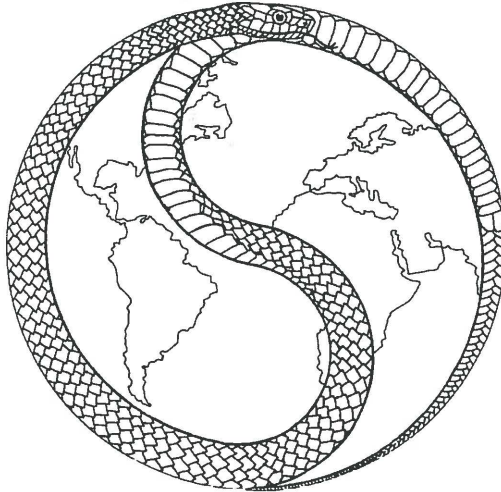


LITTERATURA SERPENTIVM

ENGLISH EDITION
VOLUME 16 - 1996





Europese Slangen Vereniging
European Snake Society ©

The copying of articles is not allowed
without written permission by the Editors-in-Chief.



CONTENTS

■ ARTICLES

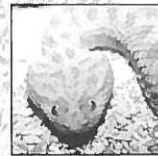
- Editorial; 5
Cécile en René van der Vlugt, Marcel van der Voort

- *Cerastes vipera*, the Sahara Sand viper (Linnaeus, 1758); 6
Rolf van der Goot

- Caring for Corn Snakes; 10
Melissa Kaplan

- Care, maintenance and breeding of *Lampropeltis getulus californica* 14
(Blainville, 1835);
Jan van het Meer

- Keeping and breeding the Ladder snake, *Elaphe scalaris*; 18
Kevin J. Hingley



■ COLUMNS

- Herpetologia 21
Raising offspring of *Epicrates striatus striatus*;
Silvia Bloem and Johan Mavromichalis

- Announcements 22

- Breeding results 23

- Supply & Demand 26



EDITORIAL

Before you lies the first issue of the 16th volume of *Litteratura Serpentina*. We hope you like this new look as much as we do. To us it is a stimulating start of the fourth anniversary.

Over the years a lot has improved on our magazine. From a stenciled paper which was assembled by hand by only a very limited number of enthusiasts, it evolved into a professional magazine that appears in both a Dutch and an English edition and to which a large number of volunteers contribute. Every change to the magazine was always aimed to improve it. The editors are convinced that the new *Litteratura Serpentina* is again an improvement. A finer appearance, a better quality of pictures and a more enjoyable typeface. We hope you are as enthusiastic as we are.

But there is more. When you read this the European Snake Society can also be found on the World Wide Web. We have opened a multilingual homepage, on the address:

<http://pcm0053.let.ruu.nl/ess.htm>.

Although we realize that this new medium is not yet available for everyone, we hope this will provide an even better service to our present and future members. If possible visit our site on the WEB!

Presently, the European Snake Society is doing very well. The last Snake Day in October again was a crowded and very successful event and the number of members is still increasing. That people are involved is also shown by the growing number of contributions to *Litteratura Serpentina* by our own members. This gives confidence for the future and it shows us that we have taken the right course with the Society and our magazine. However, to continue to produce an appealing and interesting content we need the help and co-operation of **all** members. How-

ever fancy the layout, the contents should still consist of your contributions.

Snakes still don't have a very good name with the general public. Through increasingly stricter laws, the politicians interfere more and more with our hobby. Therefore, it is important to show that we handle our animals seriously and carefully in order to still enjoy them in the future. Publications on the care and breeding of even the most simple species is one of the ways you can demonstrate your involvement. Therefore, help us to give *Litteratura Serpentina* more body. Every contribution, however small, is welcomed and the editors are always prepared to assist you in publishing an interesting paper. Let others share in the joy you get from your animals. We, and all those that assist us, are ready for it.

The editors,

René and Cécile van der Vlugt
Marcel van der Voort