

LAMPROPELTIS CALLIGASTER CALLIGASTER (Prairie Kingsnake). **PIGMENTATION.** In early October 1988, a leucistic juvenile male *Lampropeltis c. calligaster* was discovered DOR by Patricia Pisani within the city limits of Lawrence (Douglas County) Kansas, USA. It was preserved by GRP, and is in the KUMNH collection (KU 291545). There exists the possibility that the animal was albino, though condition of the specimen precluded precise determination. Albinism in *L. c. calligaster* was summarized by Dyrkacz (1981. SSAR Herpetol. Circ. No. 11:1–32). Overall pigmentation is white, with faintly discernible pattern typical of the species.

Sincere thanks are expressed to Patricia Pisani for collecting the snake.

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LAMPROPELTIS TRIANGULUM (Milk Snake). **HABITAT.** Habitat associations of the milk snake in the western United States are poorly understood. In the eastern Great Basin and in the northern Colorado Plateau, accounts typically state that *Lampropeltis triangulum* is found in forests, grasslands, and riparian zones, especially in relatively mesic montane valleys and foothills (e.g., Cox and Tanner 1995. Snakes of Utah. Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah. 92 pp.; Hammerson 1999. Amphibians and Reptiles in Colorado. University Press of Colorado, Niwot, Colorado. 484 pp.; Williams 1988. Systematics and Natural History of the American Milk Snake. Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. 176 pp.). Recent observations, and a re-evaluation of previously reported collection localities, indicate that *L. triangulum* inhabits a broader spectrum of habitats. One of us (KWS) observed a *L. triangulum* in arid, big sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*) dominated shrubland along the foothills of the Stansbury Mountains, Tooele Co., Utah, USA, in the eastern Great Basin. Surface water was not present within several miles. The presence of *L. triangulum* in arid sagebrush shrubland in the eastern Great Basin is further supported by additional specimens from nearby localities (BYU 334, USNM 335572), from literature reports from another site in the Stansbury Mountain foothills (Brown and Parker 1982. In Scott [ed.], Herpetological Communities, pp. 59–81. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Wildlife Research Report No. 13), and from a specimen from similar habitat south of the Stansbury Mountains (BYU 8922).

Two of us (DGM and BLW) also encountered two specimens of *L. triangulum* in arid, sparsely vegetated, greasewood (*Sarcobatus*), sage (*Artemisia*), and shadscale (*Atriplex*) shrubland habitats in the northern Colorado Plateau, Carbon Co., Utah, USA. Surface water was not present near either location. Both observations of *L. triangulum* from the Colorado Plateau were from broad, desert flats of the upper Price River drainage. Shaded range maps provided by Cox and Tanner (*op. cit.*) erroneously indicate that *L. triangulum* occurs only in montane regions of the Wasatch Plateau and the Book Cliffs in this region. The presence of *L. triangulum* in arid shrubland habitats in the northern Colorado Plateau is supported by several museum specimens (BYU 2933, BYU 30531, LACM 102472–3, UTEP 9593). Records of *L.*

triangulum on the Colorado Plateau south of the Colorado River are also from arid habitats far from sources of permanent water (Fowle 1965. The Snakes of Arizona. Azul Quinta Press, Fallbrook, California. 164 pp.; Holycross and Simonson 1998. Herpetol. Rev. 29:113–114; Erika Nowak, pers. comm.). However, all of these southern specimens are from grassland habitats. None of the *L. triangulum* we observed was found in an area with a substantial grassy component. These observations indicate that *L. triangulum* in the western United States occupies a wider variety of habitats than is typically recorded, and might be more widely distributed than is currently known.

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LAMPROPELTIS ZONATA (California Mountain Kingsnake). **DIET.** *Lampropeltis zonata* is an inhabitant of mesic, well lit, rocky canyons and moist woodlands. Its diet (reviewed in Zweifel 1974. Cat. Am. Amphib. Rept. 174.1–174.4; McGurty 1988. Proc. Conf. California Herpetol. 73–78; Cranston 1994. Vivarium 6[3]38–43,47) consists of squamates and their eggs, mammals, and birds. Documentation of *L. zonata* predation on lizards includes skinks (*Eumeces*) and spiny lizards (*Sceloporus*). Here we report the first evidence for predation on an alligator lizard (*Elgaria*). This report is also significant because of the relatively large size of the food item.

While conducting biotic field surveys in Sequoia National Forest (USA: California: Kern Co.) we collected a subadult, male *L. zonata* (295 mm SVL, 11.5 g) at Alder Creek, Greenhorn Mountains (35°43'6.5"N, 118°35'48.2"W). The snake was found on 18 June (~1500 h), under a rock 5 m from the creek. The body of the *L. zonata* was visibly distended. Regurgitation of the food item was induced by palpation. The food item was revealed to be a southern alligator lizard (*Elgaria multicarinata*; 79 mm estimated SVL, 7.1 g) that was swallowed head first. The mass of the partially digested *E. multicarinata* was 61.7% of the mass of the *L. zonata*. The *L. zonata* and *E. multicarinata* were deposited in the California Academy of Sciences (CAS 223955).

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MASTICOPHIS FLAGELLUM CINGULUM (Sonoran Coachwhip). **DEFENSIVE BEHAVIOR.** *Masticophis flagellum* exhibits a suite of defensive behaviors when threatened or handled, including mouth gaping, hiding the head under the body, hissing, holding the trunk limp, and vibrating the tail (reviewed by