



INTRODUCED SPECIES

First Record of Red Cornsnakes (*Pantherophis guttatus*) on Andros Island, The Bahamas

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On Saturday, 27 August 2016 at 2100 h, the second author's son found a small (total length ~20 cm) snake (Fig. 1) in the bathtub of their guest house in Nicholls



Fig. 1. Juvenile Red Cornsnake found on 28 August 2016 on Andros Island, The Bahamas. Photograph by Doral Woods.

Town, Andros Island, The Bahamas (25°08'39.18"N, 78°00'24.56"W). Uncertain of the snake's identity, the second author sent photographs to the senior author for identification. The snake was a Red Cornsnake (*Pantherophis guttatus*). The following morning at 0830 h, another juvenile Cornsnake was found in the bathroom of the guest house. Both snakes were captured and euthanized. Kenneth L. Krysko confirmed the identification from photographs and accessioned a single digital image in the Florida Museum of Natural History (photographic voucher UF-Herpetology 178591).

Red Cornsnakes were first recorded in The Bahamas on Grand Bahama Island in the 1990s (Buckner and Franz 1994). Since then, they have been recorded on New Providence (Knapp et al. 2011; Buckner et al. 2012) and Abaco (Giery 2013). The first report of a Red Cornsnake on Andros Island was from Morgan's Drive, Nicholls Town in 2015, and photographs of that animal began showing up on local WhatsApp® groups shortly thereafter. Although we do not know the introduction pathway of this species to the island, it might have been imported on landscaping plants brought in from New Providence or Florida. This photograph represents the first documented evidence of a possibly established population of Red Cornsnakes on Andros Island and the species' further expansion in The Bahamas.

Literature Cited

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