



FIG. 1. *Xenochrophis trianguligerus* consuming a fanged frog (*Limnonectes* sp.) in Lambusango Forest Reserve, Buton Island, southeast Sulawesi, Indonesia.

Holland Publishers, London, UK. 376 pp.). However, the diet of *X. trianguligerus* east of Wallace's Line, in Sulawesi and the Moluccas, remains poorly documented (de Lang and Vogel 2005. *The Snakes of Sulawesi*. Edition Chimaira Publishing, Frankfurt, Germany. 312 pp.). Here, we report observations of this species pre-dating and consuming fanged frogs (*Limnonectes* sp.) in Sulawesi.

One observation was made on 4 July 2008 within Lambusango Forest Reserve, Buton Island, southeast Sulawesi, Indonesia (5.35187°S, 122.90182°E; WGS 84). Both the snake and frog were observed on sandy soil ca. 10 m from the bank of a small river, between the buttresses of a small tree. The snake initially seized the frog by its left rear leg and then maneuvered itself into a position where it could consume it, rear first (Fig. 1). A similar observation was made by one of the authors (GG) in Bako National Park, North Sulawesi, in August 2013. These observations demonstrate that components of the diet of *X. trianguligerus* in Sulawesi is similar to that of the species elsewhere in Southeast Asia, and also highlights this snake as a predator of poorly-known *Limnonectes* frogs. Images of this predation event have been deposited in the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Herpetological Image Collection (USNM Herp Image 2901, 2902).

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XENOPELTIS UNICOLOR (Sunbeam Snake). PARASITES. *Xenopeltis unicolor* is known from southeast Asia and the East Indies (Wallach et al. 2014. *Snakes of the World A Catalogue of Living and Extinct Species*. CRC Press, Boca Raton, Florida. 1201 pp.). There are two published records of helminths from *X. unicolor*: the cestode *Macrobothriotaenia ficta* (Scholz et al. 2013. *Zootaxa* 3640:485–499) and the nematode *Meteterakis longispiculata*

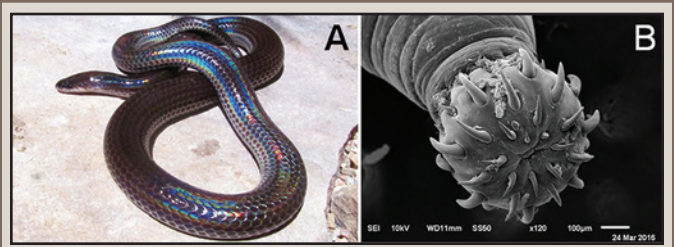


FIG. 1. A) *Xenopeltis unicolor* from Sumatra, Indonesia; B) SEM image of the anterior end of the acanthocephalan parasite, *Sphaerechinorhynchus serpenticola* removed from the intestine of *X. unicolor*.

(Schmidt and Kuntz 1972. *Trans. Amer. Microsc. Soc.* 91:63–66). In this note we add to the helminth list of *X. unicolor*.

One adult female *X. unicolor* (540 mm SVL, 60 mm tail length) collected in 2014 from Sumatra, Indonesia (0.5897°S, 101.3431°E; WGS 84), was obtained from Bushmaster Reptiles, Boulder, Colorado, USA. It was deposited in the University of Northern Colorado Museum of Natural History Herpetology Collection (UNC-MNH 6074), sacrificed, and the body cavity was opened and searched for helminths utilizing a dissecting microscope. The small intestines contained an assortment of helminths. They were cleared in a drop of lactophenol, examined under a compound microscope and identified as two Cestoda (*Macrobothriotaenia ficta*), five Nematoda (*Meteterakis longispiculata*), and 30 Acanthocephala (*Sphaerechinorhynchus serpenticola*). We identified *M. ficta* by comparison to Scholz et al. (2013, *op. cit.*) and *M. longispiculata* from the key provided by Zhang and Zhang (2011. *Zootaxa* 2869:63–88). *Sphaerechinorhynchus serpenticola* (Fig. 1) was identified by comparison to the original description (Schmidt and Kuntz 1966. *J. Parasitol.* 52:913–916). *Sphaerechinorhynchus serpenticola* is previously known from *Naja naja* from Borneo (Schmidt and Kuntz 1966, *op. cit.*) and *Ophiophagus hannah* from Thailand (Kiel and Schmidt 1984. *Avian/Exotic Practice* 1:26–30). A list of species of *Meteterakis* and their helminths was provided by Junker et al. (2015. *Syst. Parasitol.* 92:131–139) and *X. unicolor* is the only known host of *Macrobothriotaenia ficta* (Scholz et al. 2013, *op. cit.*). Voucher helminths were deposited in the Harold W. Manter Parasitology Laboratory (HWML), The University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska, USA as *Macrobothriotaenia ficta* (HWML 111563), *Meteterakis longispiculata* (HWML 111564), *Sphaerechinorhynchus serpenticola* (HWML 111565). *Sphaerechinorhynchus serpenticola* in *X. unicolor* is a new host record.

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