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KEY WORDS: Reptilia: Squamata: Serpentes: Viperidae: *Trimeresurus albolabris*, *Trimeresurus insularis*, venomous snakes, distribution, Bali, Indonesia

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Snake records from Bolívar province, Ecuador

The Ecuadorian province of Bolívar comprises the foothills and high elevations of the Cordillera Occidental of the Andes from about 1°10'S to 2°10'S. It is drained to the west by tributaries of the Río Babahoyo, and in north-western parts contains stretches of lowland habitat below 500 m. The snake fauna of Bolívar is poorly known. PÉREZ-SANTOS & MORENO (1991) list only eleven species for this province, of which one record – that of *Bothrops atrox* (LINNAEUS, 1758), an Amazonian species which does not occur in Ecuador west of the Andes – is obviously based on confusion with *Bothrops asper* (GARMAN, 1883) or incorrect locality data (see FREIRE & KUCH 1994). To these published records we add the following three species from a small collection made in April 1999 at Las Naves (near the Río Suquibi, north-western province of Bolívar, Ecuador; approximately 79°18'W, 1°17'S, ca. 300-600 m above sea level): *Drymobius rhombifer* (GÜNTHER, 1860) - INHMT 4084 and 4086; *Leptodeira septentrionalis ornata* (BOCOURT, 1884) - INHMT 4081; and *Xenodon rabdocephalus* (WIED, 1824) - INHMT 4082. The specimens are deposited in the herpetological collection of the Instituto Nacional de Higiene y Medicina Tropical "Leopoldo IZQUIÉTA PÉREZ" (INHMT), Guayaquil, Ecuador. Both the *L. septentrionalis ornata* and the *X. rabdocephalus* contained well-digested anuran remains. Two specimens of *B. asper* from the same locality (INHMT 4083 and 4088) and a third specimen from Echeandía (ca. 17 km south-south-west of Las Naves) in

the collection of the Museo de Zoología de la Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador (QCAZ 1470) confirm the existence of this dangerously venomous species in Bolívar, where it is likely to be common and widely distributed.

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KEY WORDS: Reptilia: Squamata: Serpentes: Colubridae: *Drymobius rhombifer*; *Leptodeira septentrionalis ornata*; *Xenodon rabdocephalus*; Viperidae: *Bothrops asper*; new province records; Bolívar, Ecuador

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First record of *Micrurus peruvianus* SCHMIDT, 1936 from Ecuador

The southernmost part of Ecuador, the Cantón Zumba, is poorly known herpetologically. No venomous snake species has been recorded from this area (CAMPBELL & LAMAR 1989; ROZE 1996). During a herpetofaunal survey in July and August 2002, a coral snake of the genus *Micrurus* WAGLER, 1824 that had been killed in town was given to us at the Colegio "Manuela Cañizares" in Zumba (Cantón Zumba, Provincia Zamora-Chinchi, Ecuador, 79°08'02,4"W, 04°51'31,0"S, 1323 m elevation). The specimen is deposited in the herpetological collection of the Museo de Zoología de la Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador, Quito (QCAZ 6094).

The male snake (SVL 476 mm, tail length 72 mm) is tricoloured, without triads, and has 18 black rings on the body and 6 on the tail. The snout and top of the head (including eyes and all of the parietals) are completely black. A pale ring (presumably

white or yellow in life) borders the parietal cap, covers the posterior supralabials, temporals and 0.5 – 1.5 rows of dorsals. The black nuchal ring is 7 dorsals long vertebrally; other black rings are 4 – 8 dorsals long vertebrally. The mental and 1st infralabials are black except in the area where they are in contact with each other; the 2nd infralabials and the anterior part of the 3rd infralabials are also black, with black pigmentation extending onto the lateral margins of the anterior chinshields; the posterior chinshields are black except for their anterior margins, connecting to the black nuchal ring. The pale rings vary from 1.5 – 3 middorsals in length. All the pale dorsal scales are tipped with black spots. The red rings are 3.5 – 6 middorsals long. All the red dorsals have black apices. The tail is bicoloured with 6 black rings separated by shorter white rings. The tail tip is black, as is the tongue. The pale rings are immaculate ventrally except on the tail while irregular black spots are present in the red rings. All rings are complete. There are 15 dorsal scale rows, 1 + 1 temporals, 44 divided subcaudals, a divided anal plate, no supra-anal keels, and 202 ventrals.

In most characters of its external phenotype, this specimen falls within the range of variation reported for the poorly known Peruvian coral snake, *Micrurus peruvianus* SCHMIDT, 1936, and it is with present knowledge referred to this taxon as recognized by SCHMIDT (1936), CAMPBELL & LAMAR (1989) and ROZE (1996). The subcaudal counts (44) and total length (543 mm) of the snake from Zumba exceed the range published for *M. peruvianus*, which is however known from a few specimens only (26 – 42 subcaudals, maximum reported sizes 415 and 433 mm; CAMPBELL & LAMAR 1989; ROZE 1996).

Micrurus peruvianus has previously been known from the Río Marañón drainage in the northern Andes of Peru, where it has been reported from Perico and Bellavista, Departamento de Cajamarca, and Bagua Grande, Departamento de Amazonas (CAMPBELL & LAMAR 1989). Zumba lies at the northern edge of the Huancabamba Depression and is surrounded to the west, north and east by mountains of the Continental Divide, the Cordillera de Tzun-

antza, and the Cordillera del Cóndor, respectively. To the southeast, it is drained by the Río Mayo-Río Chinchipe river system, which connects the area of Zumba to the Río Marañón. The present record of *M. peruvianus* from Ecuador, anticipated by CAMPBELL & LAMAR (1989: 136), extends the known range of this species 120 km north-west from its previous northernmost collecting locality (Bagua Grande, Departamento Amazonas, Perú), and suggests a wider distribution in the Río Mayo, Río Chinchipe and upper Río Marañón drainages and adjacent Andean slopes.

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Testudo hermanni GMELIN, 1789 in Dobroudja (SE Romania), with comments on conservation

Romania's Dobroudja region lies south of the Danube, between that river and the Black Sea and is thus contiguous with nearby Bulgaria. It is a region of great scenic diversity, ranging from the granite peaks of Măcin and the sand spits of the Razim-Sinoe lagoons, through the hills of Babadag and the central tablelands to the southern limestone plateaus, cut by karstic phenome-

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