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to enter, it was immediately attacked and expelled by the ants. The attack eventually ceased and the snake was able to enter the colony and remain inside, preying upon adult ants and their larvae. After 5 minutes, we removed the snake from the colony and observed that it was covered by an odoriferous viscous substance. Presumably such material repelled the ants and protected the snake from being attacked. A few minutes later, we placed the snake back into the colony and noted that the substance was produced from the cloaca and seemed to allow the snake to feed, undisturbed by ants.

Despite the phylogenetic association of the families Leptotyphlopidae and Anomalepididae, this specialized feeding-related behavior has not been reported for species of the latter (Savage, *op. cit.*).

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LEPTODEIRA SEPTENTRIONALIS (Cat-eyed Snake). **PREY.** Many neotropical snakes feed primarily on anurans (Vitt 1983. Herpetologica 39:52–66) but information regarding their individual prey species is scarce. On 15 November 2004 at 21 h, in the Refugio de Vida Silvestre, Golfito (Costa Rica, Puntarenas Province, 8.65°N, 83.18°W, ca. 5 m elev.), I observed an adult *Leptodeira septentrionalis* swallowing a *Leptodactylus bolivianus* (Fig. 1). The frog was ingested head first. *L. bolivianus* represents a hitherto unreported prey item for *L. septentrionalis*.

FIG. 1. *Leptodeira septentrionalis* swallowing a *Leptodactylus bolivianus*.

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LEPTOPHIS AHAETULLA PRAESTANS (Green Parrot Snake). **PREDATION ATTEMPT.** *Leptophis ahaetulla* is a large, diurnal, and arboreal species, occurring in different vegetation types from southern Mexico to Brazil and Argentina (Savage 2002. The Amphibians and Reptiles of Costa Rica: A Herpetofauna Between Two Continents, Between Two Seas. Univ. Chicago Press. Chicago, Illinois. 934 pp.). It has been reported that *L. ahaetulla* forages in trees and shrubs for sleeping or resting frogs, and to a lesser extent, arboreal lizards (Oliver 1948. Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist. 92:157–280; Pérez-Higareda et al. 2007. Serpientes de la Región de Los Tuxtlas, Veracruz, México. Guía de Identificación Ilustrada. Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. 189 pp.). There are no reports for prey items for *L. ahaetulla* in Mexico, so here we record a feeding attempt observed in Veracuz.

On 18 April 2007 at ca. 1000 h on bare soil adjacent to buildings belonging to Los Tuxtlas Tropical Biology Station (18.5851°N, 95.0752°W, 119 m elev., WGS84), we observed a *L. ahaetulla* (ca. 150 cm total length) feeding on a Baudin's Treefrog (*Smilisca baudini*, ca. 60 mm snout–vent length). The snake held the frog in its mouth for a minute but when we approached to a distance of 2 m, the snake released the frog and fled. The frog was alive though motionless, and died some minutes later.

Frogs (especially hylids) have been recorded as the main food items for *L. ahaetulla* elsewhere in its range (e.g., Campbell 1998. Amphibians and Reptiles of Northern Guatemala, the Yucatán, and Belize. Univ. Oklahoma Press. 380 pp.; De Albuquerque and Di-Bernardo 2005. Herpetol. Rev. 36:325; Lopez et al. 2003 Herpetol. Rev. 34:68–69). Other reported prey for *L. ahaetulla* are birds, bird's eggs, and grasshoppers (Oliver 1948, *op. cit;* Lopez et al., *op. cit*).

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LIOPHIS VITTI (NCN). **DIET**. The colubrid snake *Liophis vitti* is known from the western Andean slopes in northern Ecuador at elevations between 1070–1650 m (Dixon 2000. Copeia 2000:482–490). A specimen collected "one meter high on leaf in forest at night" is all the natural history data available in the literature for this species (Dixon, *op. cit.*). On 24 February 2009, we collected a male *L. vitti* (QCAZ 8708, SVL = 368 mm, TL = 110 mm) in northwestern Ecuador, Carchi Province, Chilmá Bajo (0.8647222°N, 78.0497222°W, 2071 m elev.). This specimen had recently eaten, as indicated by an anterior swelling at about one fourth its SVL. The forced-out prey was a specimen of an undescribed species of the bufonid toad *Osornophryne* (QCAZ 40028, SVL = 30.4 mm). No records of *Osornophryne* are known from this locality. Moreover, this is the first record of predation of *Osornophryne* by any vertebrate. Both specimens are deposited in the

herpetological collection of Museo de Zoología QCAZ, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador.

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MASTIGODRYAS MELANOLOMUS (NCN). **PREY.** Information on the trophic ecology and individual prey species of certain tropical snakes is scarce. *Mastigodryas melanolomus* is a moderately-sized colubrid snake that forages on the ground and preys on lizards, small snakes, reptile eggs, nesting birds, and small mammals (Savage 2002. The Amphibians and Reptiles of Costa Rica: A Herpetofauna Between Two Continents, Between Two Seas. University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 994 pp.). On 14 October 2004 at 1530 h, in the Reserva Biológica Hitoy Cerere (Costa Rica, Limón Province, 9.66°N, 83.03°W, ca. 200 m elev.), I observed a *M. melanolomus* with a total length of about 1.2 m that had entered a hole in the ground up to about the anterior third of its body. When it reappeared, it was holding an adult *Ameiva festiva* in its mouth (Fig. 1). Although *M. melanolomus* is known to prey on other species of *Ameiva* (Seib 1984. J. Herpetol. 18:412–420), *A. festiva* has not yet been reported as a prey item of *M. melanolomus*.

FIG. 1. *Mastigodryas melanolomus* preying on *Ameiva festiva*.

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OXYRHOPUS CLATHRATUS (NCN) **PREY.** Species of *Oxyrhopus* are known to prey on small lizards (Bernarde and Machado 2000. Herpetol. Rev. 31:247–248.). On 2 September 2004, during fieldwork in Teresópolis municipality, Rio de Janeiro State, southeastern Brazil (22.448442°S, 42.983542°W), we collected a recently deceased juvenile *Oxyrhopus clathratus* (312 mm total length), that contained an adult *Placosoma cordyline* (153.3 mm total length). The cause of death of the snake is unknown. This is the first report of predation of *P. cordyline* by *O. clathratus*. Both specimens are deposited in the herpetological collection of the Universidade Federal do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, under the accession numbers ZUFRJ 1650 (*Oxyrhopus clathratus*) and 1651 (*Placosoma cordyline*).

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OXYRHOPUS GUIBEI (False Coralsnake). **DIET.** *Oxyrhopus guibei* is a terrestrial, crepuscular-nocturnal pseudoboine snake in southeastern Brazil (Sazima and Abe 1991. Stud. Neotr. Fauna Environ. 26:159–164). Reported prey items include rodents, lizards (Andrade and Silvano 1996. Rev. Bras. Zool. 13[1]:143–150; França et al. 2008. Copeia 2008:23–38), and birds (Sazima and Abe 1991. Stud. Neotr. Fauna Environ. 26:159–164).

We dissected 17 specimens of *O. guibei* from the vicinity of the Irapé Power Plant (16.75°S; 42.53°W), Minas Gerais state, Brazil, collected between February 2004 and July 2006 during a faunal monitoring program. We found 10 prey items in the stomachs of three males (total length: 404, 629, and 811 mm), two females (total length: 599 and 1016 mm), and three juveniles (total length: 289, 306, and 363 mm). Prey consisted of rodents (70%) and lizards (30%). Nonetheless, one adult female *O. guibei* (1016 mm total length) had digested parts of an individual *Oxymycterus* sp. (Cricetidae) in its stomach. This snake also contained 10 vitellogenic follicles (> 10 mm, following Pizzatto and Marques 2002. Amphibia-Reptilia 4:495–504). Rodents of the genus *Oxymycterus* have semi-fossorial habits and are endemic to South America (Hershkovitz 1994. Fieldiana Zool. 79:1–43; Câmara and Murta 2003. Mamíferos da Serra do Cipó. Ed. PUC Minas. Belo Horizonte. 129 pp.). The rodent body parts had a volume of 5478.7 mm^3 and seemed derived from an adult individual. To our knowledge this is the first record of the semi-fossorial rodent *Oxymycterus* as a food item of *O. guibei*. Furthermore, another two species of rodents belonging to the Cricetidae family were found: four *Necromys lasiurus* in three specimens and two *Calomys tener* in one. Three unidentified tails of lizards were found in three juvenile specimens.

Representative specimens are deposited in the Herpetological Laboratory of Museu de Ciências Naturais of Pontifícia Universidade Católica de Minas, Minas Gerais, Brazil (MCNR 915, 1718, 1847, 1923, 2511). We thank Sônia A. Talamoni for identifying the rodents and FAPEMIG for financial support to LBN.

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