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***Corallus cropanii* (Hoge)**

Xenoboa cropanii Hoge, 1954:27. Type-locality "Miracatu, State of São Paulo, Brazil." Holotype, Instituto Butantan 15.200, an adult male, collected by José Santos (examined by GP).

Corallus cropanii: Kluge, 1991:48.

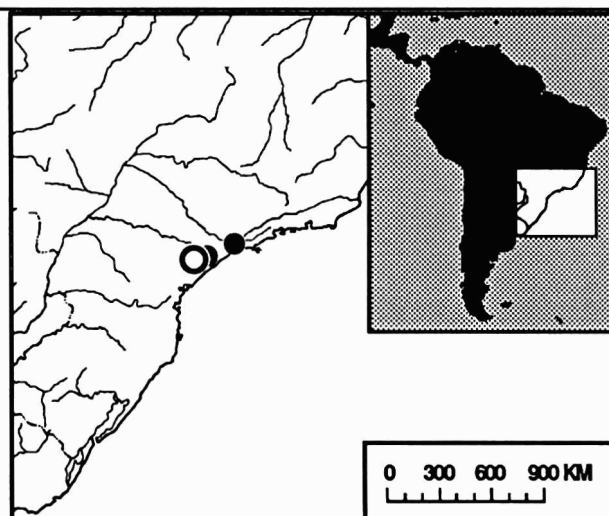
• **Content.** *Corallus cropanii* is monotypic.

• **Definition.** Maximum SVL is at least 1340 mm. The general habitus is that of a chunky head distinct from the neck, a stout body (midbody circumference about 9.7% of SVL) that exhibits only slight lateral compression, and a short (14-18% of body length in males) prehensile tail. Scale counts are available only for males: dorsal scale rows at midbody 29-32; ventrals 179-200; subcaudals 51-53; loreals 2; sublores 3-4; supralabials 10-14, with well-developed labial pits; infralabials 14, with well-developed labial pits; scales around eye 9-10; scales between supraorbitals 3-4; nasals not in contact and bordered by 3 scales.

The dorsal ground color is beige/khaki to olive green. The dorsum is patterned with 36-38 pale copper to dark brown rhomboid-shaped markings (4-5 scales wide at midbody) on the body; a series of smaller, more laterally situated, more or less rhomboidal shapes runs the length of the body. The pattern continues onto the tail. The venter is white to dingy yellow; the free edge of the ventral scales is marked with dark brown, and the extent of the dark brown color becomes greater on the posterior portion of the venter. The subcaudals are likewise lightly to moderately patterned with dark brown.

The hemipenis is weakly bilobed (organ to subcaudal 7, bilobed at 7); the most proximal flounce is at subcaudal 3, the flounces grading into large calyces with scalloped edges distally; coarse papillae are set at the apex; and the sulcus spermaticus is forked.

• **Diagnosis.** *Corallus cropanii* may be distinguished from all



Map. Distribution of *Corallus cropanii*. The large, open circle indicates the type-locality. Solid circles indicate other localities.

other neotropical boines by the low number of dorsal scale rows at midbody (29-32). *Corallus caninus*, the species most similar to *C. cropanii*, has >60; *C. enydris* from southeastern Brasil has >50. *Epicrates cenchria* in southern Brasil has >40 dorsal scale rows at midbody.

• **Descriptions.** The only description is the original by Hoge (1954). Kluge (1991) presented a diagnosis.

• **Illustrations.** Black and white, and color, photographs of the head and full body appear in Hoge (1954). A color drawing appears in Amaral (1976).

• **Distribution.** The species is only known from the vicinity of

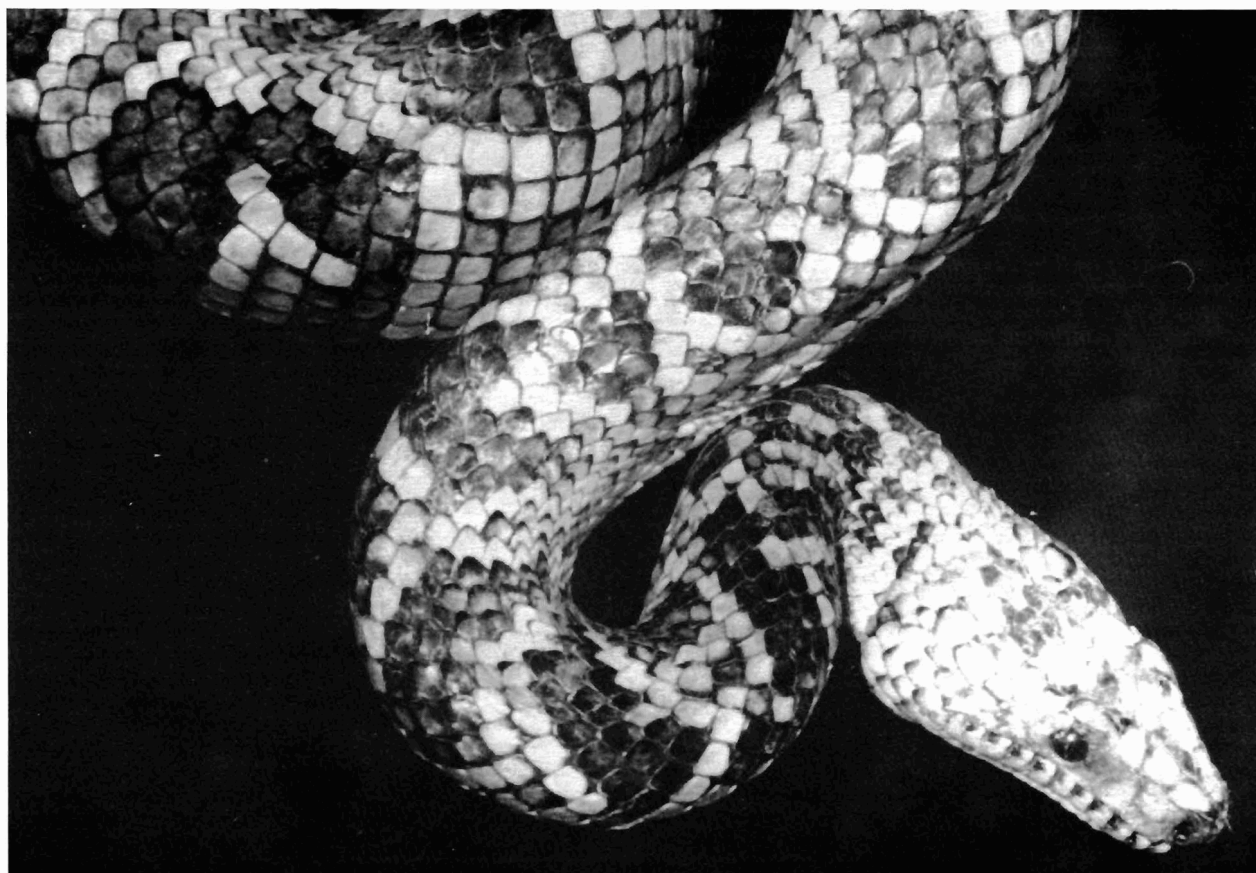


Figure. Holotype of *Corallus cropanii*. Photograph courtesy of Alma R. Hoge.

the type-locality in the state of São Paulo, Brasil, on or near the coastal plain at elevations 40-45 m above sea level.

• **Fossil Record.** None.

• **Pertinent Literature.** We are aware of only three specimens of this species and virtually nothing is known about its natural history. Kluge (1991) discussed phylogeny based primarily on skull characters. Bogert (1968) and McDowell (1979) discussed possible generic relationships of *Xenoboa*. The hemipenis is described and discussed by Hoge (1954), McDowell (1979, 1987), and Branch (1981).

• **Etymology.** The name *cropanii* is a patronym in honor of Ottorino de Fiori, Baron de Cropani, Director of the Instituto Vulcanológico at Catania, Brazil.

• **Remarks.** Based on a large suite of characters (primarily skeletal), Kluge (1991) synonymized *Xenoboa* with *Corallus* to avoid recognition of a paraphyletic taxon (i. e., *Corallus*), inasmuch as he regarded *C. cropanii* and *C. caninus* as sister species.

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