

The body cavity of one female *P. schokari* (SVL = 545 mm) from the Zoological Museum of Tel Aviv University (TAUM), Tel Aviv, Israel (TAUM 12177) collected May 1980 at Holon (32.0167°N, 34.7667°E; WGS 84) in the Southern Coastal Plain Region, was examined for endohelminths. One nematode was found. It was cleared in lactophenol, placed on a microscope slide, coverslipped, and studied using a compound microscope. A mature female nematode was found. The presence of unlobed pseudolabia supporting medial and externolateral teeth allowed it to be identified as *Abbreviata* sp. (Physalopteridae). Species assignment depends on male characters; although it should be noted that *A. adoisi* has been reported from lizards collected in Lebanon (Sulahian and Schacher 1968. J. Helminthol. 42:373–382). The specimen was deposited in the Harold B. Manter Helminthological Collection (HWML), University of Nebraska, Lincoln, USA as (HWML 64807).

Species of *Abbreviata* are common parasites of lizards and snakes (Baker 1987. Mem. Univ. Newfoundland, Occas. Pap. Biol. 11:1–325). The infection site typically is the stomach (Anderson 2000. Nematode Parasites of Vertebrates Their Development and Transmission, 2nd ed., CABI Publishing, Oxfordshire, UK. 650 pp.). It may have entered the body cavity through a perforation in the stomach wall during preservation of the snake. *Psammophis schokari* represents a new host record for species of *Abbreviata*.

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PSEUSTES SHROPSHIREI (Shropshire's Puffing Snake). **DIET.** The genus *Pseustes* includes diurnal, nocturnal, terrestrial, and semi-arboreal snakes (Martins and Oliveira 1998. Herpetol. Nat. Hist. 6:78–150). The diet of *P. shropshirei* is poorly known, consisting only of the seeds from an undetermined plant, and two white brittle-shelled eggs with partially developed avian embryos (Cisneros-Heredia 2005. Herpetol. Rev. 36:327) recovered from a specimen from Ecuador. Here, we present the first record of predation of *P. shropshirei* upon nestling birds (Columbidae: *Zenaida*).

On 30 July 2014 at 1430 h, a juvenile male *P. shropshirei* (SVL = 900 mm; TL = 360 mm; 246 g) was found at the edge of a dirt road in Vereda Cadenales, municipality of Norcasia, department of Caldas, Colombia (5.60759°N, 74.90998°W, WGS 84; elev. 874 m). The snake, which had been killed by a local farmer, was collected and deposited in the herpetological collection of the Museo de Historia Natural de la Universidad de Caldas (MHN-UCa 252). The specimen appeared to contain a large food item, and dissection revealed two nestling *Zenaida* sp. (Fig. 1). The first prey item (Length = 6.5 cm; 27.1 g) was consumed headfirst, and the second prey (Length = 7.2 cm; 24 g) was consumed legs-first. The birds appeared to have been recently consumed and were probably captured alive.

This record provides new knowledge about the feeding habits of *P. shropshirei*, suggesting that like other species in the genus, it preys upon eggs and nestlings of various bird species (Tweit 1996. The Birds of North America. Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, New York. 20 pp.; Stake et al. 2005. J. Herpetol. 39:215–222).

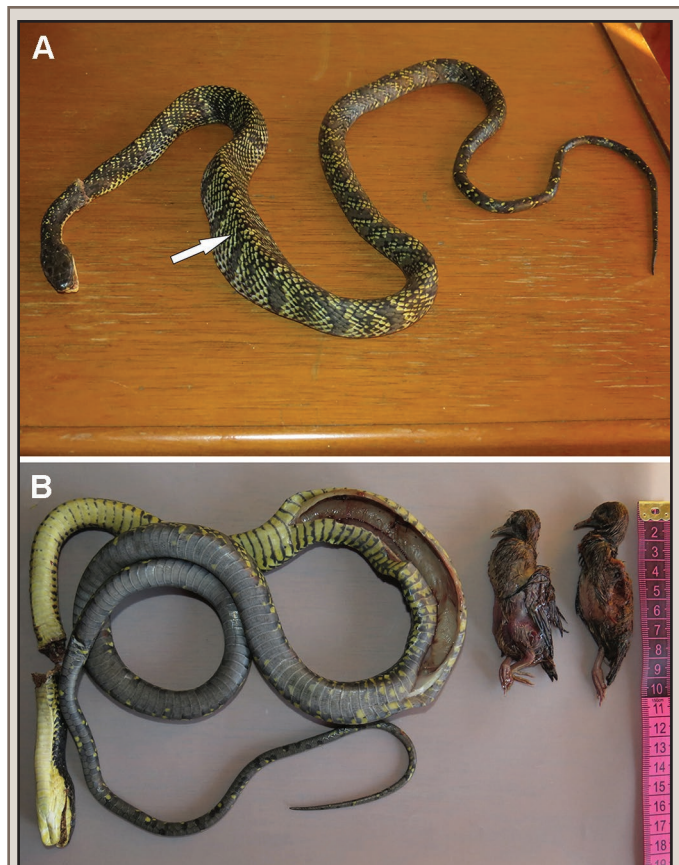


FIG. 1. Dead male *Pseustes shropshirei* from the department of Caldas, Colombia that had consumed two nestlings of *Zenaida* sp.

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SIBON LONGIFRENIS (Drab Snail-eater). **AGGREGATION.** Aggregation is a behavior known in many species of snakes throughout the world. Aggregation has been observed mainly in species from temperate and subtropical zones and has been attributed to mating and overwintering behavior. However, few cases have been observed in tropical species. Here, we report the first aggregation of *S. longifrenis* in tropical rain forest habitat in Costa Rica.

On 27 July, during a field trip in Quebrada González sector of Braulio Carrillo National Park (10.16280°N, 83.94030°W, WGS 84; 535 m elev.), at ca. 0032 h, we observed an aggregation of six *S. longifrenis* actively moving in an understory palm tree, ca. 2–3 m above the ground (Fig. 1). The aggregation consisted of five males (SVLs = 36–58.5 cm) and one non-gravid female (SVL = 56 cm). Since the observation took place at night in tropical rain forest habitat and the individuals were actively moving in a palm tree,