34:65–66) found *B. i. ciliaris* remains in the fecal matter of a *C. pricei miquihuanas* from Coahuila, Mexico. Fecal matter from a juvenile female *C. l. morulus* (UANL 5802, 19.7 g) contained *Eumeces brevirostris pineus* scales and bone fragments. Fecal matter from a juvenile male (UANL 5804, 22.9 g) contained *Sceloporus grammicus disparilis* scales. Gloyd and Smith (1942. Bull. Chicago Acad. Sci. 6:231–235) documented *S. g. disparilis* (reported as *S. microlepidotus disparilis*) as a prey item of *C. l. lepidus* from the Sierra del Carmen in Coahuila, México.

On 22 August 2002 we found a juvenile male *C. l. lepidus* (UANL 6181, 354 mm TL) dead on the road west of San Isidro, Municipio Santiago, Nuevo León, Mexico. The snake had a juvenile *Sceloporus minor* in its mouth, and both it and lizard were badly crushed. We were thus unable to determine if the snake had been run over while consuming the lizard that it had killed, or if the snake had been scavenging an already dead-on-road lizard. DeVault and Krochmal (2002. Herpetologica 58:429–436) reviewed reports of scavenging in snakes and reported that 31% of unprovoked scavenging incidents from field observations were by rattlesnakes. The road on which the *C. l. lepidus* was found runs through a canyon (ca. 1600 m elevation at the base) characterized by steep limestone walls covered with agave, sotol, and scrub oak. On 3 October 2002 we found a large male *C. l. lepidus* (UANL 6199, 740 mm TL) dead on a dirt road near Laguna de Sanchez, Municipio Santiago, Nuevo León, Mexico. Dissection of the specimen revealed that it had consumed a large *Sceloporus torquatus binocularis* (116 mm SVL, 128 mm tail length).

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CROTALUS MOLOSSUS MOLOSSUS (Black-tailed Rattlesnake). **MALE-MALE FIGHTING**. Observations of male-male fighting in free-ranging rattlesnakes are rarely published. Male-male fighting has not been published for *Crotalus m. molossus*. Here we describe a case of male-male fighting at Parker Creek, Sierra Ancha Mts., Gila Co., Arizona, USA.

On 1 August 1999 at 1100 h, we found a pair of *C. m. molossus* entangled with each other in the water of a running creek. Both had about three-fourths of their bodies immersed in the water. They had apparently fallen into the creek, as they were at the bottom of a steep dirt slope. The snakes were about the same body length (ca. 140 cm SVL). One was considerably paler and somewhat smaller, and had a less contrasting black and yellow dorsal color. The snakes were wrestling, at times twisting together the full lengths of their bodies. They also raised their heads above the ground to their full extents. Their movements appeared sluggish and uncoordinated, possibly because of the immersion in water, which was considerably cooler than the air. The fight moved out of the water ca. 1 min. after we began our observations (Fig. 1). Both snakes seemed oblivious to 8 students observing them from a distance of 4 m. The interaction ended ca. 45 min. later, with the duller colored, smaller individual retreating.

FIG. 1. Male combat in *Crotalus molossus*.

Although male fighting in snakes commonly occurs in the presence of a female (e.g., Schuett 1997. Anim. Behav. 54:213–224), no other snakes were seen in the area. However, the area was not intentionally searched for other snakes.

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CROTALUS RAVUS (Mexican Pygmy Rattlesnake). **DIET**. The feeding habits of *Crotalus (= Sistrurus) ravus* have not been thoroughly documented. Uribe-Peña et al. (1999. Anfibios y Reptiles de las Serranias del Distrito Federal, México. Cuadernos, IB UNAM 32:82) refer to a paper by Sánchez-Herrera (1980. Bull. Maryland Herpetol. Soc. 16:9–18) indicating that this species consumes vertebrates, such as lizards (*Sceloporus grammicus* and *Sceloporus megalepidurus*), mammals (*Mus musculus* and *Microtus mexicanus*), and insects. Nevertheless, data on the diet of *C. ravus* are not contained in Sánchez-Herrera (*op. cit.*). In fact, *S. megalepidurus* does not occur in the mountains surrounding Distrito Federal (Smith 1939. Zool. Ser. Field. Mus. Nat. Hist. 26:204; Sites et al. 1992. Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. 213:45). The reference cited by Uribe-Peña et al. (1999) is from the unpublished bachelors thesis of O. Sánchez-Herrera (1980. Herpetofauna de Tlaxcala. Fac. de Ciencias, UNAM, México, 155 pp.).

Here we report on a juvenile female *C. ravus* collected on 17 August 2002 in the vicinity of Mexico City, in the mountains surrounding the Valley of Mexico (Huixquilucan, Zacamulpa, State of Mexico). This specimen was deposited in the Museo de Zoologia, Facultad de Ciencias (MZFC 14287). Measurements were obtained before dissection (SVL 167 mm, TL = 186 mm, HL

= 15.1 mm, and HW = 10 mm). Upon dissection, a partially digested adult *S. grammicus* and a specimen of the Order Hemiptera (possibly a member of Pentatomidae, head and wings) were in the stomach. O. Sánchez-Herrera (*op. cit.*) refers to four specimens of *C. ravus* collected by him in the Mexican State of Tlaxcala. He found the lizards and mice cited above, and also noted that one small individual (TL 216 mm) contained a large (27.3 x 10.4 mm) cricket (Orthoptera, Gryllidae). Our observations confirm that, in addition to lizards and small mammals, certain insects constitute a portion of the diet of juvenile *C. ravus*.

We thank Enrique González-Soriano for his help determining the hemipteran.

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DABOIA RUSSELII RUSSELII (Sri Lankan Russell's Viper). **LARGE PREY**. *Daboia russelii* is a highly venomous, terrestrial viperid that preys on a variety of vertebrates and invertebrates, including rodents (Wüster 1998. Hamadryad 23:33–40). The Sri Lankan population, previously known as *Daboia russelii pulchella*, recently was synonymized with *D. russelii russelii* (Wüster et al. 1992. Biol. J. Linn. Soc. 47:97–113; Rage and Toriba 1993 *In* Golay et al. [eds.], Endoglyphs and Other Major Venomous Snakes of the World: A Checklist, pp. 267–688. Azemiops, Geneva, Switzerland; Wüster 1998, *op. cit.*)

A preserved (unaccessioned) juvenile *D. r. russelii*, from the vicinity of Nikaweratiya, North Western Province, ca. 90 km NNE of Colombo, in the care of one of us (SAMK), was examined by MOS and ADS for stomach contents. The specimen had fed just prior to being killed and was found to contain a single, murid rodent (House Mouse; *Mus musculus*) of considerable size in relation to the snake (Fig. 1). The snake measured 180 mm SVL (210 mm TL) and was 21 g. The mouse measured 66 mm SVL (109 mm TL) and was13.5 g. Rodents often constitute a 'Type III' prey item, which is typical for viperids (Cundall and Greene 2000. *In* Schwenk [ed.], Feeding: Form, Function, and Evolution in Tetrapod Vertebrates, pp. 293–333. Academic Press, San Diego, California), the prey/predator body length ratio of 0.37 and mass ratio of ca. 0.64 are considerable, even when taking into consideration the presence of preservative fluid in both specimens.

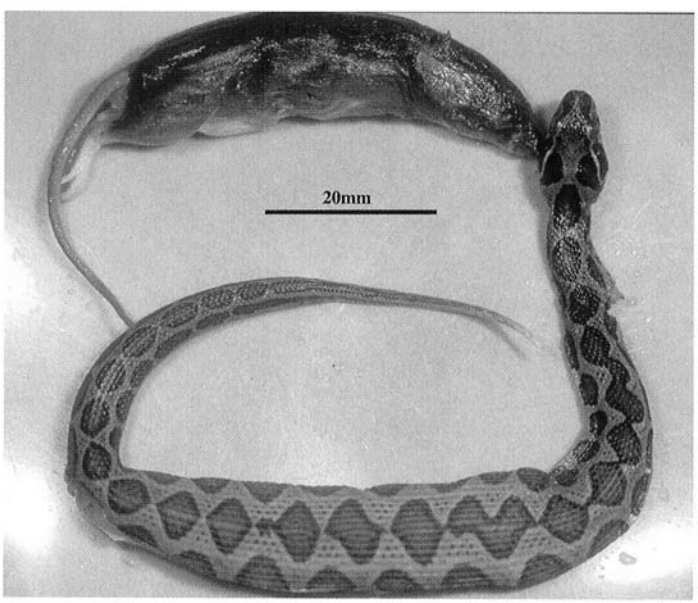

FIG. 1. A juvenile *Daboia russelii russelii* and the prey item (*Mus musculus*) it consumed; the relative predator/prey mass of this food item was 0.64.

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DIADOPHIS PUNCTATUS (Ring-necked Snake). **ENDOPARASITES.** Twenty-four *Diadophis punctatus* (Colubridae) from the herpetology collection of the University of Arizona (UAZ; all specimens from Arizona, USA) were examined for endoparasites. A mid-ventral incision was made in the body wall and organ surfaces and mesenteries in the posterior portion of the body cavity were visually checked for helminths. Three *D. punctatus* contained oblong whitish bodies measuring ca. 1 x 3 mm; upon microscopic examination they were proved to be larvae (cystacanths) of Spiny-headed Worms (Acanthocephala, Oligacanthorhynchidae) (UAZ 36293, Santa Cruz County) (N = 5), (UAZ 36293, Pinal County) (N = 6), and (UAZ 37837, Santa Cruz County) (N = 1). Prevalence of infection (infected snake/sample examined x 100) was 13%. The helminths were deposited in the United States National Parasite Collection. Beltsville, Maryland (USNPC 92282).

The occurence of oligacanthorhynchid cystacanths in North American reptiles is summarized by Bolette (1997. Southwest. Nat. 42:232–236), who states that snakes are paratenic (transport) hosts. Additional cystacanths of rattlesnakes were listed by Goldberg and Bursey (1999. Herpetol. Rev. 30:44-45; 2000. Herpetol. Rev. 31:104). Only one other colubrid snake species, *Rhinocheilus lecontei* from Arizona, has been reported to harbor cystacanths (Goldberg et al. 1998. J. Helminthol. Soc. Washington 65:262–285). *Diadophis punctatus* represents a new host record for oligacanthorhynchid cystacanths.

We thank George Bradley (University of Arizona) for permission to examine *D. punctatus*.

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