Society

REPTILE FAIR

Sunday 15th September
10.15am to 4pm

Sports Hall, Alumwell Centre
Primley Avenue
Walsall
West Midlands
(Half a mile from junction 10 of the M6 Motorway)

Further enquiries (enclosing an sae) to
International Herpetological Society,
65 Broadstone Avenue,
Walsall, West Midlands WS3 1JA

JERRY COLE

1991 Western Hognose Snakes (H.n.n.)			£40.00
1991 Boa Constrictors, born 27/4			£95.00
1991 Brazilian Rainbow Boas (E.c.c.)			£250.00
1991 Bull Snakes (P.m.s.)			£45.00
California Kingsnakes	1990 £55.00 /	1991	£38.00
1991 Albino California Kingsnakes (L.g.c.)			£55.00
Mexican Black Kingsnakes	1990 £60.00 /	1991	£45.00
1991 % Yellow California Kingsnakes			from £55.00
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 £55.00 /	1991	£20.00
1991 Anerythristic Corn Snakes (E.g.g.)			£38.00
1991 Albino Gopher Snakes (P.m.a.)			£95.00
1991 Checkered Garter Snakes (T.m)			£24.00
1991 Grey Rat Snakes (E.o.s.)			£24.00
1991 Cunningham's Skinks, born 22/6			£45.00

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 No. 1. Also available... the best-selling Herpetocultural Library Series by Phillipe de Vosjoli - various titles in stock, only £3 each, including postage.

Lots of accessories - phone for latest price list.

Telephone (03004) 738 * Fax (03004) 211
Rivendell, Piddletrenthide, Dorchester, Dorset DT2 7QX

DICEPHALISM IN DORSET

Dorset snake breeder Jerry Cole reports the hatching of a two-headed California Kingsnake (*Lampropeltis getulus californiae*) on the 22nd of July.

The hatchling, one of a clutch of seven eggs, emerged looking healthy. Jerry feels confident that it will survive but, naturally, expects the snake's first slough and meal to be a major hurdle.

The snake is being disturbed as little as possible at the moment but Jerry hopes to take some photographs soon.

snake breeder
The International Newsletter
for Snake Enthusiasts

Snake Keeper Publishing
159 Stanley Hill
Amersham
Bucks HP7 9EY
England
Telephone (0494) 722769
International +44 494 722769
Fax (0494) 728786 (Phone first)

Editor Michael Connolley
Asst. Editor Lesley M. Close

Canadian Representative:
Scott Allen
77 Baronwood Court
Brampton, Ontario
Canada L6V 3H7

USA Representatives:
David and Allison McNeill
41 Webster Street
Malden
MA 02148, USA

Subscription Rates:

UK & Europe	6 issues	£10
	12 issues	£18
Rest of the World	6 issues	£11
	12 issues	£20

Payment by cash, cheque or money order in Sterling or US$.

Trade Advertising Rates:
Display ¼ page £8
½ page £15
1 page £30
(based on ready-to-paste copy)
Inserts (A4) £5 per 100 (UK & Europe).

Copyright of all written material and artwork remains the property of their respective authors. Reproductions in whole or part of any photographs, text or illustrations without permission is prohibited.

All opinions expressed in snake breeder are those of the original authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the publishers.

snake breeder
August 1991 8/91

It's Just the Beginning - My Experience with Florida Kingsnakes
by Jason Edwards 3

Reptile-Book Collecting #1
by Richard Trant 5

Extravagance or Necessity? The Need for a Reptile House
by Kevin J Hingley 6

Mailbag 8

snake bite 9

INFO 10

Classified Adverts 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.

C Miles, V Waddingham, R Poole, M Walters, L Evans, P McHardy, P Clark & D Wells.

It's Just the Beginning - My Experience with Florida Kingsnakes

by Jason Edwards (aged 16)

Flo, my first Florida Kingsnake (*Lampropeltis getulus floridana*) was bought on the 17th of December 1988. She weighed 250 grams and had a snout to vent length (svl) of 28".

Once home she was placed in a quarantine vivarium where we were able to observe her movements. During this time three attempts at feeding took place over a period of ten days but the snake showed no interest. We then realized that as Flo was an imported specimen she would still be in hibernation. Therefore so as not to destroy her natural cycle she was put in the attic to continue her hibernation.

Ten weeks after being put into hibernation light and heat in small amounts were allowed to reach her and after two weeks of increasing amounts she was ready to go into her vivarium. At last, on the 20th of February 1989 three medium mice (live) were struck and then eaten. This was the feeding pattern that would bring her weight to 475 grams and her svl to 34" within a year of purchase.

We then decided to find a mate for her which we could hibernate and then breed the next season. We found our male Florida Kingsnake at a herpetological fair on the 17th of September 1989. He weighed 635 grams and had an svl of 46". We then began to feed them up so as to lay down a good fat source which would last them through the winter. This was achieved by them eating their way through five large mice a week each and by the time of hibernation Flo weighed 550 grams and had an svl of 42" and Fred weighed 720 grams and had a svl of 51".

They were cooled down in separate containers and then after ten days were put in the attic on the 1st of January 1990 where the temperature never dropped below 17° F. They stayed in the attic for ten weeks and during this time I was able to construct a new vivarium 48" long, 16" high and 30" deep with a divider built in that could be removed to give either one large or two small vivariums. They were both fitted with ultra violet lights controlled by a timer so as not to overexpose them to the rays. The air temperature in the vivarium stays around 84° F.

When their ten weeks were up heat and light in small amounts was allowed to reach them and after two weeks they were fully aroused. Hibernation is not a must if breeding is required but it does give the reptiles a rest period and it also stimulates them into breeding on a natural cycle.

Food was offered to both snakes but the male refused whereas the female took all food readily. On the 28th of March 1990 the female was last fed, the divider was removed and they were placed together in one half of the vivarium. Two days later on the 30th of March a mating was observed that started at 10.15pm and lasted

until 12.30 am. The snakes were then separated and food was offered. The male, after mating, resumed feeding on the 31st of March and after five weeks of five large mice a week each the latter half of Flo's body was observed to be enlarged due, we thought, to eggs. She then refused all food offered and became noticeably restless.

On the 23rd of April 1990 Flo weighed 730 grams and a few days later her eyes became milky and on the 1st May she sloughed. During this time the incubator was set up using a heat pad and with Vermiculite as a substrate for the eggs so that the temperature was maintained at a steady 83° F.

Nine days after the female sloughed (on the 10th May) nine eggs were deposited in the damp moss introduced for that purpose. A week after the eggs were laid five of the eggs were noticeably different in colour. These infertile eggs were discarded leaving four healthy white eggs which measured 50mm by 25mm when first laid. Every few days the substrate was checked and if it felt dry the incubator was sprayed with warm water until the right humidity was achieved.

While the eggs were developing the female was given food every four days for two weeks before the male was re-introduced. We presume a mating took place as a sudden demand for food in the female took place that lasted for about three weeks and around her last feeding there wasn't much interest shown. Also the latter half of her body was once again enlarged. All food was then refused from the last feeding onwards.

Inside the incubator the eggs were beginning to swell up and on the 27th of June 1990 our first Florida Kingsnake hatchling was born. The second and third hatchlings were born on the 28th of June. The eggs measured 54mm x 30mm before they hatched and 42mm x 12mm after they hatched.

The hatchlings weighed between 18 and 22 grams and were approximately 9" to 12" in length. Five days after the first snake hatched the fourth egg was opened and found to contain a partially-formed dead snake. The hatchlings sloughed their skin on the 5th of July and fed on pink mice shortly afterwards.

On the 1st of July Flo sloughed her skin and the next day the damp moss was put back into the vivarium. The incubation period for the first clutch of eggs was 47 days. To lengthen the incubation period the temperature has been dropped to 81° F. I am expecting the clutch of eggs around the 10th of July.

As the story of Flo and Fred and our newly-imported female kingsnake Freda continues I hope to contribute further articles about them.

Royal News
The Newsletter for Royal Python Owners Everywhere

Subscription rates (inc. p&p)
UK £6 Europe and USA £7.50

Enquiries to Lee Bowler
37 Sixty Acres, Prestwood,
Gt.Missenden, Bucks HP16 0PE.
Telephone (02406) 6328.

Reptile-Book Collecting #1

by Richard Trant

Introduction

The pleasure in reptile keeping, as in almost any hobby, is greatly enhanced by access to books relating to the subject.

Scanning the shelves of the local library often reveals that the subject of herpetology is usually not well catered for so the search for good books begins.

As the popular titles are discovered and explored one might happen upon a book like *The Reptile World* by CH Pope and such a discovery wets the appetite for more quality literature. Before long you might find yourself hooked on reptile-book collecting. This often results in scouring lists for classics ranging from authors such as Fitzsimmons, Ditmars and Pope and keeping an eye out for antiquities like Bateman's 1897 *The Vivarium* and other gems that occasionally surface.

As your collection grows then your knowledge and understanding of reptiles can only increase. The object of this article is to submit, on an occasional basis, a description, availability and approximate price of widely-regarded, essential reading of both popular and antique books. The first book in the series is the classic by Ditmars.

Snakes of the World
by Raymond L Ditmars (1876-1942)
206 pages, 84 plates (b&w)
First published 1931
Twentieth reprint 1974
Published by Macmillan (USA)
Price from £10 (well used copy) to £30 (good condition with dust cover)
A possible source is JG Animals & Natural History Books, Streatham Vale, London.

Regarded for many years as the definitive book on the subject this is the only book to attempt a brief description of most of the then-known snake species. The enormity of the subject matter makes for a slightly rushed who's who of the snake world. However this is relieved by interesting case studies of snake bite reports and general information on the serpent clan.

Ditmars writes with a characteristic flair, ensuring the general reader's interest whilst supplying enough technical detail to satisfy the more serious herpetologist (albeit a 1931 edition).

The plates at the back of the book are of great interest although the quality of the reproduction varies from issue to issue, the clearer being those in the earlier editions. Also included is the famous photograph of the X-rayed king snake showing the snake it had just eaten (plate 23).

In summary Ditmars' *Snakes of the World* is an interesting book which, given the date of publication, has aged well. It is seen as a popular classic and is a must for the serious collector.

Extravagance or Necessity? The Need for a Reptile House

By Kevin J Hingley

Most reptile keepers, I suspect, dream of having their own reptile house in the garden. But having a building or extension built is a daunting thought, if only from a financial point of view, let alone all the mess and domestic disturbance and the clearing up afterwards. I have always wanted my own reptile house but there were many obstacles especially since my son and I live with my parents and there isn't a spare room which I did have when I was married. For the past eight years I have contented myself with a fairly modest collection of animals which in recent years has grown and, to be fair to my snakes, it was obvious that sooner or later they were going to need a room of their own. Especially as the temptation to buy additional species could not be resisted.

I had very few options - the attic would have cost thousands to convert properly due to its low height and the single outbuilding was not really large enough for my plans. Should I evict my son or relegate myself to a tent in the garden I asked myself? Hardly fair! After much debate (for debate read grovelling) my parents finally relented and as we were having a lot of work carried out on the house the builders offered what I thought was a very low-priced quote for a reptile house measuring approximately 12ft by 8ft to be built as an extension to the existing outbuilding. It took me some time to convince my mother that she would not lose half of the rear garden. As the building neared completion it was a little taller than first anticipated and I was convinced that she would have it demolished. However once the garden was cleared of rubble, workmen's tools and the old shed she relented as she could see that only a fraction of the lawn had disappeared. Once the entire building (including the old outhouse) had all been rendered and finished in roughcast and given a good coat of paint she was even more pleased with the end result (though not as pleased as me!)

For those interested and possibly considering their own reptile house I will briefly outline its construction. The foundations and corners of the building are brick and the remaining walls are built using Thermalite breeze blocks. Inside, the walls are covered with thermal-backed plaster board over which a skim of plaster was laid. Outside, the building was rendered and rough casted for aesthetic purposes as well as for additional insulation. The roof was constructed from timber joists covered with marine ply and then felt and gravel. The spaces between the joists were filled with loft insulation material (Rockwool) and then plaster board skimmed with plaster. A skylight was included in the roof and it is surprising how much natural light this allows into the room even on dull days.

Inside the building I decided to have part of it sectioned off so that I would have a separate area for breeding colonies of mice. This completed the building and so I

called in a friend to carry out all of the electrical work. Extractor fans were fitted along with electrical sockets, a strip light and an alarm system loud enough to wake the dead. Once the interior walls had been painted I had to decide how many cages to build and how to heat them or the room itself.

As I already had a block of 24 vivaria in my bedroom I decided that I needed as many new and larger vivaria in the reptile house to transfer the animals once I was satisfied with the temperature levels. I decided to heat the room itself and with much help from Mark Hemmings the new vivaria were built and heaters installed. Some slight adjustments were made to one block of cages and then the heaters, which were wall-mounted, multi-setting and programmable, were set into action. Thermometers were placed here, there and everywhere and after a week I decided that I was satisfied with the temperatures in the room and the snakes were transferred to their new homes. My old cages were then dismantled and the top two rows of cages (12 in all) were moved to the new building also.

So far everything has worked out very well, although what the cost of heating the room will be remains to be seen. The heaters I chose are Valor Seasons - I bought two so that one is programmed to run at a higher temperature setting during the day heating the room to between 25° C and 30° C and the other heater keeps the room at a steady 21° C during the night. A natural photoperiod is achieved by the large skylight. When the daytime heater switches itself on in the morning it takes two to three hours to steadily build the temperature up to its maximum, depending upon how warm a day it is outside. The heaters have built-in thermostats so that they are not heating the room continually, they simply switch on for two to three minutes at a time every 20 to 30 minutes keeping the temperature topped up but also allowing a fluctuation of up to 4° C either way and this seems to be more natural than completely stable temperatures. Because the heaters work this way I'm hoping this will prove to be fairly economical. In the summer, if it should become too warm in the room the heaters can act as fans to cool the room down if necessary, although the extractor fan is placed near the ceiling and is quite effective in lowering the temperature as well as removing nasty smells. Because they have built-in thermostats they do not switch on if the room temperature exceeds 30°C, and this maximum can be lowered by turning the heater setting down. The heaters also have a frost setting which prevents the room temperature from falling below 5° C in the winter during the hibernation period, although this may prove too low for some species and the heaters may have to run at a slightly higher setting than this, but that remains to be seen, and a lot will depend upon how mild or severe a winter we have.

If for any reason I find that heating the room is not very successful or proves too costly in the long term I can always heat the vivaria using heat tape but, at present, I am quite satisfied with the way things have worked out.

MAILBAG

snake breeder
159 Stanley Hill
Amersham
Bucks HP7 9EY



Dear **snake breeder**,

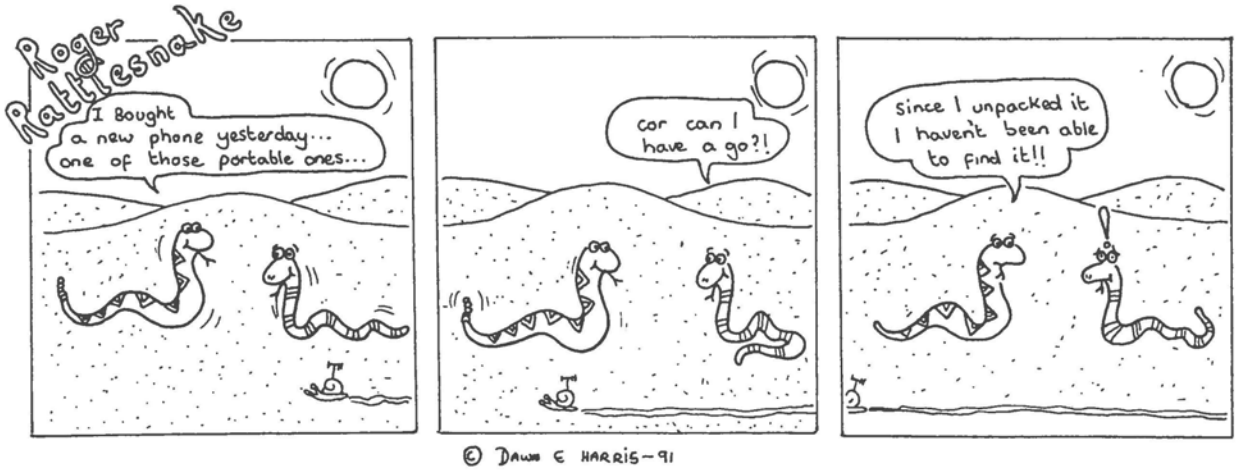
We also "read with surprise" the last two editions of Mailbag (**sb** 6 & 7/91) in which P Conroy and I Henderson sink their teeth into Chris and Marcia Martin's article It's Only Natural (**sb** 5/91).

It is sad, to say the least, that Mr and Mrs Martin submit an article based on their own experiences and viewpoints to share with other readers and out of the woodwork come the critics who merely attempt to discredit and ridicule whilst actually offering very little.

Surely Mr and Mrs Martin's results speak for themselves. They are successful breeders year in and year out using their own ideas - not ones copied from a book written in the year dot. They submit well-written and detailed articles to **sb** containing original information. They even go beyond this and invite complete strangers into their home to see their snakes and pick their brains. Yet, because their viewpoints and comments don't match with tradition, they are made the subjects of controversy. Whatever is wrong with looking at new ideas with an open mind? No-one is forced to accept or agree with anything written in any article, whether it is written by the Martins or not but by sharing experiences and methods readers can choose for themselves or write their own viewpoints in an article without having to resort to the back-biting we have recently seen.

Finally, I would just like to say that we hope that Chris and Marcia will continue to write informative articles and that they, and other writers, are not put off by the critics. Perhaps in the end it just boils down to jealousy rather than controversy!

Bev and Andy Cutts
South Yorks



snake bite... truth, lies, gossip and rumours

ARC Wealth Warning

A *snake bite* Gold Star to ARC chairperson Shiralee Hughes who penned the following item in the July issue of their newsletter. "Now a few words of warning! Certain unscrupulous dealers are distributing lists of captive-bred reptiles that they claim will be for sale in 1991. The lists are very impressive, some of the species never having been bred in captivity. Although the lists are well-presented and designed to give the impression of having been produced by professional breeders the give away is often a PO Box number. They claim to expect for sale captive bred animals from private breeders and 'special facilities' or 'farms' in places such as Ghana, Indonesia and South America. However these establishments are usually far from respectable and more often than not nightmarishly squalid! The point of the exercise seems to be the collection of deposits from prospective buyers. These can amount to a five-figure sum which is then used to finance other 'iffy' ventures. Profits having been made, the deposits are returned to the unfortunate would-be buyer with some excuse or other for the failure to appear of the species they had wanted."

Heavy Metal or Northern Herpetological?



A *snake bite* Black Spot award to the NHS for their choice of logo to be displayed on coffee mugs and t-shirts. Best not open the crate of Newcastle Brown Ale until after the committee decisions have been made in future lads.

S-e-r-p-e-n-t-a-r-i-u-m

Rumours that Serpentarium owner Dave Lester might use some of the profits from the sale of his recently-hatched golden pythons to purchase a spell checker for his word processor have so far proved to be untrue. Stock list No.57 notes that "Secimens marked with...or at our ware house faciliys...patterns and tempremente ect,...for these most desirable triats". Don't wurry Dave, we know what you meen!

What's In A Name?

The Sunday Mirror pick up a *snake bite* Black Spot award too for their recent two-page colour-supplement item on the Thames and Chiltern Herpetological Group. Quite a reasonable write-up for the Group apart from one minor mistake: instead of adding the address of the TCHG at the end of the article they included the British Herpetological Society address. This minor error resulted in BHS Secretary Monica Green receiving hundreds of enquiries which would have gone to the TCHG. However, Ms Green, honest by nature, sent TCHG details to the enquirers.

Miscellaneous Items

#1 Why do so many police officers keep snakes?

#2 Why do your neighbours always find your missing snakes before you do and why do the escapees always look as healthy or healthier than the ones that didn't escape?



INFO

SNAKES IN PRINT

The Herptile
Volume Sixteen Number Two
The International Herpetological Society, 65 Broadstone Avenue, Walsall, West Midlands WS1 3JA.

▸ **Aspects of the Exotic Pet Trade in Bournemouth, England** by P Pica. (3 pages.)

▸ **Notes on the Captive Breeding, Care and Hibernation of the Northern Pine Snake, *Pituophis melanoleucus melanoleucus*** by C Roberts. (2 pages.)

▸ **The Indonesian Amethystine Python, *Morelia amethystina amethystina*. Nematodes and captive husbandry** by JK Wills. (4 pages.)

▸ **Hibernation, Egg-laying and the Rearing of Corn Snakes, *Elaphe guttata guttata*** by N Marshall. (1 page.)

Royal News
Volume Three Number Three
Lee Bowler, The Privetts, 37 Sixty Acres Road, Prestwood, Great Missenden, Bucks HP16 OPE.

▸ **From a Royal Perspective** by Frank Lundberg. (5 pages.)

▸ **The Royal Python, *Python regius*** by Gregory C Greer. (3 pages.)

▸ **Scale Rot in *Python regius*.** (4 pages.)

Reptile and Amphibian Magazine
July - August 1991
RD3, Box 3709, Pottsville, PA 17901, USA. (Available in the UK from Nick Gilchrist, 151 Cranmore Avenue, Park South, Swindon, Wilts SN3 2EW. £3.75 each or £21 year (6 issues) p&p inc.)

▸ **Kings of North American Snakes - *Lampropeltis*** by Jim Low. (8 pages.)

The Vivarium
Volume Three Number 1
American Federation of Herpetoculturists, PO Box 1131, Lakeside, CA 92040, USA. (Available in the UK from Jerry Cole, telephone (03004) 738.)

▸ **Collecting the Banded Rock Rattlesnake (*Crotalus lepidus klauberi*)** by Gary Swinford. (3 pages.)

▸ **The Albino Queretaro Kingsnake (*Lampropeltis ruthveni*)** by Glen R Young and Rosemary A Babcock. (3 pages.)

Reptile Keeper International
Volume Two Number Six
The Northern Herpetological Society, 8 Bromley Gardens, Battle Hill, Wallsend, North Tyneside NE28 9BS.

▸ **The Case of the Battered Python** by Brian Ramsay. (2 pages.)

EVENTS

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

31st August/ 1st September **Sat 10am - 7pm Sun 10am - 6pm**

PRAS Annual Show
Fratton Community Centre
Trafalgar Place
off Clive Road

Fratton
Portsmouth

Enquiries to Jon on (0329) 833017

15th September 10.15am - 4pm

IHS Reptile Fair 1991
Sports Hall
Alumwell Centre
Primley Avenue
Walsall
West Midlands

Contact the IHS at 65 Broadstone Avenue, Walsall, West Midlands WS3 1JA.

22nd September 9am - 5.15pm

ASRA Seminar
Cotswold Wildlife Park
Burford
Oxford OX8 4JW

Enquiries to Richard Allen on (0488) 71439 anytime.

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

Red-eared Terrapin Leaflet

The Universities Federation for Animal Welfare (UFAW) has produced a free leaflet to help red-eared terrapin owners choose the correct vivarium. The leaflet also includes advice on landscaping, heating, filtration, feeding and handling and outdoor housing.

To obtain your copy just send a stamped, addressed envelope to UFAW, 8 Hamilton Close, South Mimms, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 3QD. Other leaflets in the UFAW *How to choose...* series cover the housing needs of pet mice, gerbils, hamsters, budgerigars, guinea pigs, rats and fish.

ASRA Seminar

On Sunday 22nd September the Association for the Study of Reptilia and Amphibia (ASRA) are holding a seminar on Conservation Through Captive Breeding. Speakers include Dr HR Bustard, Quentin Bloxham, Dr R Lockhart, Chris Mattison and Mrs Henny Fenwick. Cost for the Seminar only is £12.50 or £18.50 for Seminar plus three-course lunch. For booking form and further details contact Richard Allen on (0488) 71439.

Garter and Ribbon Snakes Info

The British Herpetological Society Captive Breeding Committee produce an excellent eight-page A4 leaflet on the Care and Maintenance of Garter and Ribbon Snakes. Written by Peter Curry and John Pickett the leaflet covers Housing and Maintenance; Diet and Feeding; Health and Disease; and Breeding. If you're a *Thamnophis* owner searching for more information send 25p and an sae to The Secretary, BHS, c/o Zoological Society of London, Regent's Park, London NW1 4RY requesting Care and Maintenance Notes No.4.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTS

FOR SALE

Hatchling **California Kingsnakes**, banded, £35 each. **Florida Blue-sided Garter Snakes** (*Thamnophis sirtalis similis*) £12 each. **Plains Garter Snakes** (*Thamnophis radix ssp.*) £10 each. Phone George on (0475) 87002 (Renfrewshire).

1991 captive-bred hatchling **Corn Snakes**. Feeding well, good colours. £15 each, two for £25 or exchange for other snakes considered. Phone Lee on (0533) 532670.

For sale or exchange. **Indian Python**, male, 2.1m long. **Tokay Geckos**, English bred, 1990/91. **Common Snapper** (*Chelydra serpentina*). Two male **Florida Soft Shell Turtles**. Wanted - female Indian Python (or swap for above) and male Royal Python or swap for female. For information and details please ring (0637) 873342 office hours or (0726) 844050 other times.

Trio of **Garden Tree Boas** (*Corallus enhydris enhydris*). Two females, brown/grey and one orange male. £150 trio. Male **Speckled Kingsnake**, 3', £45. One 24-cage mouse breeding unit with bottles, etc. Some stock. £140. Solomon Island Mangrove Monitor, 2½', feeding well on mice and rats, £95. Phone Neil on (0245) 466503 (Essex).

Carolina Corn Snakes. Hatchlings £15 each. Phone (0394) 271500 (Suffolk).

Cheltenham-bred baby boas (*Boa constrictor constrictor*). Born 13th May at 8am, £75 each. **Burmese Pythons** (*Python molurus bivittatus*), £47.50p each. **Great Plains Rat Snakes x Corn Snakes** £12.50p. Chris Martin, 18 Ballinode Close, Cheltenham, Gloucs GL50 4SQ. Telephone (0242) 573477.

1991 hatchling **Sonoran Desert Kingsnakes** (*Lampropeltis getulus splendida*). Excellent markings, ready now, £35. Phone Tony on (0623) 657543 (Notts).

Female **Pacific Monitor Lizard** (*Varanus indicus*). 2½', captive reared from hatchling. Generally unavailable species. Good temperament and excellent feeder. Superb condition. £200 or nearest offer. Phone Adam on 081 668 3578 after 10am. Only suitable for experienced keepers only who can meet space requirements.

Captive-bred, superbly marked **Corn Snakes, Grey Rat Snakes** and **Black Rat Snakes**. Feeding well on dead pinkies. All at £15 each. The Bargain of the Year! Phone Richard or Terry on (0279) 445254 (Essex).

Captive-bred 1991 **Russian Rat Snakes**, amelanistic **Corn Snakes** and **African House Snakes**. For further details phone Kevin on (0384) 457368 or Mark on (0384) 253563 (W.Mids).

Mating pair of Central American **Indigo Snakes**, three years old, £170. Male **Burmese Python**, 10', plus 7' tank. Serious herpetologists only. Phone (0928) 564457 for details.

Superb quality c/b hatchlings from unrelated adults. Black **Corn Snakes** (anerythristic) Same clutch produced some white-bellied hatchlings, no check at all, £35. Albino **Corn Snakes** (amelanistic) £30. Florida **Corn Snakes** £15. Phone Darren (0274) 676785 (W. Yorks).