

## A new prey record for the Banded Calico Snake *Oxyrhopus petolarius* (Serpentes: Dipsadidae)

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The pseudoboine species *Oxyrhopus petolarius* (Linnaeus, 1758) (see Savage, 2011 for the use of *petolarius* instead of *petola*) occurs from Mexico through Central America to Bolivia and southeastern Brazil (Bailey, 1970). Three subspecies are recognized: *Oxyrhopus p. petolarius*, from Colombia to French Guiana; *O. p. digitalis*, from the Amazon region, central and coastal Brazil; and *O. p. sebae*, from Mexico to Ecuador (Bailey, 1970; Lynch, 2009, MacCulloch et al. 2009).

*Oxyrhopus petolarius* is mainly nocturnal and terrestrial (with occasional records of diurnal and arboreal activity), and inhabits both forested and open areas, including anthropogenic ones (e.g., Costa et al. 2010, McCranie, 2011). It is a food generalist species, whose diet in the wild includes small mammals, lizards, birds, and occasionally amphibians, snakes and bird eggs (e.g., Slórzano, 2004, Gaiarsa et al., 2013). There are records of *O. petolarius* feeding on lizards, frogs, mice, and birds (young chicken included) in captivity (Boos, 2011). A specimen in captivity ate the frog *Mannophryne collaris* (Boulenger, 1912), the lizards *Mabuya meridensis* Miralles, Rivas and Schargel, 2005, and *Cnemidophorus lemniscatus* (Linnaeus, 1758), as well as the house mouse *Mus musculus* Linnaeus, 1758 (Esqueda et al., 2005). The venom of *O. p. petolarius* seems to be highly toxic to *Anolis* lizards (Boos, 2001).

On 25 July 2013, an adult specimen of *Oxyrhopus petolarius digitalis* was found at 22:30 constricting,

and later ingesting head-first a *Tropidurus torquatus* (Wied, 1820) (Squamata: Tropiduridae) in a parking lot, in Viçosa, state of Minas Gerais, Brazil (20°45'S, 42°52'W; Figure 1). The area is located within the Brazilian Atlantic Forest. Both snake and lizard were not collected, but were easily identified by comparing their color patterns with those of known reptiles of Viçosa (Costa et al. 2009, 2010). The observation lasted for 10 minutes, but the complete ingestion of the lizard was not observed (J. Duarte; pers. comm.).

Bailey (1940) recorded *Tropidurus* sp. as prey of *O. p. digitalis* with no further information. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first record of *Tropidurus torquatus* as prey of *Oxyrhopus petolarius* (see Table 1).

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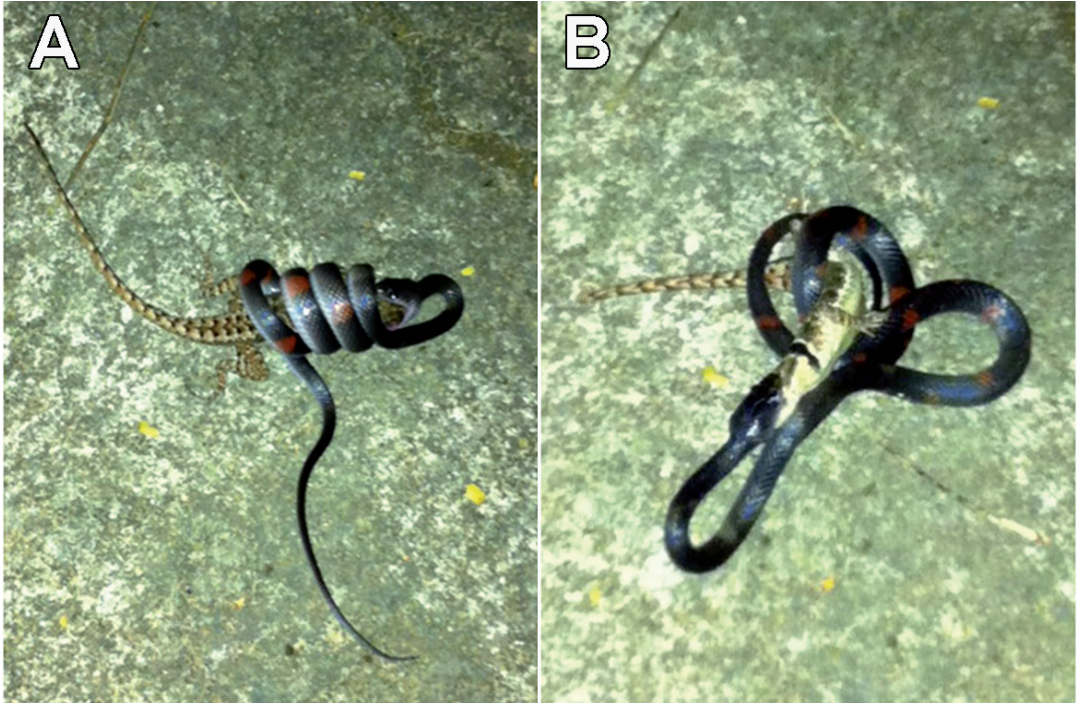
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**Figure 1.** *Oxyrhopus petolarius digitalis* constricting (A) and ingesting (B) a *Tropidurus torquatus* in Viçosa, Minas Gerais, Brazil, on 25 July 2013, 2230h. Photos by Juvenal Duarte.

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**Table 1.** Taxa recorded as preys of *Oxyrhopus petolarius* ssp. in the wild.

TAXON	SOURCE
<b>AMPHIBIA</b>	
<b>ANURA</b>	
<b>Leptodactylidae</b>	
<i>Leptodactylus</i> sp.	Gaiarsa et al. 2013 (subspecies not mentioned)
<b>SQUAMATA</b>	
<b>“LIZARDS”</b>	
Unidentified lizards	Bailey 1940 and Palmuti et al. 2009 ( <i>O. p. digitalis</i> )
<b>Dactyloidae</b>	
<i>Anolis scyphus</i> Cope, 1864 (cited as <i>A. incomptus</i> )	Bailey 1940 ( <i>O. p. petolarius</i> )
<b>Gekkonidae</b>	
<i>Hemidactylus mabouia</i> (Moreau de Jonnès, 1818)	Nogueira et al. 2013 ( <i>O. p. digitalis</i> )
<b>Gymnophthalmidae</b>	
<i>Arthrosaura reticulata</i> (O’Shaughnessy, 1881)	Gaiarsa et al. 2013 (subspecies not mentioned)
<i>Bachia heteropa</i> (Wiegmann, 1856)	Murphy 1997 ( <i>O. p. petolarius</i> )
<i>Cercosaura eigenmanni</i> (Griffin, 1917)	Duellman 2005 ( <i>O. p. digitalis</i> )
<i>Cercosaura manicata</i> O’Shaughnessy, 1881	Duellman 1978 ( <i>O. p. digitalis</i> )
<i>Cercosaura</i> sp.	Gaiarsa et al. 2013 (subspecies not mentioned)
<i>Ptychoglossus myersi</i> Harris, 1994	Harris 1994 (subspecies not mentioned)
<i>Prionodactylus</i> sp. (currently <i>Cercosaura</i> )	Bailey 1940 ( <i>O. p. digitalis</i> )
<b>Scincidae</b>	
<i>Mabuya unimarginata</i> Cope, 1862	McCranie 2011 (subspecies not mentioned)
<b>Sphaerodactylidae</b>	
<i>Gonatodes</i> sp.	Murphy 1997 ( <i>O. p. petolarius</i> )
<b>Teiidae</b>	
<i>Ameiva festiva</i> (Lichtenstein, 1856)	Guyer and Donnelly 2004
<i>Kentropyx pelviceps</i> (Cope, 1868)	Duellman 1978 ( <i>O. p. digitalis</i> ); Gaiarsa et al. 2013 (subspecies not mentioned)
“Teiid lizard”	Bailey 1940 ( <i>O. p. sebae</i> ; <i>O. p. semifasciatus</i> [= <i>digitalis</i> ])
<b>Tropiduridae</b>	
<i>Tropidurus torquatus</i> (Wied, 1820)	This study
<i>Tropidurus</i> sp.	Bailey 1940 ( <i>O. p. digitalis</i> )
<b>“SNAKES”</b>	
<b>Dipsadidae</b>	
<i>Amastridium veliferum</i> Cope, 1860	Slórzano 2004 (subspecies not mentioned)
<b>AVES</b>	
“Bird eggs”	Cunha and Nascimento 1983 ( <i>O. p. digitalis</i> ); Gaiarsa et al. 2013 (subspecies not mentioned)
“Bird feathers”	Freitas 2003 (subspecies not mentioned)
“Fledgling Bird”	Duellman 2005 ( <i>O. p. digitalis</i> )

TAXON	SOURCE
<b>COLUMBIFORMES</b>	
<b>Columbidae</b>	
<i>Columbina talpacoti</i> (Temminck, 1811)	Bernarde and Machado 2000 ( <i>O. p. digitalis</i> ); Gaiarsa et al. 2013 (subspecies not mentioned)
<b>MAMMALIA</b>	
"Mammal hair"	Scott 1969 <i>apud</i> Guyer and Donnelly 2004
"Mammals remains"	Murphy 1997 ( <i>O. p. petolarius</i> )
"Small mammals"	Bailey 1940 ( <i>O. p. petolarius</i> ; <i>O. p. sebae</i> ; <i>O. p. semifasciatus</i> [= <i>digitalis</i> ]); Gaiarsa et al. 2013 (subspecies not mentioned)
<b>CHIROPTERA</b>	
<b>Phyllostomidae</b>	
<i>Carollia perspicillata</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	França and Lima 2012 ( <i>O. p. digitalis</i> )
<b>RODENTIA</b>	
"Large mouse"	Neill 1965 ( <i>O. p. aequifasciatus</i> [= <i>sebae</i> ])
"Rat"	Bailey 1940 ( <i>O. p. petolarius</i> )
"Unidentified rodent"	Bernarde and Machado 2000 ( <i>O. p. digitalis</i> )
"Wild rodents"	Cunha and Nascimento 1978 ( <i>O. p. digitalis</i> )
<b>Cricetidae</b>	
<i>Akodon cursor</i> Winge, 1887	Rocha and Vrcibradic 1998 ( <i>O. p. digitalis</i> )
<i>Oligoryzomys nigripes</i> (Olfers, 1818)	Vrcibradic et al. 2011 ( <i>O. p. digitalis</i> )
<b>Muridae</b>	
<i>Mus musculus</i> Linnaeus, 1758	Husson 1978 (subspecies not mentioned)