

CISNEROS-HEREDIA, DIEGO F.

Laboratorio de Anfibios & Reptiles, Universidad San Francisco de Quito. Ave. Interoceanica y calle Diego de Robles, Campus Cumbaya, edif. Maxwell. Casilla Postal 17-12-841 Quito, Ecuador

Notes on the taxonomy, distribution and natural history of snakes of the genus *Atractus* from Ecuador

Snakes of the genus *Atractus* are among the less-known neotropical herpetofauna members. Approximately eighty species have been assigned to this genus, however most of them have been described over the basis of very few specimens. *Atractus* are rarely registered on routinely field research mainly because of their fossorial and semifossorial habits; therefore they are poorly represented in scientific collections and publications. Since the revision of Ecuadorian *Atractus* by Jay Savage in 1960, no new material has been presented about this genus in Ecuador. Recent studies have revealed that at least three species are undescribed, and two species have not been previously reported from Ecuador. *Atractus dunnii* should be consider a synonym of *Atractus lehmanni*, a species that is reported as widespread in western Ecuador, and it is reported the rediscovery of *Atractus micrhorhynchus*. Data on the diet and microhabitat preferences are presented.