



Pacific lowland snakes of the genus *Atractus* (Serpentes: Dipsadidae), with description of three new species

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Abstract

The taxonomic status of the Pacific lowland *Atractus* is revised on the basis of meristic, morphometric, colour pattern, and hemipenial characters. Geographical variation is reported for six *Atractus* species (*A. boulengerii*, *A. clarki*, *A. iridescens*, *A. melas*, *A. multicinctus*, and *A. paucidens*). *Atractus boulengerii* is rediscovered and redescribed from a specimen from the Colombian coast. The first voucher specimens are reported for *A. melas*. The current status of *A. microrhynchus* is maintained based on the discovery of new material referable to that species. Three new species of *Atractus* are described from the Pacific lowland of Colombia: *A. echidna* sp. nov., *A. medusa* sp. nov., *A. typhon* sp. nov. Two new *Atractus* species groups (*multicinctus* and *paucidens*) are proposed based on external morphology, maxillary dentition, and hemipenial characters. A new key to Pacific lowland species of *Atractus* is provided.

Key words: South America, rainforest, Pacific lowland, *multicinctus* group, *paucidens* group, taxonomy, hemipenis