

Herpetological Review
Natural History Notes
Formatting Guidelines

SPECIES NAME (Standard Name). **TITLE**. This template should be used by authors preparing natural history notes for publication in *Herpetological Review*. Submitted notes will be reviewed and edited prior to acceptance. Preferred notes should 1) focus on observations in the field with little human intrusion; 2) should report novel information that has not already been reported in the herpetological literature; 3) represent more than isolated documentation of developmental aberrations; and 4) possess a natural history perspective. With some exceptions, individual notes should concern only one species. Authors are requested to choose a keyword or short phrase for a title that best describes the nature of their note (e.g., **Diet**, **Predation**, **Reproduction**, **Morphology**, **Habitat Use**, **Behavior**, etc.). The author should consult previously published notes in an attempt to standardize key words used for other notes about a similar topic. The section's intent is to convey information rather than demonstrate prose. A common problem is inclusion of extraneous information. Use of figures is encouraged but they should replace words rather than embellish them and should help interpret the observation being reported, rather than just being a pretty picture of the animal. Identify species by scientific name first, followed by the standard name in parentheses; *Crotalus atrox* (Western Diamond-backed Rattlesnake). Thereafter, use abbreviated scientific name (*C. atrox*) only. If you include a figure it must be referenced within the text (Fig. 1) and a brief caption must be included at the bottom of the note.

Incorrect formatting will result in your note being returned for revision. Use 1.5 line-spacing and one space after periods. Left justify the entire document. Correct formatting for dates and time is 0235 h on 13 March 2013. Coordinates should be in decimal degrees and include the map datum used, (14.7976°S, 39.2334°W, WGS 84, 1234 m elev.). Snout-vent length should be abbreviated but not total length or tail length (SVL = 45.0 cm; Tail length = 13.9 cm; 50 g). In-text citations should appear sparingly for journal articles (Fitch 1978. *Trans. Kansas Acad. Sci.* 81:354–362), books (Savage 2002. *The Amphibians and Reptiles of Costa Rica: A Herpetofauna between Two Continents, between Two Seas*. University of Chicago Press, Chicago, Illinois. 934 pp.), and book chapters (Snow et al. 2007. *In* Henderson and Powell [eds.], *Biology of the Boas and Pythons*, pp. 416–438. Eagle Mountain Publishing, Eagle Mountain, Utah). **Journal titles are abbreviated**. Usually 1–2 citations are sufficient, especially

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Comment [1]: For species in North America, north of Mexico, standard names should follow: Crother [ed.] 2012. *Scientific and Standard English Names of Amphibians and Reptiles of North America North of Mexico*, with comments Regarding Confidence in Our Understanding. 7th ed. *Herpetol. Circ.* 39:1–92.

For species from Mexico, standard names should follow: Liner and Casas-Andreu 2008. *Standard Spanish, English and Scientific Names of the Amphibians and Reptiles of Mexico*. *Herpetol. Circ.* 28:1–162.

If no standard name exists, leave this blank.

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Comment [2]: Use “Diet” when the focal species is doing the consuming. Use “Predation” when the focal species is being consumed.

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Comment [3]: If you need to convert coordinates to decimal degrees, this website may be useful: <http://www.gpsvisualizer.com/calculators>

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Comment [4]: Elevation information is not essential, but should follow this format.

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Comment [5]: If measurement is an approximation, please use: “SVL ca. 45.0 cm”.

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Comment [6]: For more information regarding how journal titles should be abbreviated, visit: http://images.webofknowledge.com/WOK46/help/WOS/A_abrvjt.html

for general information on diet, habitat, range, etc. Follow chronological order within citation strings. Web resources are discouraged and should not be used if a peer-reviewed reference is available; web citations should be brief and include the root URL and date accessed (www.amphibiaweb.org; 1 Jan 2013). If specimens were collected, include deposition number and identify the collection. Please provide full, accepted name of the institution/collection where specimen is deposited. Consult: Sabaj Perez [ed.] (2014). Standard Symbolic Codes for Institutional Resource Collections in Herpetology and Ichthyology: an Online Reference, ver. 5.0 (available at <http://www.asih.org>).

Submit manuscripts as Microsoft Word or Rich Text Format [rtf] files. Figures should be submitted as high resolution JPG files, although higher resolution TIFF or PDF files may be requested for publication. Notes should be submitted to the appropriate section editor: Sean P. Graham and Crystal Kelehear Graham (amphibians; grahasp@tigermail.auburn.edu); James H. Harding (turtles; hardingj@msu.edu); Sean Doody (crocodilians, lizards, and *Sphenodon*; herprev.ltc.nhn@gmail.com); and J. D. Willson (snakes; hr.snake.nhn@gmail.com).

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FIG. 1. Short but descriptive caption that includes the scientific name of the pictured organism.

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Comment [7]: E-mail address appears parenthetically immediately after the author and the hyperlink is not active. It is not necessary to list emails for all authors, only corresponding author and/or authors that would be of interest to contact regarding the note.

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Comment [8]: Do not abbreviate state names and include country.

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Comment [9]: Semi-colons are used to separate authors from different institutions. Commas are used to separate from the same institution.

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Comment [10]: Use "Small Caps" here.