

On the trail of the elusive

Plain Mountain Adder

4 days, 11 scientists, researchers and field herpers took to the Sneeu Berg Mountains to find a species with only 8 confirmed records...



How do you know it is a Plain Mountain Adder?



Common Egg-eater

- ✓ head indistinct from body
- ✓ long and thin up to 85cm
- ✓ nocturnal hunter (eggs)
- ✓ normally a v-shaped marking behind the head



Plain Mountain Adder

- ✓ triangular shaped head
- ✓ short, max 35cm, heavy bodied
- ✓ diurnal (we think)
- ✓ plain colouration with very indistinct markings



Puffadder

- ✓ triangle head, facial markings
- ✓ thick and heavy bodied
- ✓ diurnal
- ✓ chevron markings from head to tail, rarely sparsely marked.

We found 3 different snakes, in three days, all were males.



Raising the confirmed records to 11 specimens.

This species
is
Endangered

Adders are at
risk
of poaching

Too frequent
burning is
a threat

Plain Mountain adders are data deficient, we still need to learn more about how venomous they are (we think it will be the same as other dwarf adders, causing potential swelling and severe pain), what they prey on, what habitat they prefer (in the past it was assumed that they are found on the upper slopes of the mountains), their breeding and living habits.



What to you do if you find a Plain Mountain Adder

Take a cellphone photo,
Take a GPS reading,
and note the time and date.

WhatsApp it to 063 461 5964
or
Email to alouise.lynch@bionerds.co.za

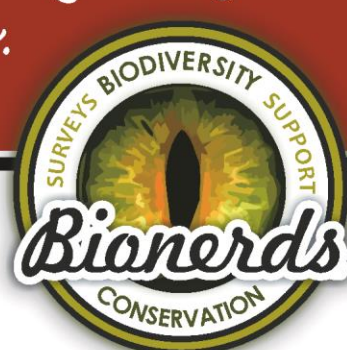
This includes roadkill or dead specimen records!

BE AWARE OF POACHERS!

If you get enquiries about this species, take down the persons details, send it to us or to your closest nature conservation body, and have them vetoed.

Report any suspicious activities, groups like ours function on a permit to conduct our field trips, and it is your right to ask to see anyone's valid permit.

Your Environment, Your Responsibility, Your Legacy...



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