

## A new species of *Atractus* Wagler, 1828 (Serpentes: Colubridae) from Eastern Amazonia, Brazil

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### Abstract

A new species of *Atractus* from the “Estação Científica Ferreira Penna”, Eastern Amazonia, Pará State, Brazil is described, and diagnosed by the following set of characters: 17-17-17 smooth dorsal scales without pits; 162 ventrals and 30 pairs of subcaudals in the single measurable male and 171 ventrals and 24 pairs of subcaudals in the single available female; the three available specimens (two males and one female) has frontal wider than long; nasal contacting loreal, internasals, rostral, and the two first pairs of supralabials; loreal contacting internasal, and second and third supralabials; preocular absent; two postoculars; two light spots on the back of the head; wide-black median ventral band; and subcaudals totally black.

**Key words:** Snake, *Atractus caxiuana*, systematics, Dipsadinae

### Introduction

The Neotropical genus *Atractus* includes about 100 species of fossorial snakes (Passos et al., 2005). Despite the fact that the genus has a confused taxonomic history, several taxonomic studies are available for Ecuador (Savage, 1960), Venezuela (Roze, 1961, 1966), Suriname (Hoogmoed, 1980, 1982), Panama (Myers, 2003), Colombia (Haad, 2004) and eastern and central Brazilian Amazonia (Cunha & Nascimento, 1983; Martins & Oliveira, 1993). The genus occurs from eastern Panama through northern South America south to Amazonian Bolivia and southern Brazil (Peters & Orejas-Miranda, 1970; Myers, 2003). Presently, the knowledge of *Atractus* in Brazilian Amazonia is still far from complete, with new records regularly been added and new species described (Schargel & García-Pérez, 2002; Hoogmoed & Prudente, 2003).

Cunha & Nascimento (1983) described three species of *Atractus* from Brazilian Amazonia: *A. albuquerquei* Cunha & Nascimento, 1983, *A. alphonsehogei* Cunha &