

CHECKLIST OF THE SNAKES OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH, NORTHEAST INDIA¹ASHAM BORANG^{2,6}, BHARAT B. BHATT^{2,7}, S. BORDOLOI CHAUDHURY³, A. BORKOTOKI⁴ AND P.T. BHUTIA⁵¹Accepted June, 2003²State Forest Research Institute, Van Vihar, Itanagar 791 111, Arunachal Pradesh, India.³Department of Zoology, Cotton College, Guwahati 781 001, Assam, India. Email: sabitrybordoloi@rediffmail.com⁴Department of Zoology, Gauhati University, Guwahati 781 014, Assam, India. Email: aparajitaborkotoki@rediffmail.com⁵Arunachal Field Station, Zoological Survey of India, Itanagar 791 111, Arunachal Pradesh, India. Email: pasang-50@rediffmail.com⁶Email: directorsfri@hotmail.com⁷Email: b-bhatt@rediffmail.com

The present paper is an attempt to prepare a checklist of the snake fauna of Arunachal Pradesh. It is largely based on the first author's zoological exploration and endangered wildlife mapping in the state, as well as on material examined in various museums in the state with the second author. It also includes information from published literature. The list includes 67 species belonging to five families and 31 genera. The distribution and status of each species with remarks are also cited. Brief morphological description of two unidentified species - *Trimeresurus* sp. (*T. stejnegeri* or *T. popeiorum*?, Jar No. SFRI-23) and a Keelback species (Jar No. SFRI-81) are given.

Key words: checklist, snakes, Arunachal Pradesh, northeast India

INTRODUCTION

Arunachal Pradesh, the erstwhile North East Frontier Agency (NEFA), which has been identified as one of the ecological hotspots in the world, is situated between 26° 30' N to 29° 30' N and 91° 30' E to 97° 30' E. The state has a geographical area of 83,743 km². From an elevation of 100 m, the area encompasses a series of wet and forest covered rugged mountains and hills, rising up to c. 6,000 m. The annual rainfall varies from 500 mm to 6,000 mm, spread over 8-9 months. Owing to the varying agro-climatic and altitudinal conditions, the land supports a phenomenal range of biological diversity. These factors give rise to different climatic regimes and soil structure, which in turn determine the vegetation and faunal communities. The snake fauna best represents this diversity.

There are no records on the snake fauna of the state before the British visited northeast India. The impetus for exploration came with the establishment of British power in the Brahmaputra valley. Cantor (1839) first worked on reptiles in Burma (= Myanmar) and adjoining areas (including Bengal and Assam); he identified *Elaphe porphyracea*, but referred to it as *Coluber porphyraceus* – with a type locality of Mishmi Hills and Abor country (Abor Hills) of present Arunachal Pradesh. This work was followed by many authors, including Wall (1909-1910, 1910) in Upper Assam including Abor, Mishmi and Duffla (Dafla) hills and Namsang near the present Tirap district of the State and Annandale (1911) in Mishmi Hills and (1912a, 1912b) in Abor Hills. After a long gap, another spate of work followed: Smith (1943) which continues to be the authoritative source for identification of Indian snakes, despite being over half a century old, Romer (1949); Waltner (1975a,

1975b, 1975c, 1975d); Mathew (1983, 1995); Sanyal and Gayen (1985); Ghosh (1987); Captain (1997, 1999); Captain and Bhatt (1997, 2000, 2001); Bhatt *et al.* (1988); David *et al.* (2001) and Pawar and Birand (2001).

Considering the great diversity of snakes in Arunachal Pradesh, preparation of a comprehensive checklist was thought to be important. The present work is the result of the first author's 10 years zoological exploration and endangered wildlife mapping in the state, as well as from material examined in various museums in the state with the second author, and partly on published literature. The cut off date for literature search and museum works was end of 2001. The interim checklist (Captain and Bhatt 2000) of 57 species is largely based on specimens from various museums in the State, out of which 31 species are from the State Forest Research Institute (SFRI) Museum, collected by the first author and his associates; 5 species from Zoological Survey of India, Itanagar, 8 species from Miao Forest Museum collected from Namdapha National Park; 1 species from Itanagar Zoo and 12 species based on Ashok Captain's (1997, 1999) observation. At present the SFRI Museum harbours 39 species and 2 unidentified specimens.

Systematic List

The checklist is given as Table 1. The distribution and status of each species with remarks are also cited. In the remarks column, the reference and other details of the museum specimens are given. The systematics and nomenclature, including sequence of orders and families largely follow Smith (1943). Das (1994, 1996, 1997) and Gupta and Rathanasabathy (1997) were also consulted. The list covers 67 species belonging to 5 families and 31 genera, and two unidentified species.

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Table 1: Systematic list of snakes in Arunachal Pradesh

| Sl. No. | Scientific Name | Distribution & Status | Remarks |
|---|---|--|--|
| Order: Squamata Sub-order: Ophidia (Serpentes) Family: Typhlopidae (Worm Snakes or Blind Snakes) | | | |
| 1. | <i>Ramphotyphlops braminus</i> Daudin 1803 | Throughout the state in foothills and hills up to 1500 m. Very common. | 2 ex. in Miao Forest Museum |
| 2. | <i>Typhlops jerdoni</i> Boulenger 1890 | Throughout the state. Not common | Annandale (1912a); Smith (1943), p. 50 |
| Note: <i>Typhlops diversiceps</i> Annandale (1912a), Pasighat (originally recorded as Pashighat, Abor country). In: <i>Rec. Ind. Mus.</i> viii. p. 44. pl. v, fig. 1. Smith (1943), p. 50, synonymised under <i>Typhlops jerdoni</i> Boulenger 1890. | | | |
| 3. | <i>Typhlops diardii</i> Schlegel 1839 | Throughout the state. Plains to hills. Very common. | 7 ex. in SFRI Museum: 2 ex. Chessa, K. Kaman; 2 ex. Itanagar, A. Borang; 1 ex. Tippi, A.N. Rao; 1 ex. Itanagar, I. Malla; 1 ex. Itanagar, L. Tamang |
| Family: Boidae (Pythons and Boas) | | | |
| 4. | <i>Python molurus bivittatus</i> Kuhl 1820 | Throughout the state. Common. | 2 ex. in SFRI Museum: 1 ex. Itanagar, A. Borang; 1 ex. Itanagar, K. Kaman |
| Family: Colubridae (Colubrid Snakes) Subfamily: Dipsadinae | | | |
| 5. | <i>Pareas monticola</i> Cantor 1839 | Throughout the state. Common in montane forests. | 1 ex. in ZSI, Itanagar: Mukto, P.T. Bhutia (2500 m) |
| Note: Annandale (1912a), Abor Hills and he found common in foothills. In: <i>Rec. Ind. Mus.</i> vii, p. 50 | | | |
| Subfamily: Colubrinae | | | |
| 6. | <i>Elaphe prasina</i> Blyth 1854 | Throughout the state. Plains up to 2500 m. Common. | 1 ex. in Miao Forest Museum |
| Note: Annandale (1911), Mishmi Hills (Lohit and Dibang Valley districts). In: <i>Rec. Ind. Mus.</i> vi, p. 218. | | | |
| 7. | <i>Elaphe frenata</i> Gray 1853 | Throughout the state. Common. | Captain & Bhatt (2000) |
| 8. | <i>Elaphe radiata</i> Schlegel 1837 | Throughout the state. Very Common. | 3 ex. in SFRI Museum: 1 ex. Itanagar, K. Kaman; 2 ex. Itanagar, A. Borang |
| 9. | <i>Elaphe taeniura</i> Cope 1861 | Throughout the state. Common in hills. | 1 ex. in SFRI Museum: Yachuli, B.B. Bhatt |
| 10. | <i>Elaphe cantoris</i> Boulenger 1894 | Throughout the state. Common in hill forests. | |
| Note: K. Haridasan has seen a dead specimen at Putin about 3-4 km away south of NEPCO's Ranganadi Dam site. Photograph was taken and is with the second author. Also Ashok Captain <i>pers. comm.</i> 2002. | | | |

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Table 1: Systematic list of snakes in Arunachal Pradesh (contd.)

| Sl. No. | Scientific Name | Distribution & Status | Remarks |
|--|--|---|---|
| 11. | <i>Elaphe porphyracea</i> Cantor 1839 | Throughout the state. Very common in wet forests. Foothills to hills. | 2 ex. in SFRI Museum: 1 ex. Namdapha NP (Deban), A. Borang; 1 ex. Chessa, K. Kaman |
| Note: The holotype was reported from Mishmi Hills and Abor country (Abor Hills). In: Cantor (1839), <i>Proc. Zool. Soc. London</i> . p. 51 | | | |
| 12. | <i>Elaphe mandarina</i> Cantor 1842 | Throughout the state. Common in wet hill forests. | 1 ex. in Miao Forest Museum |
| Note: <i>Ablabes pavo</i> Annandale (1912a). <i>Rec. Ind. Mus.</i> viii p. 47, pl. v, fig. 3, from Upper Rottung (Rottung village in East Siang district), Abor country (Abor Hills). Smith (1943) pp. 157-158 clubbed with <i>Elaphe mandarina</i> Cantor 1842. | | | |
| 13. | <i>Ptyas korros</i> Schegel 1837 | Throughout the state. Very common. | 7 ex. in SFRI Museum: 2 ex. Itanagar, A. Borang; 3 ex. Chessa; 1 ex. Itanagar, K. Kaman; 1 ex. Itanagar, A. Captain |
| 14. | <i>Ptyas nigromarginata</i> Blyth 1854 | Throughout the state in the hill forests up to 2500 m. | 1 ex. in SFRI Museum: Talley Valley, B.B. Bhatt |
| Note: The first author has seen a dead snake run over by vehicle on the Pasighat-Pangin road about 5 km north of Regging village at about 400 m. The specimen could not be collected due to technical problems. Photograph was taken. | | | |
| 15. | <i>Liopeltis frenata</i> Günther 1858 | Throughout the state. Hills. 400-2000 m. | Annandale (1912a); Captain & Bhatt (2000). |
| Note: Annandale (1912a), Mishmi Hills. In: <i>Rec. Ind. Mus.</i> viii, p. 47. | | | |
| 16. | <i>Liopeltis stoliczkae</i> Sclater 1891 | Throughout the state. Nearby hills stream. Not common | 1 ex. in ZSI Itanagar: Ganga River (Itanagar), P.T. Bhutia |
| 17. | <i>Oligodon albocinctus</i> Cantor 1839 | Throughout the state. Common. Plains to 2000 m. | 3 ex. in SFRI Museum: 2 ex. Chessa, K. Kaman; 1 ex. Gobuk, A. Borang |
| Note: Wall (1909-1910), Sadia in and around Parbuk village. In: <i>J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc.</i> Part II, xix, p. 830. | | | |
| 18. | <i>Oligodon cinereus</i> Günther 1864 | Throughout the state. Plains to hills. Common. | 4 ex. in SFRI Museum: 2 ex. Chessa, K. Kaman; 1 ex. Chessa; 1 ex. Chimpu, A. Borang |
| 19. | <i>Oligodon erythrorhachis</i> Wall 1910 | Foothills. Very Rare. | 1 ex. in SFRI Museum 1 ex. Chessa, A. Borang |
| Note: Known from 2 specimens (Bhatt <i>et al.</i> 1998); Wall (1910) In: <i>J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc.</i> xix. p. 923 and <i>Rec. Ind. Mus.</i> xxv. 1923, p. 309 (Namsang, Jaipur district, now Tinsukia district, Assam). The specimen under study was collected by the first author from a marshy nullah at Chessa, Papumpare district and is the first documented record from Arunachal Pradesh and second in the world. | | | |
| 20. | <i>Dendrolaphis pictus</i> Gmelin 1789 | Throughout the state. Plains to hills in busy forests. Very common. | 7 ex. in SFRI Museum: 2 ex. Chessa, A. Borang; 3 ex. Chessa, K. Kaman; 2 ex. Pangge, B.B. Bhatt |

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Table 1: Systematic list of snakes in Arunachal Pradesh (contd.)

| Sl. No. | Scientific Name | Distribution & Status | Remarks |
|---|--|--|--|
| 21. | <i>Dendrolaphis cyanochloris</i> Wall 1921 | Throughout the state. Plains to hills in bushy forests. Common. | 1 ex. in Miao Forest Museum |
| Note: In Wall (1909-1910) <i>Dendrolaphis proarchus</i> (J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc. Part II, xix, p. 827), Sadia in and around Parbuk village (Dibang Valley.) | | | |
| 22. | <i>Dendrolaphis gorei</i> Wall 1910 | Throughout the state. Plains to hills in bushy forests. Common. | 2 ex. in SFRI Museum: 1 ex. Itanagar, J. Ali; 1 ex. Itanagar, D. Saikia |
| 23. | <i>Chrysopelea ornata</i> Shaw 1802 | Throughout the state. Plains to hills up to 2000 m. Very common in well wooded hill forests. | 2 ex. in SFRI Museum: 1 ex. Damroh, A. Borang; 1 ex. Chessa, K. Kaman |
| 24. | <i>Lycodon laoensis</i> Günther 1864 | Throughout the state. Plains up to 1000 m. | 1 ex. in Miao Forest Museum |
| 25. | <i>Lycodon jara</i> Shaw 1802 | Throughout the state. Foothills. Not common. | 2 ex in SFRI Museum: 1 ex. Itanagar, Donated by R.K.M. Hospital; 1 ex. Itanagar, B.B. Bhatt. |
| Interesting Note: When disturbed the snake coiled into a ball-like shape and keeps motionless until it feels safe. | | | |
| 26. | <i>Lycodon fasciatus</i> Anderson 1879 | Throughout the state. Hill forests. 1000-2500 m. | 1 ex. in SFRI Museum: Pangge, B.B. Bhatt. |
| 27. | <i>Sibynophis collaris</i> Gray 1853 | Throughout the state. High hills and montane forests. Common in 1000-1500 m. | Captain & Bhatt (2000). |
| 28. | <i>Amphiesma venningi</i> Wall 1910 | Tirap and Changlang districts. High hills and montane forests. Common in 1000-1500 m. | Captain & Bhatt (2000, 2001) |
| 29. | <i>Amphiesma parallelum</i> Boulenger, 1890 | Throughout the state. High hills and montane forests. Common in 1500-2000 m. | 2 ex. in SFRI Museum: 1 ex. Pangge, M.M. Borah; 1 ex. Pangge, B.B. Bhatt. |
| 30. | <i>Amphiesma khasiensis</i> Boulenger 1890 | Throughout the state. Not common. | Annandale (1912); Captain & Bhatt (2000). |
| Note: Annandale (1912a), Upper Burma (Abor Country). In: <i>Rec. Ind. Mus.</i> viii. pp. 49 and 53. | | | |
| 31. | <i>Amphiesma modesta</i> Günther 1875 | Tirap district northwards Lohit district. Hills forests between 500-2000 m. Uncommon. | Ghosh (1987) |
| 32. | <i>Amphiesma stolatum</i> Linnaeus 1758 | Throughout the state. Plains to hills up to 2500 m. Very common. | 6 ex. in SFRI Museum: 1 ex. Itanagar, A. Borang; 3 ex. Chessa, K. Kaman; 2 ex. Itanagar, A. Yirang. |
| 33. | <i>Amphiesma platyceps</i> Blyth 1854 | Throughout the state. Plains to hills up to 2500 m. | Annandale (1912); Pawar & Birand (2001). |
| Note: Annandale (1912a), Abor Hills. In: <i>Rec. Ind. Mus.</i> viii, p. 49. | | | |

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Table 1: Systematic list of snakes in Arunachal Pradesh (contd.)

| Sl. No. | Scientific Name | Distribution & Status | Remarks |
|---|--|--|--|
| 34. | <i>Xenochrophis punctulatus</i> Günther 1958 | Throughout the state. Plains to hills. Not common. | 1 ex. in ZSI Museum: Itanagar, P.T. Bhutia |
| 35. | <i>Xenochrophis piscator</i> Schneider 1799 | Throughout the state. Plains and low altitude hills living in vicinity of water bodies. Common. | 5 ex. in SFRI Museum: 2 ex. Itanagar, A. Borang; 3 ex. Chessa, K. Kaman |
| 36. | <i>Xenochrophis sanctijohannis</i> Boulenger 1890 | Throughout the state. Plains and hills up to 2000 m. | 2 ex. in SFRI Museum: 1 ex. Shilluk, I. Dai; 1 ex. Shilluk, A. Borang |
| 37. | <i>Sinonatrix percarinata</i> Boulenger 1899 | Throughout the state. Well wooded wet hills preferably along the water course. | 1. ex. in Miao Museum. |
| 38. | <i>Rhadophis himalayanus</i> Günther 1864 | Throughout the state. Foothills to hills up to 2000 m. Very Common. | 9 ex. in SFRI Museum: 1 ex. Pangin; 1 ex. Boleng, A. Borang; 2 ex. Itanagar, K. Kaman; 2 ex. Itanagar, B.B. Bhatt; 2 ex. Chessa, Kancha Rai; 1 ex. Jumba, K. Mitkong |
| Note: Wall (1909-1910), In: <i>J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc.</i> Part I, xix, p. 614), Sadia in and around Parbuk village (Lower Dibang Valley) of Arunachal Pradesh. | | | |
| 39. | <i>Rhadophis subminiatus</i> Schlegel 1837 | Throughout the state. Foothills to hills. Very common. | 8 ex. in SFRI Museum: 2 ex. Itanagar; 1 ex. Bijari, A. Borang; 3 ex. Itanagar; 1 ex. Seijusa, K. Kaman; 1 ex. Tippi, A.N. Rao |
| 40. | <i>Pseudoxenodon macrops</i> Blyth 1854 | Throughout the state. Plains to hills. Common in 1000-2500 m. | 2 ex. in SFRI Museum: 1 ex. Chessa, A. Borang; 1 ex. Gate, B.B. Bhatt |
| 41. | <i>Trachischium monticola</i> Cantor 1839 | Throughout the state. Plains and hills. Very common in 1000-1500 m. | 1 ex. SFRI Museum: Chessa, K. Kaman |
| 42. | <i>Trachischium tenuiceps</i> Blyth 1854 | North of R. Subansiri westwards Towang. Hills and montane forest montane forest up to 3000 m. Common. | 2 ex. in ZSI Museum: 1 ex. Mukto (2500 m); 1 ex. Bomdir (2000 m); P.T. Bhutia |
| 43. | <i>Rhabdops bicolor</i> Blyth 1854 | Throughout the state. Common. | 1 ex. in Miao Forest Museum. |
| Note: Wall (1925), In: <i>J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc.</i> xxx. p. 810 and <i>Ibid</i> xxx, 1926, p. 516, Upper Assam (Mishmi Hills and Khasi Hills). | | | |
| 44. | <i>Blythia reticulata</i> Blyth 1854 | Throughout the state. Foothills to hills. Common. | 4 ex. in SFRI Museum: 2 ex. Itanagar, A. Borang; 2 ex. Chessa, K. Kaman |
| 45. | <i>Boiga multimaculata</i> Reinwardt. Boie 1827 | Throughout the state. Foothills and hills. Not common. | 1 ex. in Miao Forest Museum |

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Table 1: Systematic list of snakes in Arunachal Pradesh (contd.)

| Sl. No. | Scientific Name | Distribution & Status | Remarks |
|---|---|---|--|
| 46. | <i>Boiga ochracea walli</i> Smith 1943 | Throughout the state. Foothills and hills. Rare. | 1 ex. in Miao Forest Museum |
| 47. | <i>Boiga gokool</i> Gray 1834 | Throughout the state. Foothills to hills. Common. | 3 ex. in SFRI Museum: 1 ex. Seijusa, A. Borang; 2 ex. Itanagar, K. Kaman. |
| Note: Wall (1909-1910), In: <i>J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc.</i> Part II xix. p. 831, Upper Assam (at Dejoo in and around Kimin, Papumpare district of Arunachal Pradesh.) | | | |
| 48. | <i>Boiga quincunciata</i> Wall 1908 | Throughout the state. Foothills to hills. | 2 ex. in SFRI Museum: 1 ex. Chessa, A. Borang; 1 ex. Itanagar, B.B. Bhatt |
| 49. | <i>Boiga cyanea</i> Duméril, Bibron & Duméril 1854 | Throughout the state. Foothills to hills. | 2 ex. in SFRI Museum: 1 ex. Chessa, A. Borang; 1 ex. Itanagar, A. Yirang |
| 50. | <i>Boiga ocellata</i> Kroon 1973 | Throughout the state. Common. | 4 ex. in SFRI Museum: 1 ex. Itanagar, A. Yirang; 3 ex. Chessa, K. Kaman |
| 51. | <i>Psammodynastes pulverulentus</i> Boie 1827 | Throughout the state. Plains and hills. Common in well wooded hills in wet areas. | 2 ex. in SFRI Museum: 1 ex. Gobuk, A. Borang; 1 ex. Chimpur, K. Kaman |
| Note: Wall (1909-1910), In: <i>J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc.</i> Part II xix. p. 833, Dejoo in and around Kimin, Papumpare district (originally recorded as Upper Assam). | | | |
| 52. | <i>Ahaetulla prasina</i> Reinwardt: Boie 1827 | Throughout the state. Plain to hills. Common in foothills. | 2 ex. in SFRI Museum: 1 ex. Itanagar, A. Borang; 1 ex. Potin, B.B. Bhatt |
| Note: Wall (1909-1910), In: <i>J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc.</i> Part II xix. p. 834. Daffla Hills in and around Dullungmukh, Lower Subansiri district, Dejoo in and around Kimin, Papumpare district and Sadia in and around Parbuk village, Lower Dibang Valley district (originally recorded as Upper Assam) of Arunachal Pradesh. | | | |
| Subfamily: Homalopsinae | | | |
| 53. | <i>Enhydrys enhydrys</i> Schneider 1799. | Throughout the state. Very common in open streams. | None in SFRI Museum but is the most common Water Snake. |
| Family: Elapidae (Cobras, Kraits, Coral Snakes) | | | |
| 54. | <i>Bungarus fasciatus</i> Schneider 1801 | Throughout the state. Common in Bamboo forests. | 7 ex. in SFRI Museum: 4 ex. Chessa, K. Kaman; 1 ex. Chessa, M. Pawe; 2 ex. Chessa, Kancha Rai |
| Note: Wall (1909-1910), In: <i>J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc.</i> Part II xix. p. 835. Duffla Hills in and around Dullungmukh, Lower Subansiri district of Arunachal Pradesh. | | | |
| 55. | <i>Bungarus niger</i> Wall 1908 | Throughout the state. Not common. | 2 ex. in ZSI, Itanagar; 2 ex. Itanagar, K. Allia |
| 56. | <i>Bungarus lividus</i> Cantor 1839 | Foothills of Kameng districts adjoining Assam. | Pawar & Birand (2001) |

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Table 1: Systematic list of snakes in Arunachal Pradesh (*contd.*)

| Sl. No. | Scientific Name | Distribution & Status | Remarks |
|---|--|---|--|
| 57. | <i>Sinomicrurus maclellandii</i> Reinhardt 1844 | Throughout the state. Common. | 5 ex. in SFRI Museum: 2 ex. Chessa, K. Kaman; 3 ex. Itanagar, A. Borang |
| Note: Annandale (1912a), <i>In: Rec. Ind. Mus</i> viii, p. 50, Abor country (Abor Hills). Colour form I of Smith (1943) is most common in Arunachal Pradesh. | | | |
| 58. | <i>Naja kaouthia</i> Lesson 1831 | Throughout the state. Common. | 3 ex. in SFRI Museum: 1 ex. Chessa, A. Borang; 2 ex. Itanagar, K. Kaman |
| 59. | <i>Ophiophagus hannah</i> Cantor 1836 | Throughout the state. Common. | 3 ex. in SFRI Museum: 1 ex. Chessa, V.V.K. Chessa Labour Party; 1 ex. Itanagar, B.B. Bhatt; 1 ex. Itanagar, A. Captain |
| Family: Viperidae (True Vipers & Pit Vipers) Subfamily: Crotalinae (Pit Vipers) | | | |
| 60. | <i>Protobothrops mucrosquamatus</i> Cantor 1839 | Throughout the state. In hills. 1000-3000 m. | 2 ex. in SFRI Museum: 1 ex. Gate; 1 ex. Ziro, B.B. Bhatt |
| 61. | <i>Protobothrops jerdoni</i> Gunther, 1875 | Hills and Montane forests. 1000-3000 m. | Captain & Bhatt (2000) |
| 62. | <i>Ovophis monticola</i> Günther 1864 | Throughout the state. In hills. Common at 1000-3000 m. | 1 ex. in ZSI, Itanagar: Mehao, T.K. Pal |
| 63. | <i>Trimeresurus stejnegeri</i> Schmidt 1925 | Throughout the state. Plains to moist montane bamboo forests. | 1 ex. in Itanagar Zoo |
| Note: Absence of hemipenis, female. Scale formula, 21: 11: 163: 58. Temporal scale are feebly keeled hence is provisionally identified as <i>Trimeresurus stejnegeri</i> (<i>Trimeresurus stejnegeri yunnanensis</i> ?) Schmidt 1925. (see Das 1996). The subspecies is now <i>Trimeresurus stejnegeri</i> Schmidt 1925 and <i>Trimeresurus yunnanensis</i> Schmidt 1925 (see David <i>et al.</i> 2001). | | | |
| 64. | <i>Trimeresurus popeiorum</i> Smith 1937 | Throughout the state. Plains to moist montane bamboo forests. | 1 ex. in SFRI Museum: Pangin, A. Borang |
| 65. | <i>Trimeresurus erythrurus</i> Cantor 1839 | Tirap district northwards (with population thinning down) to Changlang district. | |
| Note: It is very common in Naga Hills (Smith 1943). Personal contact with local people in Khonsa (Titap district) during 1997 reveals occurrence of similar snake with tail mottled with red (brown). Also (Patrick David <i>pers. comm.</i> , 2002). | | | |
| 66. | <i>Trimeresurus albolabris</i> Gray 1842 | Throughout the state. Plains and low altitude hills. forests. | 1 ex. in SFRI Museum: Chessa, K. Kaman |
| 67. | <i>Trimeresurus medoensis</i> Djao: Djao & Jiang 1977 | Extreme eastern part of Changlang district adjoining to Myanmar. Wet montane forests above 1500 m. | David <i>et al.</i> (2001); Captain & Bhatt (2000). |
| Note: Reported from Gandhigram in Changlang district based on examination on 26 live specimens David <i>et al.</i> (2001). Its occurrence is restricted to the northeastern part of Arunachal Pradesh in India. Probably occurs in Kepang La, Karbo, Gelling and Singa areas in Upper Siang district. New to the Indian fauna. | | | |

SFRI Museum: State Forest Research Institute Museum, ZSI: Zoological Survey of India, VVK: Van Vigyan Kendra

Specimens not identified

1. *Trimeresurus* sp. (*T. stejnegeri* Schmidt 1925 or *T. popeiorum* Smith 1939); Scale count - 21: 11: 167: 61; dorsal scales moderately keeled; scale between supra-ocular 13 narrow; 2 rows of scales between labials and elongated sub-ocular. Collected by K. Haridasan from Chessa (100m).

2. Unidentified Keelback species: 2 pre-oculars; 3 post-oculars; 8L, 7R supralabials; 2+2 temporals; 1 large loreal; scale in 17: 17: 15 rows keeled; 165 ventrals; 61 caudal paired; 2 anals. Collected about 10 km east of Pangge at 2000 m on 14.vi.1994 by the first author. Could not be identified from Smith (1943); perhaps not described from India.

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