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The HAA is dedicated to the study and conservation of African reptiles and amphibians. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in the African herpetofauna. Members receive the Association's journal, *African Journal of Herpetology*, which publishes review papers, research articles, short communications and book reviews – subject to peer review) and *African Herp News*, the Newsletter (which includes short communications, life history notes, geographical distribution notes, herpetological survey reports, venom and snakebite notes, short book reviews, bibliographies, husbandry hints, announcements and news items).

NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S NOTE

Articles shall be considered for publication provided that they are original and have not been published elsewhere. Articles will be submitted for peer review at the Editor's discretion. Authors are requested to submit long manuscripts by e-mail or on disc in Word 6.0 or 7.0, or Windows XP format. Shorter articles may be submitted may be submitted as typescripts.

The views and opinions expressed in articles are not necessarily those of the Editor.

Articles and news items appearing in *African Herp News* may be reprinted, provided that the author's name and full Newsletter reference are given.

COVER PHOTO

Clicking Stream Frog, *Strongylopus g. grayii* (Smith, 1849). Photo: Warren Schmidt

EDITORIAL

This issue introduces some changes to the general format of the Newsletter, mostly of a minor nature but which will, I hope, enhance its overall appearance. Some amendments have been made to the Instructions to Authors, and contributors are requested to follow these in order to facilitate production of the Newsletter. Following a decision made at the General Meeting of the Association, held after the Eighth H.A.A. Symposium in Potchefstroom last year, a new membership fee structure was adopted and members are urged to consult this carefully – full details are on the inside back cover. I hope to bring out a third issue of the Newsletter in November or December of this year, and encourage you to send more contributions – this issue speaks for itself with respect to the fine work being done by members!

In the article by Vincent Egan entitled "*Chiromantis xerampelina*: Nesting behaviour", the frogs were taking refuge in birds' nests, not nesting in them. The article should have been entitled "*Chiromantis xerampelina*: Refuge site selection".

Angelo Lambiris

Boulenger's Skink, *Trachylepis boulengeri* (Sternfeld, 1911) Photo: Bart Wursten

African Herp News No. 42, pp 2-8, April 2007

ULTRAMICROSCOPIC STRUCTURE OF THE FEET OF MOREAU'S TROPICAL HOUSE GECKO, *HEMIDACTYLUS MABOUIA*

Vijay H. BANDU[1] and Colleen T. DOWNS[2]*

[1]Centre for Electron Microscopy and [2]School of Biological and Conservation Sciences, University of KwaZulu-Natal, P/Bag X01, Scottsville, Pietermaritzburg, 3209, South Africa. E-mail:downs@ukzn.ac.za.

*Correspondence: Prof C. T. Downs, School of Biological and Conservation Sciences, University of KwaZulu-Natal, P/Bag X01, Scottsville, Pietermaritzburg 3209, South Africa. Tel: +27-33 – 2605127; Fax: +27-33-2605105

ABSTRACT

The ability of geckos to move up and down walls is a consequence of the structure and function of their feet. The mechanism that underlies the gecko feet's ability to adhere and separate from a range of surfaces is based on the physical principle of weak van der Waal's forces. Despite the description of most gecko feet on a macro scale, few have been described at scanning electron microscopic scale where the nanometre size range of gecko spatula is necessary to understand how the van der Waal's forces may act. The morphology of the feet of the Moreau's Tropical House Gecko, *Hemidactylus mabouia,* was investigated using scanning electron microscopy and the size of the spatulae determined. Number of spatulae per seta was less than 50, lower than numbers reported for other species of gecko. In addition the diameter of spatulae of *H. mabouia* was smaller, only 150-180nm across, than those of other geckos.

INTRODUCTION

Geckos (Family Gekkonidae, Subfamily Gekkoninae) are distributed worldwide though more numerous in the tropical regions and include about 930 species (Halliday & Adler 2002). For millennia the ability of geckos to move rapidly up walls, upside-down on ceilings and over slippery surfaces has fascinated people (Autumn & Peattie, 2002; Russell, 2002). This ability is a consequence of the structure and function of their feet (Russell, 2002). The mechanism of dry adhesion by

gecko feet has been the focus of studies for over a century (Autumn & Peattie, 2002; Autumn *et al.*, 2002). Recent evidence has explained that the mechanism that underlies the gecko feet's ability to adhere and separate from a range of surfaces is based on the physical principle of weak van der Waal's forces (Hille, 1968; Autumn *et al.*, 2000, 2002; Jagota & Bennison, 2002). For this mechanism to occur geckos require a microscopic fibrillated interface for contact and adhesion (Jagota & Bennison, 2002). Macroscopic morphology of the feet of most gecko species has been described (Ruibal & Ernst 1965; Branch, 1998). Toe tips of many gecko species have groups of unique scales known as scansors, or lamellae; their arrangement and number is of systematic importance (Röll, 1995; Branch, 1998; Autumn & Peattie, 2002). Gecko scansors have numerous epidermally derived, keratinous microscopic hairs known as setae (30-130 micrometers long) (Russell, 1975; Schleich & Kästle, 1968; Autumn *et al.*, 2000; Autumn & Peattie, 2002; Gao *et al.*, 2005). Each seta usually consists of a columnar section with the end tip branching into 100-1000 structures called spatulae (200-500nm in size) (Ruibal & Ernest, 1965; Williams & Peterson, 1982; Autumn *et al.*, 2000; Gao *et al.*, 2005). It appears that the nanometre size range of gecko spatula may have evolved to optimise the adhesive strength and maximum tolerance of imperfect adhesion (Gao *et al.*, 2005). Furthermore, the asymmetrical structure of gecko's setae may allow robust attachment and easy detachment (Gao *et al.*, 2005). Few gecko feet have been described at scanning electron microscopic scale (Stewart & Daniel, 1972; Russell, 1975; Röll, 1995). Most information on gecko feet at this micro-scale has focussed on the Tokay Gecko *Gekko gecko* (Autumn & Peattie, 2002); descriptions and measurements of the structure of setae and spatulae of African gecko species are few. Schleich & Kästle (1986) described the setal size and number of some species. Consequently, the morphology of the feet of the Moreau's Tropical House Gecko, *Hemidactylus mabouia,* was investigated using scanning electron microscopy and the size of the spatulae determined. *Hemidactylus mabouia* is an arboreal, nocturnal, medium-sized gecko (66-68mm long) (Branch 1998). In Africa, they occur in a wide range of habitats in east and southern Africa (Branch 1998). It was hypothesised that the ultrastructure of feet, in particular the spatulae size, would be similar to those of other geckos generally.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Five *Hemidacylus mabouia* were collected in Pietermaritzburg, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa (30°24'S, 29°24'E). They were euthanased, sealed in a plastic bag and frozen until analysis. They were weighed, measured and sexed before their feet were removed. Air-dried feet were examined using a Philips XL30 environmental scanning electron microscope (ESEM). This was used in high vacuum and low vac-

uum mode. Charging occurred under high vacuum, on some of the sputter-coated samples, especially when trying to obtain highly magnified images. In these cases, low vacuum SEM, using a large field detector (LFD), was the most successful in obtaining high magnification, artifact-free images of the gecko's spatulae for photography and measurement.

RESULTS

Body measurements and masses together with number of scansors per foot are shown in Table 1. Although the individuals differed in size (Table 1) the structure of feet of each were similar. It was found that each foot of *H. mabouia* had toe-tips that were flared with strong retractile claws (Fig. 1). The sole of each foot was covered by scansors with a total of 55-67 scansors per foot (Table 1). These scansors were arranged in pairs (usually seven) on each digit (Fig. 2). The scansors had microscopic setae arranged across them (Fig. 3). Each gecko had a large number of setae on each foot (more than 1000 per scansor). Each seta consisted of a columnar section (4µm wide) with the end branching into an array of spatulae. Spatulae at the end of a seta measured 150-180 nm across (Fig. 4). The number of spatulae per seta was less than 50. Each foot of *H. mabouia* was estimated to have about two million spatulae.

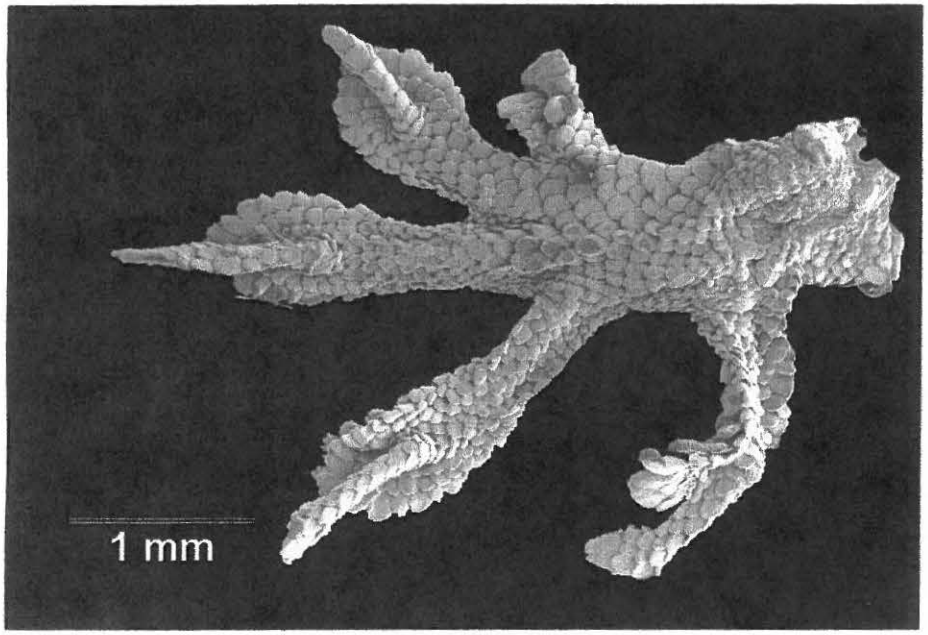

Fig. 1. Dorsal view of a foot of *Hemidactylus mabouia.*

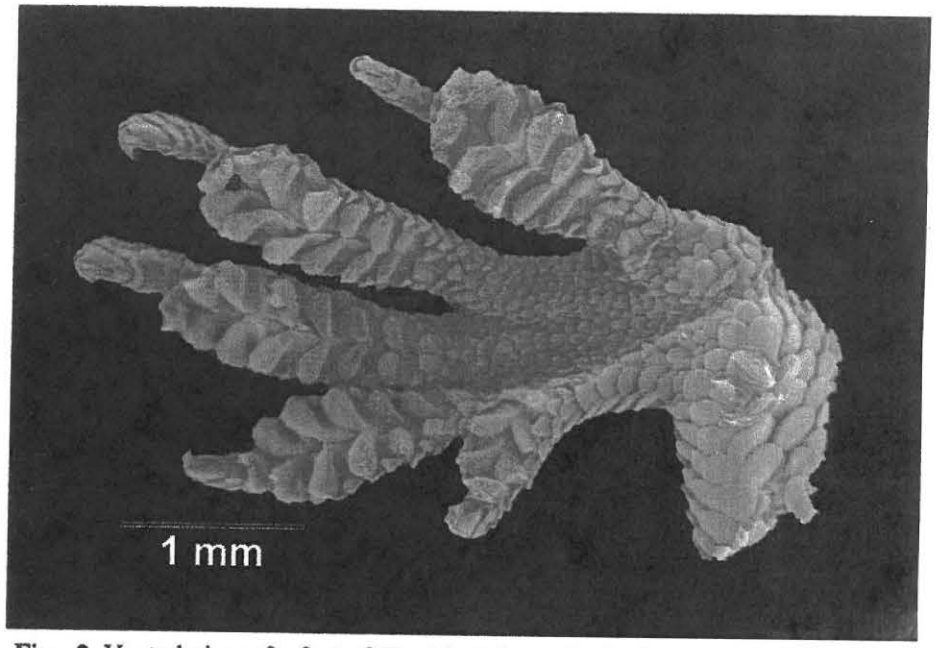

Fig. 2. Ventral view of a foot of *Hemidactylus mabouia* showing pairs of scansors along the digits.

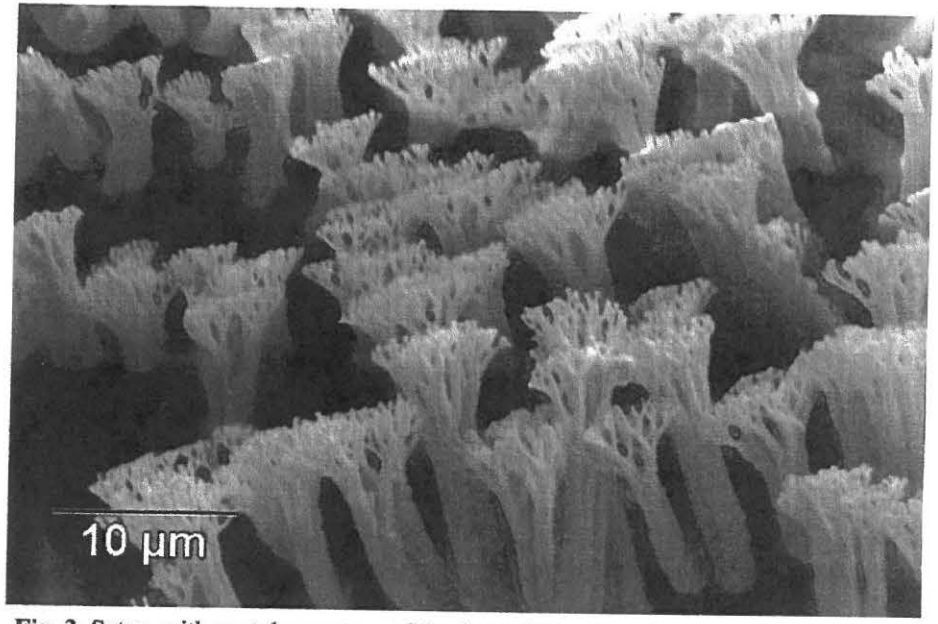

Fig. 3. Setae, with spatulae on top, of the foot of *Hemidactylus mabouia.*

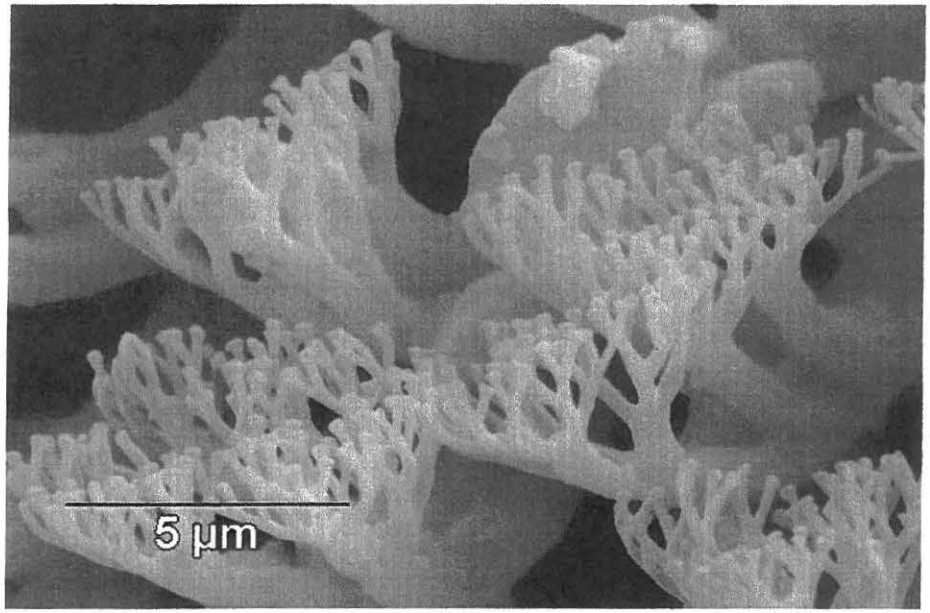

Fig. 4. Details of spatulae of *Hemidactylus mabouia.*

Table 1. Body mass, measurements and total number of scansors per foot of the *Hemidactylus mabouia* examined.

Individual	Body mass (g)	Head Body length (mm)	Front left scansors	Front right scansors	Back left scansors	Back right scansors
1	6.22	66	66	66	67	67
2	2.45	51	58	58	58	59
3	0.41	22	55	55	55	56
4	4.10	55	61	60	58	59
5	0.40	27	55	55	55	55
Mean ± SE	2.72 ± 1.12	44.2 ± 8.5	59.0 ± 2.1	58.8 ± 2.0	58.6 ± 2.2	59.2 ± 2.1

Table 2. Comparison of seta length and diameter, spatulae diameter and number of spatulae per seta for some gecko species.

Species	Seta length (µm)	Seta diameter (µm)	Spatula cone diameter (nm)	Number of spatulae per seta	Reference
Sphaerodactylus cinerus	85		340	76-80	Röll (1995)
Gekko gecko	72		392		Russell (1975)
	100	5	200	100-1000	Autumn & Petrie 2002
Hemidactylus mabouia		4	150-180	<50	Present study

DISCUSSION

The morphology of feet of *Hemidactylus mabouia* showed detailed structures for assisting with locomotion. Results obtained agree with Branch (1998). Number of spatulae per seta was lower than numbers reported for other species of gecko where ends are clumped in 76-1000 spatulae per seta (Ruibal & Ernest 1965; Röll 1975; Russell 1975; Table 2). In addition the diameter of spatulae of *H. mabouia* were smaller, only 150-180nm across, than those of other geckos (Ruibal & Ernest 1965; Röll 1975; Russell 1975). It is expected that the microscopic spatulae on the feet of *H. mabouia* produce a strong adhesive force, as shown in *Gekko gecko,* when their spatulae come in contact with a surface.

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EIGHTH H.A.A. SYMPOSIUM DELEGATES, 2006 Photo: Warren Schmidt

African Herp News No. 42, pp 9—16, APRIL 2007

THE EIGHTH HERPETOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF AFRICA SYMPOSIUM

Warren SCHMIDT

Postnet Suite 101, Private Bag X01, East Rand, 1462.
E-mail: warren@wordlink.co.za

The Eighth Herpetological Association of Africa Symposium was held at the North-West University, Potchefstroom, from 24-27 November 2006. It proved to be a roaring success, with a turnout exceeding that of any previous HAA symposium.

Herpetologists, conservationists and students from around Africa and further abroad streamed into the quite North-West town of Potchefstroom, where 53 papers and 16 posters were presented, covering morphology, systematics, phylogeography, parasites and conservation.

A taxonomy workshop, hosted by Aaron Bauer of Villanova University and Bill Branch from Bayworld (Port Elizabeth) Museum, was held on the day preceding the main symposium. Insightful information was passed on to attending delegates, with Aaron discussing classical taxonomy right through to modern DNA sampling to clarify species boundaries.

Aaron Bauer was one of the keynote speakers at the symposium, along with Miguel Vences of the Technical University of Braunschweig in Germany.

Louis du Preez and his team at North-West University did a sterling job of organising delegates during the conference and keeping them entertained after presentations. An ice-breaker was held at the Astro Village lapa on Friday evening and on Saturday afternoon delegates were transported to the Vredefort Dome, where, as herpetologist are inclined to do when released into a wilderness area, many simply basked in the late afternoon sun, whilst others sought retreats down by the river. Later in the evening, several brave delegates indulged in a mampoer tasting session.

The banquet dinner was held on Sunday evening, where delegates had the pleasure of watching film stars in the making – Marius Burger and Graham Alexander, promoting the South African Reptile Conservation Assessment on the environmental television programme 50/50.

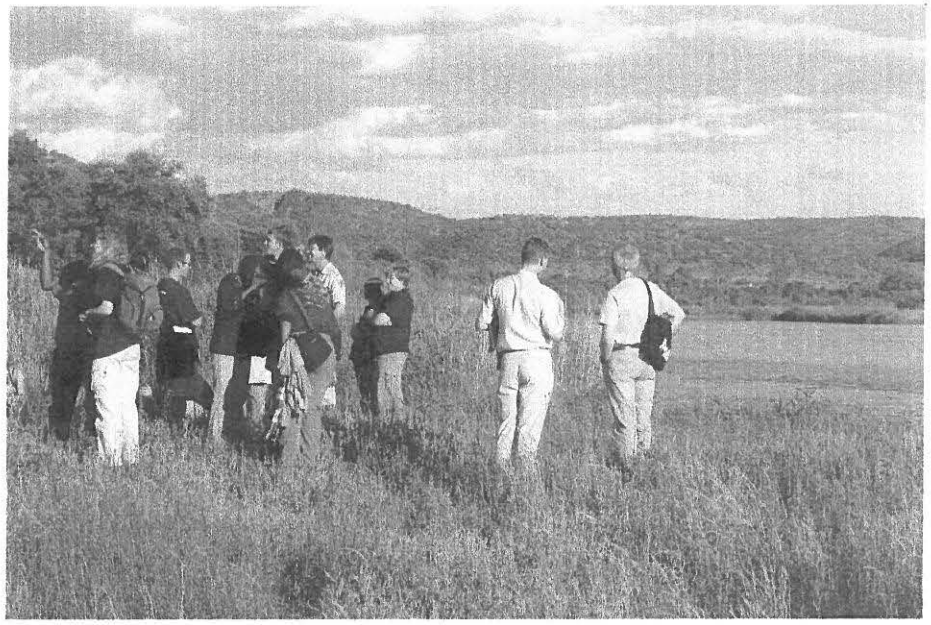
The symposium was concluded on Monday, with the AGM and student awards being presented. HAA Chairman Michael Bates and Treasurer Johan Marais handed out the awards. The award for the best student oral presentation went to Courtney Cook for her paper on Haemosporida infecting South African tortoises. Andrew

Turner received an award as runner up for the oral presentations, and Kevin Hopkins an award for the best poster presentation.

Graham Alexander received a certificate for his loyal service as previous editor of the *African Journal of Herpetology*.

I have no doubt that delegates will be waiting in anticipation for the Ninth Herpetological Association of Africa Symposium.

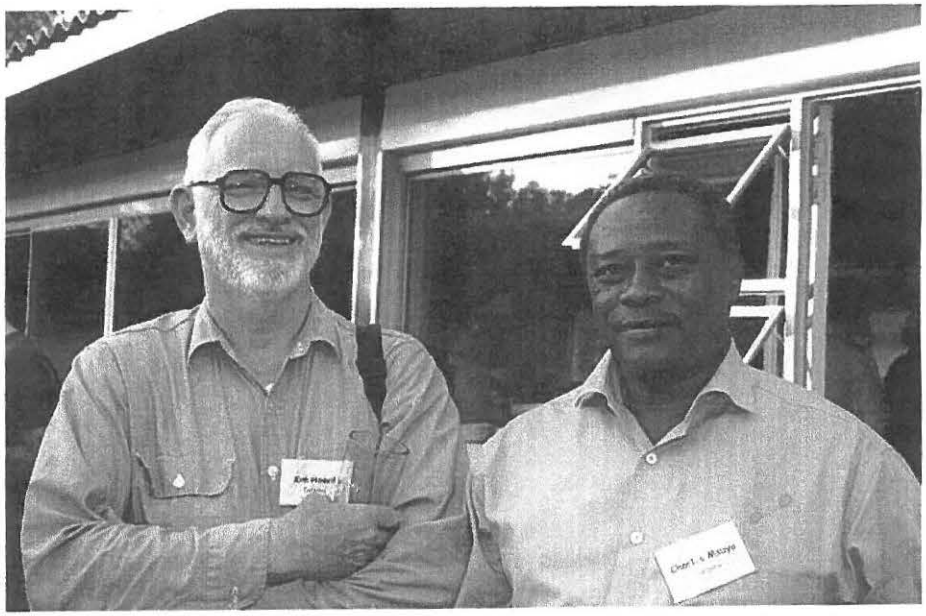
If any members would like to receive a disc containing photographs taken during the symposium, they can email Warren Schmidt at warren@wordlink.co.za or phone: 082-549-7630.



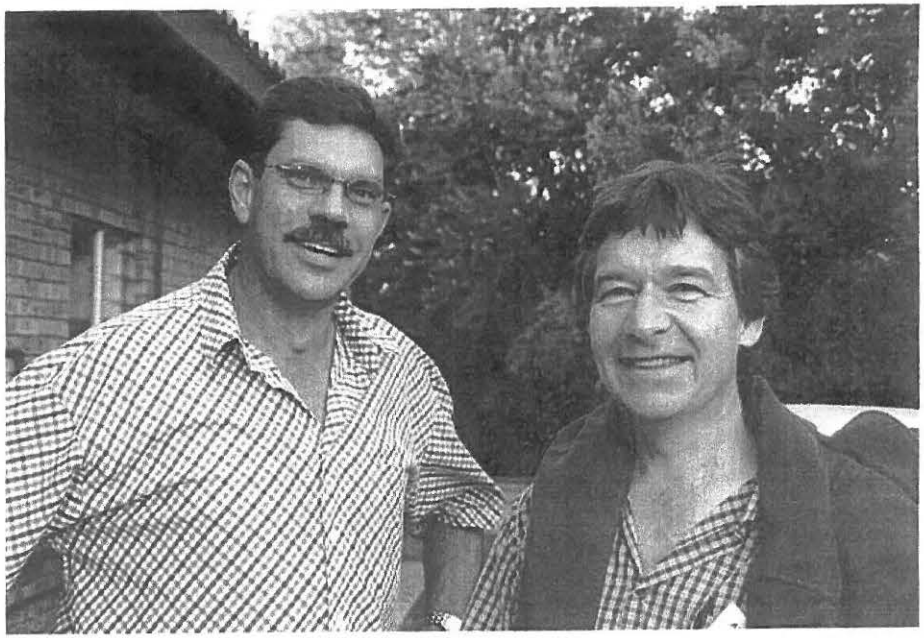
Field trip in the Vredefort Dome. Photo: Warren Schmidt.

Aaron Bauer and Bill Branch. Photo: Warren Schmidt

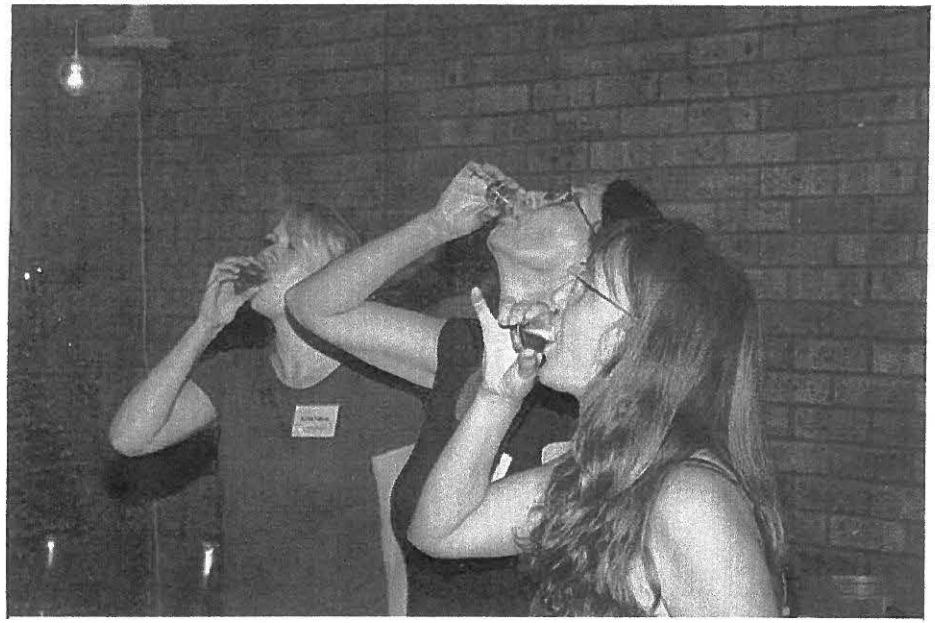
Suzanne McConnachie, Kirsten Wimberger and Sarah Greene.
Photo: Warren Schmidt.



Kim Howell and Charles Msuya of the University of Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania.
Photo: Warren Schmidt

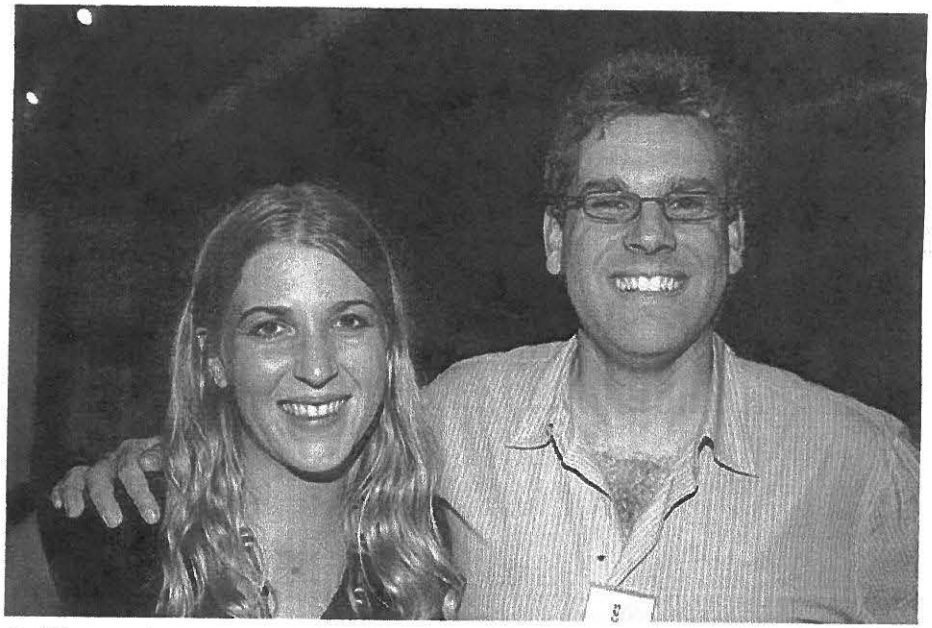


Ernst Baard and Atherton de Villiers, CapeNature. Photo: Warren Schmidt

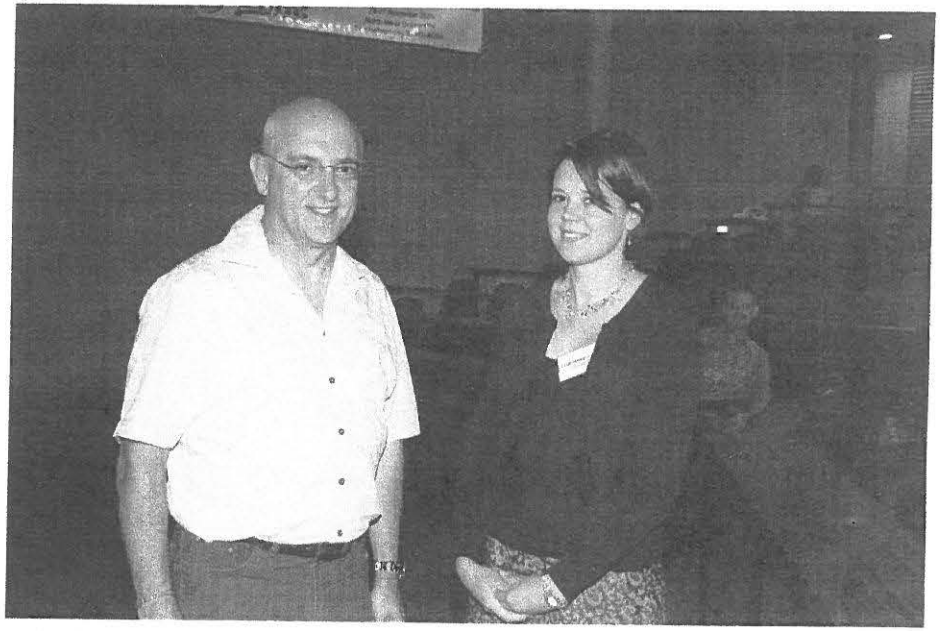


Mampoer for the ladies! Photo: Warren Schmidt

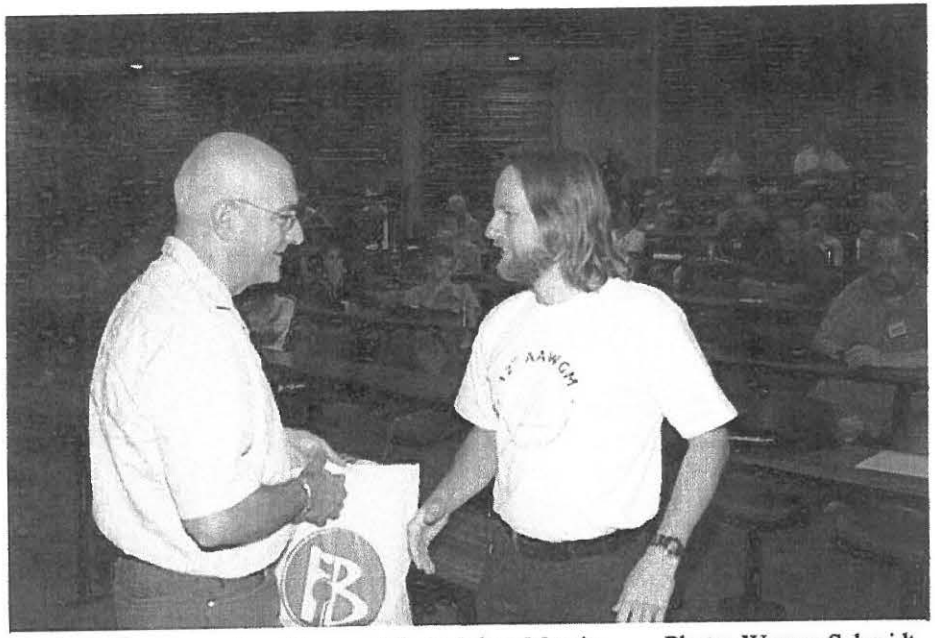
James Harrison, Andrew Turner and Atherton de Villiers. Photo: Warren Schmidt



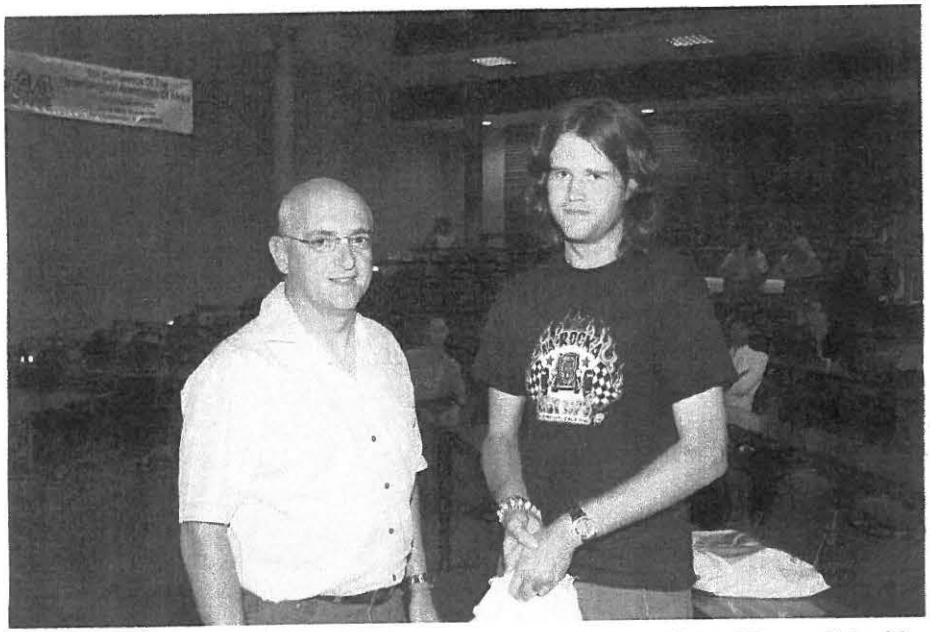
Bullfrog tracker Caroline Yetman with Miguel Vences. Photo: Warren Schmidt



Johan Marais with prize-winner Courtney Cook. Photo: Warren Schmidt



Andrew Turner receives his award from Johan Marais. Photo: Warren Schmidt



Prize-winner Kevin Hopkins and Johan Marais. Photo: Warren Schmidt

NATURAL HISTORY NOTES

REPTILIA: SQUAMATA; SAURIA

VARANIDAE

***Varanus albigularis* (Daudin, 1802)**
Rock Monitor

HIBERNATION

On the 1st June 2005 we were called to Sammy Marks Museum situated on Zwartkoppies Farm, 26km east of Pretoria, South Africa (Gauteng Province; 2528CD; 25°46'00"S, 28°22'59"E), to remove a live adult Rock Monitor, *Varanus albigularis*, from the premises. On arrival, we found the lizard placed in the rubbish bin and were informed by the workers that the lizard had been found in a semi-dormant state, sheltering between the roof and the ceiling of a room that was being renovated. There was a single tree next to the room with branches touching the roof, a means through which the lizard could have climbed to the top. A suitable natural place with rocky outcrops was available approximately 3 km away where the lizard could have sheltered, and the reasons for using human habitation instead are not known but may be attributed to added safety from predators.

Sheltering in roofs seems to be common in Rock Monitors. When they are active, the disturbances they cause often catch the attention of house owners. However, their tendency of using such places for hibernation seem to pass unnoticed by many people and appears to have been infrequently reported in the literature; this may be attributed to the fact that during hibernation these lizards remain silent and cause little disturbance.

The lizard was released at the rocky place mentioned above, closer to where some workers claimed to have spotted Rock Monitors before.

I would like to thank the Sammy Marks Museum staff for calling us, and Jan Legwai for helping in the handling and translocation of the lizard.

Submitted by
LEMMY MASHININI, Transvaal Museum, P. O. Box 413, Pretoria, 0001. E-mail: lemmy@nfi.co.za.

REPTILIA: SQUAMATA; SERPENTES

COLUBRIDAE

***Pseudaspis cana* (Linnaeus, 1754)**
Mole Snake

MAXIMUM SIZE

On 28 October 2006, I was called out to remove a snake from the premises of an auto carrier company in Bellville South, Cape Town (South Africa; Western Cape; 3318DC; 33°55'40"S, 18°38'59"E). On inspection, a large Mole Snake (*Pseudaspis cana*) was found curled up under a vehicle.

After capture, the sex of the snake was determined as female by a subcaudal scale count of 54 scales as well as by cloacal probing, which confirmed it as a female. Broadley (1990: *FitzSimons' Snakes of Southern Africa.* Jonathan Ball and Donker Publishers, Parklands) gives male subcaudal counts as 55-70, and female counts as 44-57).

The total length (TL) and snout-vent length (SVL) of the snake were measured by placing a piece of string along its body along the midline from the tip of the snout to the tip of the tail, and from the snout to the vent, respectively, and then measuring the string with a tape measure. The average of three measurements was taken because of general movements of the snake. We here record the TL of this specimen as being approximately 2131 mm, and the SVL as 1820 mm. Table 1 indicates the respective measurements.

	TL mm	SVL mm
Measurement 1	2131	1820
Measurement 2	2129	1819
Measurement 3	2132	1820
Average	**2131**	**1820**

Table 1: Measurements (mm) of a female Mole Snake, *Pseudaspis cana*

FitzSimons (1974) indicates that Mole Snakes from the Western Cape are known to "attain a maximum length of just over" 2000 mm in TL, but average at approximately 1800 mm. Broadley (1990) records maximum (female) Mole Snake TL and SVL as 1520 mm and 1280 respectively. Branch (1998) records the maximum female Mole Snake SVL as 1280 mm, and the maximum Mole Snake TL in the South Western Cape as up to 2000 mm. Marais (2004) indicates that Mole Snakes reach a maximum size of 2000 mm.

This record of a female Mole Snake's TL of 2131mm and SVL of 1820mm respectively therefore exceeds the previously published maximum measurements for the species.

The snake was collected under CapeNature catch-and-release permit no. AAA004-00014, and she was released in a safe, natural environment shortly after capture. This record was submitted to the South African Reptile Conservation Assessment project (Record No. 001818).

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Pierre Joubert, who was involved with the collection of the snake; Georgene Witberg and Pierre Joubert, who assisted with taking the measurements; Dr Ernst Baard of CapeNature; and Dr. Tony Phelps of the Cape Reptile Institute for comments on the format and contents of this note.

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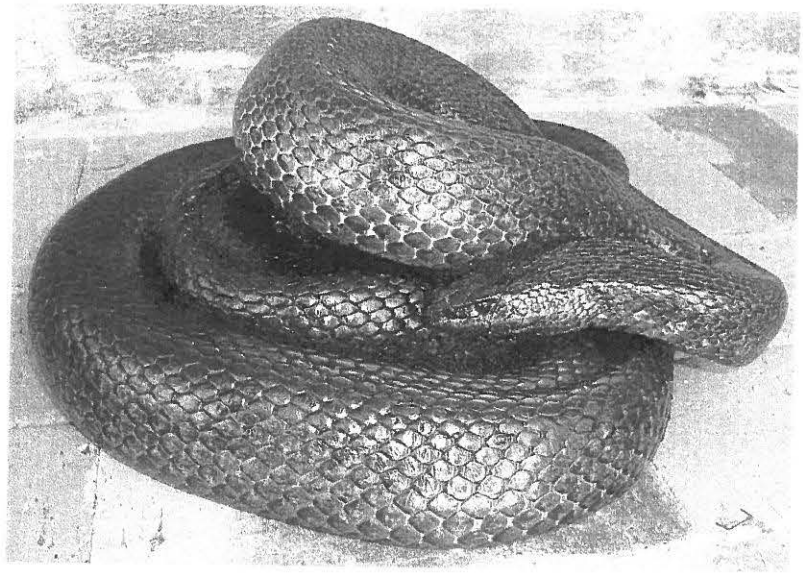
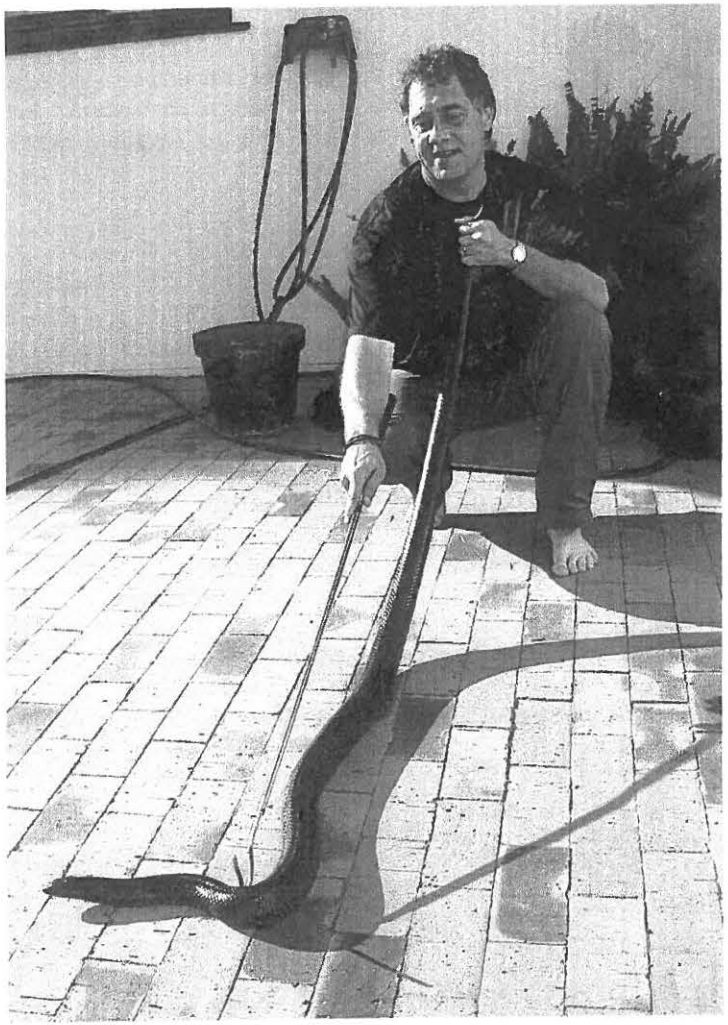
Submitted by

MARCEL WITBERG, 5 Marion Street, Stellenberg, Bellville, Cape Town, 7530, South Africa. E-mail: witbergm@absamail.co.za



Pseudaspis cana from Bellville, South Africa. Photo: Marcel Witberg



Pseudaspis cana from Bellville, South Africa. Photo submitted by Marcel Witberg.

ELAPIDAE

***Naja nivea* (Linnaeus, 1758)**
Cape Cobra

JUVENILE MARKINGS

On 8 November 2005, at about 15h00 on a perfect summer's day, I caught a cobra in Tamboerskloof, Cape Town, South Africa (Western Cape; 33°55'43"S, 18° 24'32"E). I was not sure, at first, due to the double dark bands, if the snake was a *Naja nivea*. It was confirmed as being a juvenile *Naja nivea* by Sean Thomas and Gary Montague-Fryer (SARCA record 999).

Branch (1988) mentions that juvenile *Naja nivea* have a single prominent black throat band, and Marais (2004) also mentions that the juveniles have a single broad dark band on the throat. In this instance, however, the snake had two prominent dark bands on the throat. It has also been noted that in some individuals the black band may extend the whole width of the hood, or that it may be indistinct or entirely absent (T. Phelps, *pers. obs*).

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Dr. Tony Phelps of the Cape Reptile Institute for scrutinising the format and content of this note. Thanks also to Sean Thomas and Gary Montague-Fryer for the confirmation of the identification of snake.

SARCA record number 999. Comment by Marius Burger: "The double barring is atypical" – www.saherps.net

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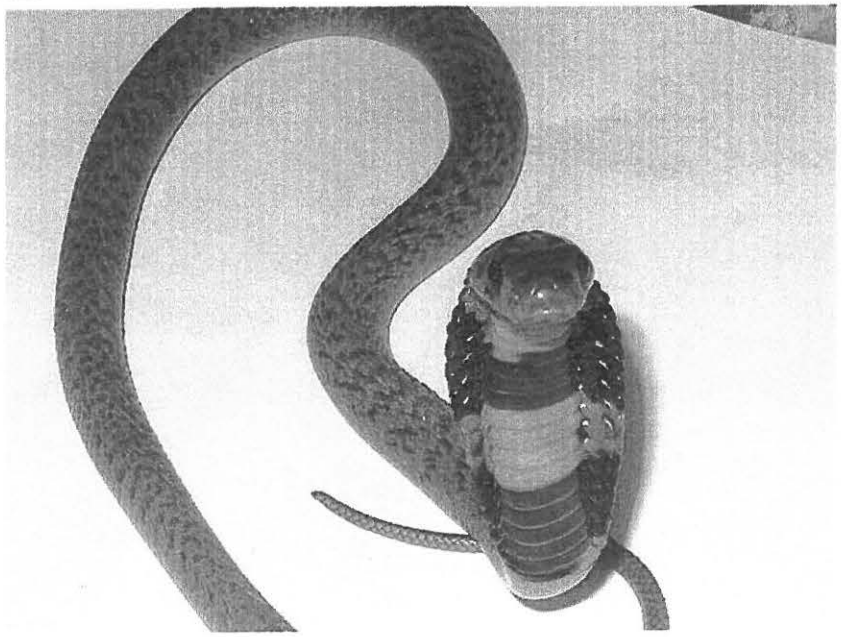
Submitted by

MARCEL WITBERG, 5 Marion Street, Stellenberg, Bellville, Cape Town, 7530, South Africa. E-mail: witbergm@absamail.co.za



Juvenile *Naja nivea* showing double throat bands. Photos: Marcel Witberg.

***Naja nivea* (Linnaeus, 1758)**
Cape Cobra

MAXIMUM SIZE

The Cape Cobra, *Naja nivea*, is usually described as a small to medium-sized cobra with males growing to a maximum SVL of 1510mm (Branch, 1998). The largest recorded known specimen was from Aus, and measured 1867mm TL (Marais, 2004). However, it has also been stated that this species can sometimes grow to two metres (Broadley, 1983).

On 5 November 2006, at around mid-day, I was called to a staff house at De-Hoop Nature Reserve (South Africa; Western Cape; 34°45'50"S, 20°41'06"E) where a large snake had been spotted entering a wall in the garden. Part of the wall had to be dismantled to reveal the snake and affect a safe capture. The cobra was a male and obviously large. It was restrained and placed in a container. Shortly afterwards the cobra was tubed and measured, and other data recorded as follows:

SVL 1921mm, TL 2313mm. (This represents mean values of five measurements taken and is thought to be accurate within ±20mm.) The mid-body girth was 280mm, and the snake weighed 1.8kg. Mid-body dorsal scale rows 21; ventrals 232; subcaudals 74. The colour of this male was golden brown with some dark speckling on the foreparts, particularly on the rear of the hood. Several wounds were also noted; but these were old and well healed; and perhaps the result of an encounter with a predator, or another conspecific!

Other large Cape Cobras have been recorded at DeHoop and in the general area. A male DOR at Ouplas measured 1850 TL; and another male caught by the offices at DeHoop in September 2004 measured 1860mm TL. More recently, a large pale speckled male was taken from a garden at DeRust in the Little Karoo, and measured 1720mm TL.

Acknowledgements

My thanks to Peter Chadwick and the staff at DeHoop Nature Reserve.

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Submitted by

TONY PHELPS, Cape Reptile Institute, P O Box 1221, Oudtshoorn 6620, South Africa. E-mail: adderwatch@telkomsa.net

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

REPTILIA: SQUAMATA; SAURIA

GEKKONIDAE

***Pachydactylus waterbergensis* Bauer & Lamb, 2003**
Waterberg Thick-toed Gecko

On 13 September 2006 three specimens (Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, MCZ R-184743–44, 184751) of *Pachydactylus waterbergensis* were collected on Farm Okosongomingo, Otjiwarongo District, Otjozondjupa Region, Namibia (20°38'48"S, 17°06'07"E). All were collected at night (between 20h00–23h00) on sandstone cliffs and boulders on the north face of the Klein Waterberg at an elevation of approximately 1750–1800 m. Although only 28 km southwest of the nearest known locality at Farm Waterberg (20°30'24"S, 17°14'52") (Bauer & Lamb 2003; Bauer *et al.* 2006), this locality is the first on the Klein Waterberg. All previous known specimens had been collected on the main Waterberg Plateau. At their closest points the two massifs are separated by a 4 km lowland gap (<1500 m elevation) which lacks suitable habitat for this rupicolous form. The new population falls outside the Waterberg Plateau Park, but does lie in the Waterberg Conservancy, thus affording it some measure of protection.

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BAUER, A.M., LAMB, T., & BRANCH, W.R. 2006. A revision of the *Pachydactylus serval* and *P. weberi* groups (Reptilia: Squamata: Gekkonidae) of Southern Africa, with the description of eight new species. *Proc. Calif. Acad. Sci,*, **57**: 595–709.

Submitted by

A. M. BAUER, T.R. JACKMAN, Department of Biology, Villanova University, 800 Lancaster Avenue, Villanova, Pennsylvania 19085, USA. E-mail: aaron.bauer@villanova.edu, todd.jackman@villanova.edu; **W. R. BRANCH,** Department of Herpetology, Bayworld (Port Elizabeth Museum), P.O. Box 13147, Humewood 6013, South Africa. E-mail: wrbranch@bayworld.co.za); and **J. MARAIS,** School of Animal, Plant and Environmental Sciences, University of Witwatersrand, Private Bag 3, WITS, 2050, South Africa. E-mail: johan@fascinationbooks.co.za.

LACERTIDAE

***Holaspis laevis* Werner 1895**
Eastern Blue-tailed Tree Lizard

Zimbabwe, Manicaland, Chimanimani District, 20° 01' S, 33° 01' E (2033A1); west bank of the Haroni River, adjacent to the Chimanimani National Park altitude ca. 330m a.s.l.; 18 February 2007.

It washotographed by Bart Wursten on the trunk of a large tree (*Breonadia salicina*) before it disappeared round the back of the tree and ran up.

This is the first record of the species from Zimbabwe and represents a range extension of 200 km west-south-west from Dondo Forest just north of Beira, Mozambique, where it was common both in forest and the adjacent miombo woodland. *Holaspis laevis* was recognized as a good evolutionary species by Broadley (2000).

Reference

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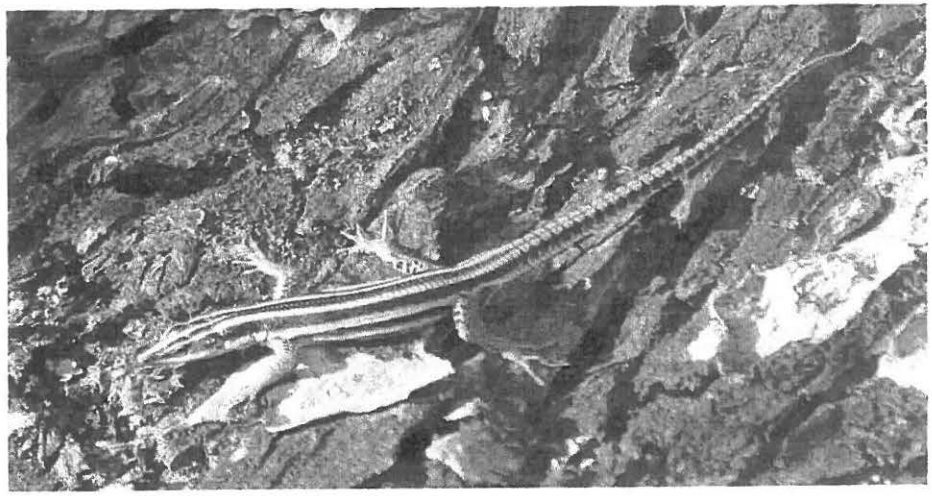
Submitted by:

DONALD G. BROADLEY, Biodiversity Foundation of Africa, P.O. Box FM 730, Famona, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. E-mail: broadley@gatorzw.com & **BART WURSTEN**, Ndundu Lodge, P.O. Box 3332, Paulington, Mutare, Zimbabwe. E-mail: ndundu@zol.co.zw



Holaspis laevis, Haroni River adjacent to the Chimanimani National Park.
Photo: Bart Wursten

REPTILIA: SQUAMATA; SERPENTES

COLUBRIDAE

***Hemirhagerrhis viperina* (Bocage, 1873)**
Viperine Rock Snake

On 14 September 2006 the authors received from Mr. Piet Basson a small collection of reptiles he had made over a period of many years. Although these were without specific locality or date of collection, they were found within the confines of the Farm Varianto (farmhouse location: 19°23'06"S, 17°43'38"E, 1530 m), Tsumeb District, Oshikoto Region, Namibia. Among the snakes was a single *Hemirhagerrhis viperina* (Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, MCZ R-18745). All but two of the previously reported records of this species are west of 16E°. One of these is an old record from Gobabis (Sternfeld 1910), but we suspect that this record may be in error as other specimens from Gobabis reported on by Sternfeld are doubtful (Bauer *et al.*, 2006). The nearest reported records to Farm Varianto are 62.1 km ESE Kamanjab (1915CD) and Farm Lichtenau (2016CC) (Broadley 1997), approximately 255 and 240 airline km distant, respectively.

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BAUER, A.M., LAMB, T., & BRANCH, W.R., 2006. A revision of the *Pachydactylus serval* and *P. weberi* groups (Reptilia: Squamata: Gekkonidae) of Southern Africa, with the description of eight new species. *Proc. Cal. Acad. Sci.* **57**: 595–709.

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Submitted by

A. M. BAUER, T.R. JACKMAN, Department of Biology, Villanova University, 800 Lancaster Avenue, Villanova, Pennsylvania 19085, USA. E-mail: aaron.bauer@villanova.edu, todd.jackman@villanova.edu; **W. R. BRANCH,** Department of Herpetology, Bayworld (Port Elizabeth Museum), P.O. Box 13147, Humewood 6013, South Africa. E-mail: wrbranch@bayworld.co.za); and **J. MARAIS,** School of Animal, Plant and Environmental Sciences, University of Witwatersrand, Private Bag 3, WITS, 2050, South Africa. E-mail: johan@fascinationbooks.co.za.

EIGHTH H.A.A. SYMPOSIUM: MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

Venue: University of the North-West, Potchefstroom, Free State, South Africa.
Date: 26 November 2006

WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed all members.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING

The Chairman read the report from the previous General Meeting held at Bay World in Port Elizabeth in 2004.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 2004 MEETING

1. During the last General Meeting the issue of overseas members serving on the H.A.A. committee was raised, as was the issue of voting rights for overseas members. Frank Farquharson was tasked to look into this matter. He recently reported back to me that according to the Association's Constitution there is nothing preventing overseas members serving on the committee, either as co-opted committee members without voting rights, or as full committee members with full voting rights. However, according to our Constitution, only African members of the Association may vote in committee elections. However, I now invite discussion on this matter.

2. At the last General Meeting it was suggested that page charges of R100 per page be instituted for non-members. However, this was subsequently increased and in Volume 54, Part 1, it was stated that page charges would be R200 per page for non-members. Alex Flemming noted that the old Instructions to Authors were still being used on the H.A.A. website until they were updated in mid-2006.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Earlier this year the H.A.A. held elections for a new committee. The new committee was constituted in April 2006 and consists of the following members: Myself as chairman, Mandi Alblas as Secretary and Treasurer, Alex Flemming as Journal Editor, Krystal Tolley as Associate Journal Editor, Angelo Lambiris as Newsletter Editor, Bill Branch as Chairman of the Editorial Committee, Ernst Baard as Nature Conservation Representative, Martin Whiting as Website Manager, and Louis du Preez as Public Relations Officer and Symposium Organiser. Because of a tie in votes for the fourth Additional Committee Member position, it was decided to make all five candidates committee members. However, because Mandi Alblas was nominated to and accepted the positions of both Secretary and Treasurer, the committee

does not exceed nine members, and its composition therefore does not violate paragraph 9.1 of the Association's constitution. At this point I would like to express the Association's gratitude to Atherton de Villiers for fulfilling the rôle of Electoral Officer. Personally, I would like to thank all committee members for their willingness to serve on the committee.

Because of their widespread geographical distribution, communication between committee members usually takes place by e-mail.

As an organization I think that we can be proud of the high quality and regular appearance of our journal and newsletter. We can also be proud of the high quality H.A.A. symposia that have been organized over the past 20 years. The first full-scale H.A.A. symposium, presented over three days, was held at the University of Stellenbosch in 1987 and was attended by about 70 delegates. In 1991 the symposium was held at the National Museum in Bloemfontein, in 1993 it was held at the Transvaal Museum in Pretoria, in 1995 in St. Lucia, in 1998 and 2001 in Stellenbosch, and in 2004 at Bayworld in Port Elizabeth. I have been fortunate enough to attend all of these meetings and they were all well organized and thoroughly worthwhile.

On behalf of the Association, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Professor Louis du Preez, Dr. Che Weldon, and their team of able organizers for what has turned out to be not only a very well organized meeting but also the best attended HAA symposium to date. To my knowledge the only other herpetological meeting held in Africa that surpasses this in terms of attendance was last year's World Congress of Herpetology in Stellenbosch.

On behalf of the H.A.A., I would like to thank Johan Marais and Fascination Books for donating the Students Prizes.

I now wish to call upon Mandi Alblas to read her Secretary's and Treasurer's reports.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

As of the end of October 2006, the Association has a total membership of 333. Of these, 23 are new members (15 African and 8 overseas) who have joined this year. There were 10 members either suspended or resigned during 2006, and 83 members in arrears with their membership fees since December 2003. I will correspond with those in arrears to see if they would like to continue their membership, otherwise they will be transferred to the ex members list. Members who have not paid their fees will not receive the next Journal and Newsletter.

A breakdown of the African membership is as follows:

South Africa	159
Namibia	5
Tanzania	4
Kenya, Swaziland (each)	2

Cameroon, Botswana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Nigeria, Zimbabwe and Nigeria (each)	1

The overseas membership is as follows:

USA	71
Germany	21
UK	17
Australia	7
Netherlands, France (each)	6
Denmark, Italy (each)	4
Belgium, Sweden, Switzerland (each)	3
Canada, Czech Republic (each)	2
Austria, Japan, Finland, India (each)	1

Breck Bartholomew has hade payment from overseas considerably easier, and we should encourage as many overseas members as possible to use his services. The system is working well and could be used to encourage more overseas members to join.

Members should notify us of any changes of details such as e-mail or postal addresses.

Mandi Alblas (Secretary)

TREASURER'S REPORTS

The audits for the past three years have been completed and handed to the Chairman, Mike Bates, for scrutiny, signature and submission to the South African Revenue Services. This has taken very long and I am largely to blame. When I took over the duties of Treasurer I was not aware of the fact that the previous financial year had not been audited.

From these audits it is clear that our expenditure is far exceeding our income and even though there is no immediate crisis, we need to look to the future. Each Journal and Newsletter costs in the region of R30 000 to produce and mail, and that far exceeds our income.

The current system of offering a reduced rate for a three-year subscription worsens our financial position even further. In two of the past three years we had a large number of members paying three-year subscriptions. The end result of this is that firstly we have been discounting such subscriptions and secondly, there is no income from such members for the following two years.

Another factor that has affected us adversely over the past three or four years is the strengthening of the Rand against foreign currencies, especially the U.S. Dollar. A few years back we were getting over R10.00 for a Dollar but that dropped to well below R7.00 a Dollar.

The overseas payments to Breck Bartholomew work exceptionally well and save us a lot of money in bank charges. such charges often equate to R75.00 per foreign cheque deposited.

It is recommended that we immediately increase local and overseas membership subscriptions and continue to offer a three-year membership but without any discount.

Johan Marais (2003-2005)

HERPETOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF AFRICA
BALANCE SHEET at 29 February 2004

	2004 R	2003 R
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	105,49	77,125
Total assets	**105,49**	**77,125**
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Capital reserves		
Distributable reserve	96,572	68,267
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	8,857	8,858
Total equity and liabilities	**105,429**	**77,127**

HERPETOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF AFRICA
INCOME STATEMENT for the year ended 29 February 2004

	2004 R	2003 R
Gross revenue		
Sales	59,075	45,423
Other income	**6,904**	**5,396**
Interest received	5,241	5,396
Donation income	1,663	------
Total income	**65,979**	**50,819**
Expenditure	**37,674**	**50,286**
Accounting fees	------	2,000
Bank charges	23	1
General expenses	------	50
Motor vehicle expenses	------	1,660
Postage	204	6,990
Printing and stationery	37,447	39,465
Telephone and fax	------	------
Profit	28,305	533
Retained profit at beginning of year	68,267	67,734
Retained profit at end of year	**96,572**	**68,267**

Treasurer's notes to the financial statements of the Herpetological Association of Africa, 2003/2004

As the financial year of the Herpetological Association of Africa runs from 1 March to 28 (or 29) February of the following year, subscription payments may be somewhat confusing as they run from January to December.

For the period 1 March 2003 to 29 February 2004, money was received from a total number of 105 African members/institutions.

68 of these members/institutions paid their subs for 2003 while 11 paid late subs for 2001 and 14 paid late subs for 2002.

46 members paid in advance for 2004, 19 paid in advance for 2005 and 6 paid in advance for 2006. This will obviously have an impact on income in the years to follow.

With regard to overseas membership, money was received from 99 members/institutions. 67 of these paid for the year 2003 whereas four paid late subs for 2001 and 14 paid late subs for 2002.

59 members paid in advance for 2004, 38 paid in advance for 2005, 11 paid in advance for 2006 and two paid in advance for 2007. Again, the impact that arrears and advanced payments will have in the following years will affect the income of the H.A.A.

With the Rand quite weak against foreign currencies, the income from overseas membership is quite substantial.

Johan Marais (Treasurer, 2003 – 2004)

HERPETOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF AFRICA
BALANCE SHEET at 28 February 2005

	2005 R	2004 R
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	101,060	105,429
Total assets	**101,060**	**105,420**
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Capital reserves		
Distributable reserve	92,203	96,572
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	8,857	8,857
Total equity and liabilities	**101,060**	**105,429**

HERPETOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF AFRICA
INCOME STATEMENT for the year ended 28 February 2005

	2005 R	2004 R
Gross revenue		
Sales	25,720	59,075
Other income	**48,725**	**6,904**
Interest received	3,330	5,241
Conference income	43,395	------
Donation income	2,000	1,663
Total income	**74,445**	**65,979**
Expenditure	**78,814**	**37,674**
Bank charges	100	23
Conference fees	32,850	------
Postage	376	204
Printing and stationery	45,488	37,447
(Loss)/Profit	(4,369)	28,305
Retained profit at beginning of year	96,572	68,267
Retained profit at end of year	**92,203**	**96,572**

Treasurer's notes to the financial statements of the Herpetological Association of Africa 2004/2005

As the financial year of the Herpetological Association of Africa runs from 1 March to 28 (or 29) February of the following year, subscription payments may be somewhat confusing as they run from January to December.

For the period 1 March 2004 to 28 February 2005, money was received from a total number of 52 African members/institutions.

50 of these members/institutions paid their subs for 2004 while four paid late subs for 2002 and six paid late subs for 2003. This is 18 less payments from African members, bearing in mind that in 2003, 46 members had paid in advance for 2004.

Eight members paid in advance for 2005 and eight paid in advance for 2006.

With regards overseas membership, money was received from 29 members/institutions. 13 of these paid for the year 2004. This was 54 less than the previous year, bearing in mind that 59 members had paid in advance the previous year.

10 members paid in advance for 2005, nine paid in advance for 2006, 10 paid in advance for 2007 and 10 paid in advance for 2008. The impact that advance payments will have in the following years will affect the income of the H.A.A.

With the Rand quite weak against foreign currencies, the income from overseas membership is quite substantial. A slight improvement of the Rand against other currencies obviously affected income.

A further amount of R10,545.00 was received from the H.A.A. Conference in Port Elizabeth that swelled our coffers. Well done to Bill Branch and his team.

Johan Marais (Treasurer, 2004 – 2005)

There were 328 Journals sent out in June and five were returned with wrong addresses. Ten members informed me of address changes. The total cost for the June Newsletter came to R5300 (about R18 per copy) and the Journal printing and postage totaled R22 000 (about R66 per copy). The cost for two issues of each per year is R170 each. Although it is not much more than current membership fees (at R160.00) bring in, the picture will look different next year when printing costs will increase.

At the end of September 2006 the '7227 account was R22 422.17 strong and the '6077 account was R48 929.05.

HERPETOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF AFRICA
BALANCE SHEET at 28 February 2005

	2006 R	2005 R
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	61,972	101,060
Total assets	**61,972**	**101,060**
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Capital and reserves		
Distributable reserve	61,972	92,203
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	--------	8,857
Total equity and liabilities	**61,972**	**101,060**

HERPETOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF AFRICA
INCOME STATEMENT for the year ended 28 February 2006

	2006 R	2005 R
Gross revenue		
Sales	26,263	25,720
Other income	**23,826**	**48,725**
Conference income	--------	43,395
Donation income	18,000	2,000
Interest received	2,638	3,330
Sundry income	3,188	--------
Total income	**50,089**	**74,445**
Expenditure	**80,320**	**78,814**
Bank charges	138	100
Conference fees	--------	32,850
Postage	--------	376
Printing and stationery	65,426	45,488
Sundry expenses	14,756	--------
(Loss)	(30,231)	(4,369)
Retained profit at beginning of year	92,203	96,572
Retained profit at end of year	**61,972**	**92,203**

Treasurer's notes to the financial statements of the Herpetological Association of Africa 2005/2006

As the financial year of the Herpetological Association of Africa runs from 1 March to 28 (or 29) February of the following year, subscription payments may be somewhat confusing as they run from January to December.

For the period 1 March 2005 to 28 February 2006, money was received from a total number of70 African members/institutions.

55 of these members/institutions paid their subs for 2005 while four paid late subs for 2003 and 12 paid late subs for 2004. This is five payments more from African members. Bear in mind that in 2003 and 2004, 27 members had paid in advance for 2005.

16 members paid in advance for 2006, eight for 2007 and one paid in advance for 2008.

With regards overseas membership, money was received from 31 members/ institutions. 23 of these paid for the year 2005, 10 more than the previous year. Bear in mind that 48 members had paid for 2005 in the previous two years.

Three members paid arrears for 2004, while nine members paid in advance for 2006 and one for 2007. There were some delays in receiving money from Bibliomania as a cheque was posted to the wrong address and was stale by the time it was received. The money has subsequently been received. Overseas payments made by credit card to Bibliomania are only paid over to the H.A.A. once or twice a year because of the substantial costs involved in such transactions.

With the Rand strengthening against most other currencies, the income from overseas membership is dropping and needs some careful thought for the future. Our subs are not covering all of the production and postage costs of journals and newsletters and we keep digging into our reserves. An amount of R18,000.00 was received from the Fifth World Herpetological Conference and was paid towards H. A.A. Journals that were handed out at the conference.

Looking ahead we need to either seriously consider increasing our subs or alternatively look at the option of an electronic journal with all papers supplied in jpeg format.

Mandi Alblas (Treasurer)

JOURNAL EDITOR'S REPORT

My term as Editor of *African Journal of Herpetology* started in the second quarter of 2006 and has both being a sincere pleasure, and a challenge. The reason why I've enjoyed it as much is all of Graham Alexander's (the previous Editor) doing. First, he handed over a journal that has truly matured during his editorship. Second, he sent me by email a step-by-step guide for getting me through my first (June 2006) issue – a recipe that I'll certainly be following in future. Third, he passed me a team of very competent associate editors who has assisted me greatly over the past few months.

The challenge I've been referring to had been a personal one up to now - It was to follow Graham's act, truly one of the steepest learning curves of my life. The Journal presently asks for bigger challenges than personal ones, though. I'll refer to a couple later in this report.

I believe it appropriate to take you back to the Journal Editor's Report presented at the previous HAA symposium held in 2004. Graham mentioned a couple of issues in this report worth giving feedback on:

The Journal was still under evaluation by ISI at the time, but has been successfully completed.

Graham presented data on submission of manuscripts to the Journal, showing that the number of papers submitted on a six-monthly basis increased from 6 to 16 during 2000-2004. I am glad to report that the six-monthly rate of paper submission presently is at about 20.

Graham also set a standard for the appearance of journal issues at "HAA members can expect in future: a minimum of 100 pages of good quality herpetology every six months". I am glad to report that this standard has been in existence since issue 53(1). I think that his standard remains applicable in view of the current financial status of the HAA. At a 100 pages per issue, it seems just affordable in terms of printing and postage.

Finally, Graham introduced the idea of having Associate Editors and thus getting the Editorial Board more involved. Three are in place at the moment, namely Aaron Bauer, Krystal Tolley and Brain Hennen.

This brings us to future challenges for the Journal. There are increasing numbers of papers submitted annually, but we have a limit of a 100 pages per issue. We could and should afford to raise the standards of the reviewing process. I must admit that this has happened spontaneously anyway, since the co-opting of Associate Editors. They go for good reviewers. If there has been any perception of our Journal being a soft option in the past, it will no longer be so.

Another challenge remains the publication of papers submitted in French. These have been translated and published in English in the past, enabling the necessary quality control by the Editor. Should this practice remain in view of cost and time constraints, or should we find an alternative?

In conclusion, I'd like to acknowledge the great help received during the first bit of my term from Graham Alexander, of course, but also Mike Bates (Chairman of the HAA), Bill Branch (Chairman of the Editorial Board) and Jenny Jackson (Editorial Assistant).

Alex Flemming

NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT

I took over from Michael Cunningham as editor of *African Herp News* in 2004, starting with AHN 37. Two issues were produced in 2005, and two further issues have already appeared this year. A third issue for this year (No. 41) will appear by the end of November or, at the latest, in early December.

Including African Herp News 41, the five issues comprise 149 pages including 13 long Articles (four of which were submitted by overseas authors), 49 Natural

History Notes (eight from overseas), 17 Geographic Distributions (one from overseas) and one Geographic Survey, a section introduced by Michael Cunningham.

The considerable variety of subject-matter contained in these contributions reflects the gratifyingly broad spectrum of interests of our members, which bodes well for the future of herpetology in Africa. The Newsletter has come a long way since its inauguration in the early 1980's and has evolved into a scientific publication in its own right, as witnessed by the kind of articles that we are now receiving.

I would like to thank all those who have contributed to the last five issues and who have done so much to make the Newsletter what it is today. I especially wish to thank Frank Farquharson, who has carefully read through the page proofs prior to final printing – there is little in the way of little gremlins that escapes his eagle eye!

Angelo Lambiris

VENUE AND DATE FOR THE NEXT H.A.A. SYMPOSIUM

Members of the committee that will arrange that the next Symposium are Michael Cunningham, Johan Marais, Sue McConnachie and Johan van As. The venue will be Sterkfontein Dam Nature Reserve. The date is not yet settled – I suggested January 2008 but the others on the committee thought that this was too close to the last meeting and that we should look at an alternative date late in 2008 or in 2009. Tentatively I will say November 2008, but we have yet to have a committee meeting to decide on this.

Michael Cunningham

GENERAL

Membership fees for 2007

It has been suggested that the membership fees should increase to R200.00 per annum, and there should be no discount for paying over a three-year term (R600.00). The overseas membership will be increased accordingly to US$60.00 per annum and US$180.00 for three years. Journals and newsletters will not be sent to members who are in arrears with payments.

French papers

The Journal will still accept French papers. These will not be translated because a third of Africa understands French. It has been agreed, in principle, that French articles will be accepted with an extended English abstract and will be reviewed by French-speaking reviewers.

CERTIFICATE OF LOYAL SERVICE 2006: GRAHAM ALEXANDER

On behalf of the Herpetological Association of Africa I would like now to present a Certificate of Loyal Service to Professor Graham Alexander for the five years that he spent as Editor of *African Journal of Herpetology*. Graham took over from Martin Whiting during the second half of 2000 and continued to improve on the excellent format developed by Martin. *African Journal of Herpetology* is of outstanding quality when compared to other zoological journals, including overseas publications, and members can be truly proud of this. Graham's editorship was marked by superb quality, contributions from a variety of disciplines, many colour photographs and the appearance of a few very substantial issues. For example, both Volume 53, Part 2, and Volume 54, Part 2, exceed 100 pages. Apart from his normal editorial duties, Graham contributed freely and wisely to any committee debates. One of his proudest achievements as editor was getting the journal accredited by the Department of Education in South Africa, which meant that South African authors receive subsidy for papers published in the journal. He also ensured that the journal was indexed in international databases. I know for a fact that Graham spent a considerable amount of time perfecting each issue of the journal and even used his own research funds on occasion. Graham, I realize that the job of journal editor is very time consuming and in many ways thankless, but be assured that the product you delivered was very well received. You will always be able to look back with pride on the 11 journals you produced from December 2000 to November 2005, starting with Volume 49, Part 2, and ending with Volume 54, Part 2. Your excellent work as journal editor has also significantly improved the image of the H.A.A. Graham, you have left your mark and the Association thanks you! Please come up and accept this token of our appreciation.

Mike Bates, Chairman

Prof. Graham Alexander, past editor of the *African Journal of Herpetology*, receives his Certificate of Loyal Service from the Chairman of the Herpetological Association of Africa, Dr. Mike Bates. Photo: Warren Schmidt

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

Contributions (preferably in Word 6.0, 7.0 or Windows XP) submitted in an incorrect style (see guide-lines below) will be returned to the authors.

ARTICLES

African Herp News publishes longer contributions of general interest that would not be presented as either Natural History Notes or Geographical Distributions.

A standard format is to be used, as follows: **TITLE** (capitals, bold, centred); **AUTHOR(S)**[1,2] (bold, centred); Author's address(es) (use superscripts with authors' names and addresses if more than one author); **HEADINGS** (bold, centred) and **SUBHEADINGS** (bold, aligned left) as required; **REFERENCES**, following the formats given below:

BRANCH, W.R., 1998: *Field Guide to the Snakes and Other Reptiles of Southern Africa.* Third edition. Struik, Cape Town.

BROADLEY, D.G. 1994: The genus *Scelotes* Fitzinger (Reptilia: Scincidae) in Mozambique, Swaziland and Natal, South Africa. *Ann. Natal Mus.* **35**: 237-259.

COOK, C.L., & MINTER, L.R., 2004: *Pyxicephalus adspersus* Peters, 1854. pp. 303-305, *in* Minter, L.R., Burger, M., Harrison, J.A., Braack, H.H., Bishop, P.J., and Kloepfer, D. (eds.), *Atlas and Red Data Book of the Frogs of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland.* SI/MAB Series #9. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC.

NATURAL HISTORY NOTES

Brief notes concerning the biology of the herpetofauna of the African continent and adjacent regions, including the Arabian peninsula, Madagascar, and other islands in the Indian ocean.

A standard format is to be used, as follows: **Scientific name** (including author citation); **Common name** (using Bill Branch's *Field Guide to Snakes and Other Reptiles of Southern Africa*, third edition, 1998, for reptiles; and Passmore & Carruthers' *South African Frogs*, 1995, for amphibians as far as possible): **KEYWORD** (this should be one or two words best describing the topic of the note, e.g. Reproduction, Avian predation, etc.); the **Text** (in concise English with only essential references quoted and in abbreviated form); **Locality** (Country; Province; quarter-degree locus; location; latitude and longitude if available; elevation above sea level); **Date** (day, month, year); **Collector(s); Place of deposition and museum accession number** (required if specimens are preserved). Submitted by: **NAME**, Address.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

Brief notes of new geographical distributions (preferably at least 100 km from the nearest published the nearest published record) of amphibians and reptiles on the African continent and adjacent regions, including the Arabian peninsula, Madagascar, and other islands in the Indian Ocean.

A standard format is to be used, as follows: **Scientific name** (including author cita-

tion); **Common name** (for sources, see Natural History Notes); **Locality** (Country; Province; quarter-degree locus; location; latitude and longitude; elevation above sea level); **Date** (day, month, year); **Collector(s)**; **Place of deposition and museum accession number** (required if specimens are preserved); **Comments** (including data on the size, colour and taxonomic characters, eg. scalation, webbing, especially for taxonomically problematic taxa; and nearest published locality record(s) in km; references to be quoted in the text). Submitted by: **NAME**, Address.

Records submitted should be based on specimens deposited in a recognised collection.

HERPETOLOGICAL SURVEYS

African Herp News publishes sparsely annotated species lists resulting from local surveys of amphibians and reptiles on the African continent and adjacent regions, including the Arabian peninsula, Madagascar, and other islands in the Indian Ocean. The area surveyed may be of any size but should be a defined geographic unit of especial relevance to the herpetological community. For example, surveys could address declared or proposed conservation reserves, poorly explored areas, biogeographically important localities or administrative zones. The relevance of survey results should be judged by the extent that these records fill distributional gaps or synthesise current knowledge.

Survey results should be presented in the following format: **TITLE, including an indication of the survey area or locality** (country, province or state, location, quarter-degree units, or bounding latitude and longitude); **AUTHOR(S)** (format as for long articles, above) **Dates** (day, month, year); **Statement of relevance**; and **SPECIES LIST**, in tabular form comprising ***Scientific name*** (including author citation), **Location / Habitat**; **Evidence** (including registration numbers and location of vouchers); and **Comments** (where required). The note should end with a **SUMMARY** statement and **REFERENCES**.

As far as possible survey records should be based on accessible and verifiable evidence (specimens deposited in public collections, photos submitted illustrating diagnostic features, call recordings and sonograms, or DNA sequences accessioned into international databases).

PHOTOGRAPHS AND FIGURES

Photographs and figures should be submitted as separate JPEG files, and not embedded in the text. The name of the photographer should be given, if not the author or senior author of the article.

HERPETOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF AFRICA

(Founded in 1965)

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP 2007

Title: ..... Initials: ..... First name: .....

Surname: .....

Date: ..... E-mail: .....

Postal address: .....

.....

.....

Postal code: ..... Country: .....

Work tel. (inc. code): ..... Fax No. (inc. code) .....

Occupation: .....

Institution, if not above address: .....

Herpetological interests (including organisms and general field) .....

.....

Type of membership

Tick appropriate block and include payment with this application.
(African members should pay in ZAR, overseas members in US$ equivalent rate)

African Membership	1 year	R200 ☐		Three years	R600 ☐
Overseas Membership	1 year	$60 ☐		Three years	$180 ☐

Year in which membership is to commence: .....

Signature of applicant: .....

Please post form to: Mrs. Mandi Alblas, Secretary HAA, Dept. of Biomedical Sciences, P.O. Box 19063, Tygerberg 7505, South Africa.

OFFICE USE

Date received: ..... Receipt No.: .....

Membership No.: ..... Replied: .....

HERPETOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF AFRICA
MEMBERSHIP FEES FROM 2007

AFRICAN RESIDENT MEMBERS
(Posting to addresses in Africa)

	1 year	3 years
Ordinary members	ZAR 200	ZAR 600
Scholars (attending high school)	ZAR 100	

NON-AFRICAN RESIDENT MEMBERS
Posting to addresses outside Africa)

Membership	1 year	3 years
	US$60	US$180

BANKING DETAILS

Account Name: Herpetological Association of Africa
Account Number: 1793 6077
Bank: ABSA
Branch: Eastgate
Swift Code: ABSAZAJJ
Clearing Code: 6356050

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NOTICE REGARDING ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS

It is essential that your **membership reference number** (or initials and surname, if you are a new member) be used as a reference for electronic payments, and that you let the HAA Treasurer, Mandi Alblas (aa2@sun.ac.za), know when you authorize the payment, so that it can be traced.

NB: BANK FEES

Please note that **all bank fees for credit card and electronic payments** to the HAA must be **borne by you, the payee**. Thus, please ensure that you **add an extra 5%** to cover bank charges, or that these come **directly off your account** when electronically transferring money, and **NOT off the amount to be received by the HAA**.