same degree of spontaneity or intensity of the first. The accompanying photograph (Fig. 1) was taken after the initial display, but the body position approximates that of the observed posture.

It may be important to note that this behavior was not observed under controlled conditions nor at initial contact with the salamander, but only after capture, several hours of confinement in a moist collecting tube, and then exposure to a new regime of light, heat and humidity. These variables may have triggered the response, however, specimens of *Plethodon glutinosus* and *P. dorsalis* captured at the same locality and photographed at the same setting, immediately after the *E. lucifuga*, did not respond in the above manner.

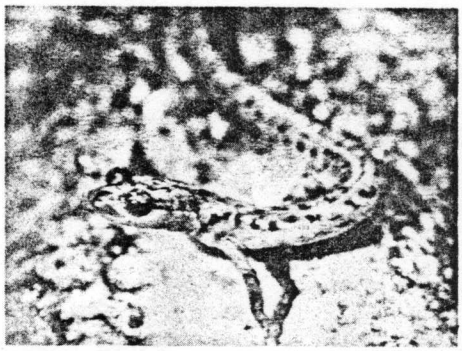

Figure 1. The low intensity rigid posturing exhibited by a specimen of *Eurycea lucifuga*.

Brodie (1977, Copeia 1977(3):523-535) extensively documented defense posturing in salamanders, and presented a photograph and described an antipredator posture for *E. lucifuga*. It included coiling of the body and elevation of the tail. The low intensity, rigid posturing, with elevation of the anterior portion of the body observed in our specimen may be another form of defense posturing by this salamander. It is apparently very similar to the infrequent behavior observed in *Aneides flavipunctatus* which was postulated to be defensive in nature by Jones (1984. SSAR Herp. Review 15(1):17).

Thanks to Dr. E. D. Brodie, Jr. for commenting on an earlier draft of this note.

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EURYCEA LUCIFUGA (Cave Salamander). **COLORATION.** Neither Hensley (1959. Publ. Mus., Mich. State Univ. 1(4):133-159) nor Dyrkacz (1981. SSAR Herp. Circ. No. 11:1-31) listed albinistic specimens of *Eurycea lucifuga*. A leucistic specimen of this species was collected in Mauss Cave, 21 km WNW of Camdenton, Camden County, Missouri, on 28 September 1968 by an Ecology Class from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. The specimen exhibited normal eye color but only two small patches of normal skin pigmentation on its left flank and dorsum of the tail. It measured about 60 mm in total length, with a tail length of 20 mm, extremely short for this species, and had probably only recently metamorphosed.

Minckley (1959. Herpetologica 15(4):240) described a predominantly white specimen of this species, and cited references to several other color variants from the western periphery of the Ozark Plateau Region. The Camden County locality is near the northern edge of that Region.

The speciman was apparently not preserved and has been lost.

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SERPENTES

CEMOPHORA COCCINEA COPEI (Northern Scarlet Snake). **COLORATION.** Amelanistic specimens of *Cemophora coccinea* previously have been reported from Rockingham Co., North Carolina (Brimley 1942. Carolina Tips 5(1):3) and Clayton Co, Georgia (Herman 1983. SSAR Herp. Review 14(4):119). On 9 March 1985, an amelanistic adult female was collected on the Katharine Ordway Preserve/Swisher Memorial Sanctuary, ca. 8.5 km E and 1.5 km S of Melrose, Putnam Co., Florida. The snake, which measured 450 mm (397 mm SVL) with a mass of 13.5 g, was first captured at 2350 h in a pitfall trap on the inside of a continuous terrestrial drift fence encircling an intermittent pond (nicknamed Breezeway pond, 0.1 km S Smith Lake, Putnam Hall Quadrangle) in longleaf pine-turkey oak sandhills habitat.

The dorsal pattern and coloration of the snake resembled the description of the two previously reported specimens. The parts of the dorsum that are normally black in *Cemophora* and the tip of the tongue were pale white, and the eyes were red. The dorsal saddles were reddish-pink and narrow; there were 23 complete saddles on the body and one complete and 4 partial saddles on the tail. No other *Cemophora* have been observed in the vicinity of the drift fence since it was erected in late January, though the species is reportedly not uncommon in the area (R. Franz, pers. comm.).

Submitted by **JAMES N. STUART** and **C. KENNETH DODD, JR.,** Denver Wildlife Research Center, 412 N.E. 16th Ave., Room 250, Gainesville, Florida 32609, U.S.A.

COLUBER CONSTRICTOR PRIAPUS (Southern Black Racer). **FOOD.** At 1515 h on 22 January 1984,7.8 km S Monroe Station on State Highway 94, Monroe County, Florida, I observed an adult (SVL = 936 mm; mass = 159 g) female *Coluber constrictor* carrying a small rodent. When first observed, the snake moved slowly in mid-roadway, head elevated ca. 15 cm above the substrate. The prey struggled feebly as it was maneuvered into a position to facilitate swallowing. The snake made no attempt at constriction and completed swallowing in ca. four min. At that point, I captured the snake, measured, palped and released it. The prey proved to be a juvenile rice rat (*Oryzomys palustris coloratus;* mass = 10.2 g) less than 30 days old (based on tooth eruption pattern and ossification of the frontoparietal region).

C. constrictor is well known for its catholic diet, which includes an impressive array of small mammals (see summary in Fitch 1963. Univ. Kansas Publ. Mus. Nat. Hist. 15:351-468). Despite a variety of dietary studies and anecdotes, *O. palustris* is not reported as prey. *O. palustris* is a cricetid rat abundant in marshy habitats of the southeastern U. S. (Pournelle 1950. J. Mammal. 31:310-319; Ivey 1959. J. Mammal. 40:585-591; Sharp 1967. J. Mammal. 48:557-563), whose morphology and physiology allow it to lead a semi-aquatic existence (Esher et al. 1978. J. Mammal. 59:551-558). The site of this observation is a cypress *(Taxodium distichium)* swamp, a habitat where *C. constrictor* is typically rare, being usually restricted to adjacent larger hammocks that have substantially higher ground. However, the elevated roadbed (of Highway 94) seems to provide enough area for *C. constrictor* nest and refuge sites to support a substantial population because one can observe three to six adult *C. constrictor* per kilometer in the vicinity of this site on warm, sunny days. Because rice rats often nest along similar water-edge habitats (Ivey 1959; Sharp 1967), they appear to be accessible to *C. constrictor* in this juxtaposition of swamp and man-made terrestrial habitats.

Hank Setzer (Florida State Museum, Gainesville) kindly identified and aged the rat.

Submitted by **MARC P. HAYES,** Department of Biology, P.O. Box 249118, University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida 33124, U.S.A.

CROTALUS ATROX (Western Diamondback Rattlesnake). **COLORATION.** In the spring of 1984, a female *Crotalus atrox* (575 mm SVL) was collected at Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Bexar Co., Texas and donated to the San Antonio Zoo by Raymond Cross.

The snake has a gold-brown dorsum which gradually changes to a cream colored venter. There is a dark brown mid-dorsal stripe, varying in scale width, that runs down the entire body, excluding the tail. The tail is black dorsally and the lateral and ventral surfaces are white and cream respectively with black mottling throughout. In front of each eye is a light stripe that extends down to the mouth.

This type of color and pattern has been recorded before in *C. atrox* (Gloyd 1958. Bull. Chicago Acad. Sci. 10:185-195; Karges 1979. Trans. Kansas Acad. Sci. 82(4):205-208; Holmback 1981. Herp Review 12:70; Tennant 1984. Snakes of Texas, 463 pp.). An interesting note is that despite the extensive range of *C. atrox* throughout southwestern North America, all of these specimens have been from localities in south central Texas.

This female will be used for breeding purposes at the zoo with a similarly aberrant male already in the collection.

Submitted by **ERIK HOLMBACK,** Reptile Department, San Antonio Zoological Gardens and Aquarium, San Antonio, Texas 78212, U.S.A.

CROTALUS MOLOSSUS (Blacktail Rattlesnake). **ANOMALY.** A male *Crotalus molos-*