

Agkistrodon bilineatus Günther from Costa Rica

by

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The known geographical distribution of *Agkistrodon bilineatus* runs from southern Mexico to Nicaragua (3) and there is no record of members of this genus from Costa Rica (1, 4, 5, 6, 7). The present note is therefore a first report.

The specimen was captured by Fidencio García during the dry season on rocky terrain, at approximately 100 m above sea level at "Hacienda Bejuco", 5 Km east of the Bay of Naranjo, Gulf of Papagayo, 25 Km northwest of Liberia, Guanacaste Province. Tosi (8) classifies this type of ecological region as "Tropical Dry Forest, Moist Province Transition".

The specimen has been kept alive in order to study its venom; it has been assigned the number 3051 in the Zoological Museum of the Department of Biology, University of Costa Rica.

The specimen (Fig. 1), a female, is 47 cm long, with alternate incomplete brown crossbands on a tan ground color; edges of the bands with crescent-like half scale white spots separated by one to three scale rows; ground color of tail is gray; upper and lateral portions of head are brown, underside light tan; the white stripes on the head conform with the pattern of *A. bilineatus bilineatus* (Fig. 2) according to BURGER and ROBERTSON (2).

Preliminary observation on the toxicity of cristalized venom indicates an intravenous LD₅₀ of 21 mcg and an intraperitoneal LD₅₀ of 29 mcg for 16-18 g white mice.

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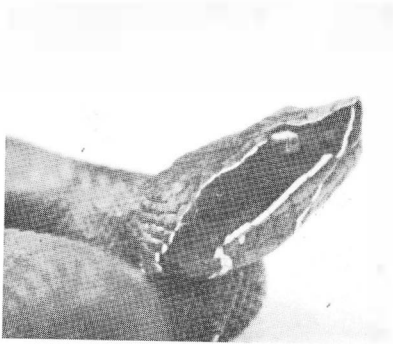
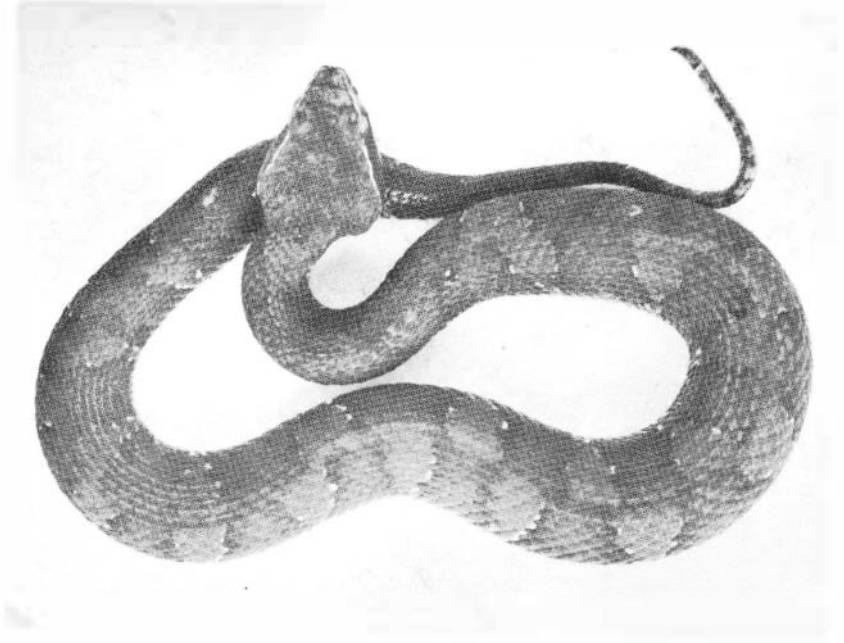
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Fig. 1-2. *Agkistrodon bilineatus* collected in Costa Rica.

Fig. 1. Dorsal view.

Fig. 2. Head, life size.



ERRATUM

Savage, Jay M. & W. Ronald Heyer, The tree-frogs (Family Hylidae) of Costa Rica: diagnosis and distribution. *Rev. Biol. Trop.* 16(1): 1-127, 1968. Página 80, después de 31b., insertar:

- 32a. Superficie posterior del muslo uniforme o con moteado claro y oscuro; nunca con series de puntos claros discretos en el muslo ni vientre oscuro 33