

may determine the subspecies *infralabialis* to be invalid. Until then, this subspecies is still recognized as per Crother, et al. (2000).

Bibliography

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a few photos my lantern fell over into the scene startling the snakes. The Nightsnake released the Sandsnake and they crawled off in different directions. The Sandsnake was bleeding from wounds on its head and neck.

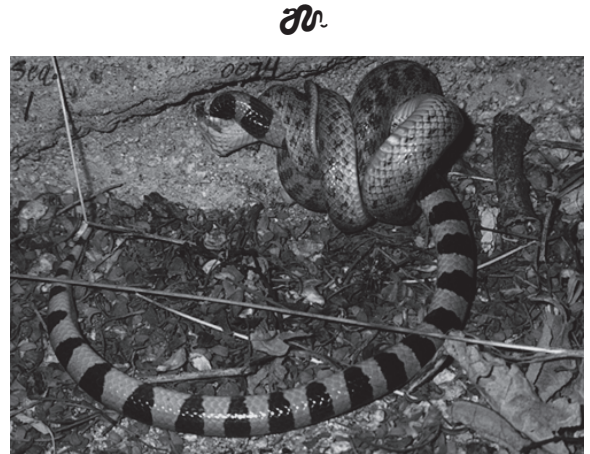
Nightsnakes feed primarily on lizards and squamate eggs, but occasionally prey on other snakes (Rodríguez-Robles *et al.* Copeia 1999:93-100). This is the first record of predation on Variable Sandsnake. Although neither snake was measured or weighed, figures 1 – 3 suggest that had the Sandsnake been eaten, relative prey mass would have exceeded the 0.50 maximum reported for Nightsnakes (Rodríguez-Robles *et al.* 1999. *op. cit.*).

sn.

HYP SIGLENA TORQUATA
(Nightsnake) DIET.

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At 1845 h on 4 May 2000 near the summit of South Mountain (Maricopa County, Arizona) near National Trail (UTM 12 404295E 3690324N, 670 m elev.) I observed an adult Nightsnake attempting to prey upon an adult Variable Sandsnake (*Chilomeniscus stramineus*). I happened upon the snakes as they were writhing and struggling near the edge of a gravelly wash high on the mountain. The Nightsnake had a firm grasp on the Sandsnake's head. It appeared that the Nightsnake was attempting to bend the neck of, and constrict the Sandsnake. I propped my lantern near the scene so that I could take photos (Fig. 1-6). Unfortunately, after taking



Figures 2 and 3.
Nightsnake (*H. torquata*) attempting predation of a Variable Sandsnake (*Chilomeniscus stramineus*)
Photo by Thomas Brennan

Figure 1.
Nightsnake (*H. torquata*) attempting predation of a Variable Sandsnake (*Chilomeniscus stramineus*)
Photo by Thomas Brennan

