

distance. Which sense organs account for differences in detection distance and whether *Boiga* snakes switch foraging strategy when encountering different prey warrants further research.

YU-FU SUN, The Society of Wilderness, Taichung Branch, Taichung City, 404323, Taiwan (e-mail: osiris740728@gmail.com); **CHUN-KAI YANG**, Center for Interdisciplinary Research on Ecology and Sustainability, National Dong Hwa University, Hualien County, 974301, Taiwan (e-mail: chunkai@gms.ndhu.edu.tw).

BOTHROPS ASPER (Terciopelo). **DIET.** *Bothrops asper* is a medium to large-sized viperid found from southern Mexico to northwestern South America that specializes on mammals as adults (Martins et al. 2002. *In* Schuett et al. [eds.] *Biology of the Vipers*, pp. 307–328. Eagle Mountain Publishers, Eagle Mountain, Utah; Savage 2002. *The Amphibians and Reptiles of Costa Rica*. University of Chicago Press, Chicago, Illinois. 934 pp.; Loaiza-Lange et al. 2023. *PeerJ* 11:e14817) but feeds on a wide variety of prey as juveniles, including centipedes (Boada et al. 2005. *Herpetozoa* 18:77–79), frogs (Sasa et al. 2009. *Toxicon* 54:904–922; Farr and Lazcano 2017. *Southwest. Nat.* 62:77–84), caecilians (Toszeghi et al. 2022. *Herpetol. Notes* 15:307–309), mammals (Farr and Lazcano 2017, *op. cit.*), birds (Boada et al. 2005, *op. cit.*), lizards (Sasa et al. 2009, *op. cit.*; Platt et al. 2016. *Mesoamer. Herpetol.* 3:162–170; Loaiza-Lange et al. 2023, *op. cit.*) and snakes (Roldan and Lucero 2009. *Herpetotropicos* 5:107–110; Farr and Lazcano 2017, *op. cit.*; Gabrysova et al. 2020. *Herpetol. Rev.* 51:859–860) including conspecifics (Buttenhoff and Vogt 1995. *Herpetol. Rev.* 26:146–147).

At ca. 2030 h on 3 February 2023, I found a recently dead *Bothrops asper* (110.7 cm total length) on the road from Dominical to Platanillo de Barú in Puntarenas Province, Costa Rica (9.1653°N, 83.4912°W; WGS 84; 135 m elev.). I collected it and dissected it the next day (Fig. 1), revealing a recently swallowed juvenile *Boa imperator* (Central American Boa Constrictor) (87.5 cm total length). The boa lacked wounds and could have been scavenged. Both animals were deposited at the Vertebrate Department of the University of Costa Rica with the following numbers: UCR 24375 (*Bothrops asper*) and UCR 24374 (*Boa imperator*).



FIG. 1. Road-killed *Bothrops asper* from Puntarenas Province, Costa Rica, that had consumed a juvenile *Boa imperator*.

CÉSAR L. BARRIO-AMORÓS, CRWild, Uvita, Puntarenas, Costa Rica; e-mail: cbarrioamoros@crwild.com.

BOTHROPS ERYTHROMELAS (Caatinga Lancehead). **DIET.** *Bothrops erythromelas* is a terrestrial, medium-sized viperid (Campbell and Lamar 2004. *The Venomous Reptiles of the Western Hemisphere*. Comstock Publishing, Ithaca, New York. 976 pp.), endemic to the Caatinga domain (Guedes et al. 2014. *Zootaxa* 3863:1–93), but also recorded from the Atlantic Forest, and ecotone areas of Caatinga-Cerrado (Marques et al. 2016. *Zookeys* 611:93–142; Gentil et al. 2021. *Ethnobiol. Conserv.* 10[38]:1–48). It has a generalist diet, preying on lizards, amphibians, mammals, and invertebrates (centipedes and scorpions) (Martins et al. 2002. *In* Schuett et al. [eds.], *Biology of the Vipers*, pp. 307–328. Eagle Mountain Publishing, Eagle Mountain, Utah; Ribeiro et al. 2021. *Herp. Rev.* 52:149). However, there are few records of precise prey identification for this species. Here, we report the first record of predation of *Ameiva ameiva* by *B. erythromelas*.

In April 2021, during a herpetological survey in a Carrasco vegetation area in the Chapada do Araripe, Municipality of Crato, Ceará, northeastern Brazil (7.27514°S, 39.60195°W; WGS 84) we found a recently road-killed individual of *B. erythromelas* (Coleção Herpetológica da Universidade Federal do Cariri [CHERP] 293: adult male, 480 mm SVL, 65.3 mm tail length). In its stomach contents we found an adult female *A. ameiva* (107 mm SVL, 235 mm tail length). *Ameiva ameiva* is a medium-sized teiid lizard, with active foraging habits, and wide geographic distribution across South America, occurring in open and forested areas (Vanzolini et al. 1980. *Répteis das Caatingas Academia Brasileira de Ciências*, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. 161 pp.; Ribeiro Jr. and Amaral 2016. *Zootaxa*. 4205:401–430).

Lizards are part of the diet of juvenile and adult *B. erythromelas* (Martins et al. 2002, *op. cit.*), but there are only few published records of identified prey species for this viperid. The records available of lizards as prey include *Tropidurus hispidus* and *Ameivulla ocellifera* (Oliveira et al. 2018. *Herpetol. Rev.* 49:335; Galdino and Torquato 2019. *Herpetol. Rev.* 50:797). Our work increases the number of prey species for *B. erythromelas* and contributes to the knowledge about the natural history of this snake in the Caatinga domain.

This work was licensed by ICMBio (SISBIO Process n° 78313-1). This study was financed by Fundação Cearense de Apoio ao Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico (FUNCAP). IJR thank Programa de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico Regional - PDCTR (CNPq/Funcap) Edital 03/2021, DCT-0182-00049.01.00/21 and 04863348/2022 for a fellowship (PDCTR 301304/2022-0).



FIG. 1. Road-killed *Bothrops erythromelas* with *Ameiva ameiva* in its stomach, in Chapada do Araripe, Crato, Ceará, Brazil.

PHOTO BY SAMUEL RIBEIRO