



Rectification

In *Litteratura Serpantium* 24, an omission appeared in the article by Marc Mense, 'A Review of the Australo-Papuan Carpet Python complex (*Morelia bredli*, *Morelia carinata* and *Morelia spilota*), with a key to the species'. Please indicate in your copy the right contents of the paragraph about the

Southwestern Carpet Python

Morelia spilota imbricata SMITH, 1981

Its habitus is that of a brownish black or greenish black, medium-sized but sometimes robust python. *Morelia spilota imbricata* has sometimes three ventral dark to black longitudinal stripes passing the last third of the belly. Females become longer and gain more mass than males. Males grow to a length of 120 - 180 cm, females to 220 - 270 cm and females can get 10 times heavier than males. Specimens from the St. Francis Islands (Nuyts Archipelago, Southaustralia) are smaller, more slender, and seem rather reddish brown. Posterior dorsals lanceolate and strongly overlapping (imbricate). Very conspicuous are the very low number of subcaudals - sometimes *M. s. imbricata* has just 63 - and the low number of ventrals (from 239 up). The posterior part of the nasal normally has no suture. Most specimen from the St. Francis Islands show a pholidotic anomaly by having some divided ventrals. The population on St. Francis Island is probably the one that lives in the coldest habitat of all Python taxa (Dr. Simon Stone observe them hunting actively at 14°C).

No agonistic behaviour between males is known.

The distribution area lies in the southwest of Westaustralia and is - apart from the St. Francis Islands - totally isolated from the other Carpet Pythons. This taxon lives in areas covered with a vegetation of bushes and / or trees.

Pholidosis:

41 - 49 scales around midbody; 239 - 276 ventrals -according to SMITH (1981) on the average there are 260,6; 63 - 82 subcaudals -according to SMITH (1981) on the average there are 75,3; 11 - 15 supralabials -1 to 4 (normally 2 to 3) in contact with the eye, mostly the sixth and seventh or the sixth to the eighth, sometimes the seventh and eighth or the seventh to the ninth; 16 - 20 infralabials -7 to 8 with small pits, beginning at the seventh or eighth infralabial; 17 - 23 loreals; 3 - 5 preoculars; 4 - 5 postoculars; 3 - 4 supraoculars. References: (1), (3), (15), (17), (19), (20), (22), (27), (29), (37)



And in the key:

5. Nasal in most cases without a suture or fold between nostril and hind margin; posterior dorsals lanceolate and strongly overlapping; habitus that of a greenish brown to brownish black coloured python, mostly with a pattern of little contrast; pattern on the head often indistinct; frequently few subcaudals (63 - 82); obvious sexual dimorphism: females can get twice as long and up to 10 times heavier than males *Morelia spilota imbricata*
