

# BREEDING RESULTS

*Have you bred snakes? If so, please ask the Secretary or one of the English Editors to send you a form on which you can fill in the data of your breeding results. Unsuccessful attempts are also important.*

*The result of your efforts will be printed in one of the future publications, to help other members with their breeding attempts.*

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## Thamnophis radix (2x)

The animals are housed in a terrarium of 70x70x80 cm (lxwxh) with a day temperature of about 28°C and a night temperature of about 20°C

The age of my animals is unknown. The first female was in my possession for 4 years, the male was bought in early April 1984. In the middle of April 1984 copulation took place. The female did not refuse food.

On 20 July, 5 young snakes were born, measuring 17 cm. They shed their skin for the first time on 29 July. Force feeding was not needed: they started to eat freely on 23 July on earthworms and pieces of fish.

The second female has been in my possession for 2 years. She also copulated in the middle of April 1984 and did not refuse to eat. On 2 August, 38 young snakes were born, 36 of them were dead but full term. They measured about 15 cm.

The 2 babies that were left started to eat freely but not regularly on pieces of fish on 10 August.

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Elaphe guttata guttata

The animals are housed in a terrarium of 105x70x170 cm (lxwxh). The day temperature varies from 22°C at floor level to 28°C in top of the terrarium, the night temperature is between 18°C and 20°C.

The female is 6 years old, the male more than 8 years old.

The light regulation system (by Getreuer) takes care of day/night and seasonal rhythms in the terrarium, which stimulated the 9 matings that took place between 18 February and 6 March 1984. After the middle of February the female refused to eat. On 25 April 1984 11 eggs were laid. The female proved to have 10 other eggs in her body, but they were not laid. After consultation with a veterinary surgeon, she was given 2 injections of oxytocine and Calcium-Sandoz (woe-causing). But she died shortly after the last injection (probably due to egg binding).

The 10 retained eggs quickly went off. The other 11 eggs were brooded in an aquarium with plastic gauze glued on at mid height, with tissue paper and the eggs on it. There was water, (heated until 28°C with an aquarium thermostat) just beneath the gauze and glass on top of the aquarium. Every 2 days the eggs were sprayed with water and the air in the box was refreshed. The eggs developed a bad colour during the brooding. That is why I opened one egg on 20 June 1984. It contained one almost full grown baby that died after two hours. The other eggs hatched between 22 June and 26 June 1984. The hatchlings weighed 4.5 g and were 17 cm of length. They shed their skins between 24 June and 8 July 1984. One of them was force fed with litter mice, the others fed freely from 8 July 1984.

I had not bred with these snakes before.

Three of the babies are still in my possession,

the 7 others are now with other snake lovers.

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*Psammophis subtaeniatus sudanensis*

In the terrarium of 120x40x40 cm (lxwxh) the day-time temperature is between 35°C (below the lamp) and 20°C (at the cooler spot) and the night temperature is 13-16°C minimum. The animals have been in my possession since 1982; their age is unknown. No stimulus was used for mating. Regular copulations have been noticed between December 1983 and April 1984. The female refused all food from 2 May 1984.

On 1 June 1984 10 eggs were laid, 7 of them were fertilized, 3 were unfertilized. I also removed 1 egg from the mothers body on 11 June 1984.

The eggs were incubated at 29-30°C. On 8 and 9 August 1984 5 young snakes hatched, measuring about 25 cm. The weight of the babies was not measured. The first sloughing was on 19 August 1984. The hatchlings were force fed on beef heart. This is the third clutch of eggs produced by these snakes.

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*Sanzinia madagascariensis*

The male was captive born in 1974, about 180 cm of length and father of 20 descendants.

In 1979 young snakes were born. One female of these was placed with the father in 1983.

The terrarium measures 80x80x120 cm (lxwxh). All terraria are placed in a room with a day temperature of 25°C and a night temperature of 18-20°C.

In the terrarium there is no extra heating, except for a 75 Watt lamp.

As usual copulations were in Autumn. The female did not eat from early 1984 until delivery on 30 August 1984. The mother of this female had 11 to 13 hatchlings each delivery. However, her daughter delivered only 3 fully formed babies, (one male and two female) two partially developed babies and two unfertilized eggs.

The little snakes weighed 32-34 g.

All three of them shed their skins between 12 and 22 October 1984 and started to feed freely on litter mice.

On 8 November 1984 the weight of the snakes was 62, 64 and 66 g respectively.

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