



# An Unusual Yellow Morph of the Bamboo Pitviper, *Trimeresurus gramineus* (Shaw 1802), from Amboli, Maharashtra

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The Bamboo Pitviper (*Trimeresurus gramineus*) is an arboreal viperid (Sawant et al. 2010; Harrington et al. 2018) endemic to India, where it is known from the states of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, and Madhya Pradesh (D’Abreu 1928; Whitaker and Captain 2004; Nande and Deshmukh 2007; Srinivasulu and Das 2008; Dutta et al. 2009). Bamboo Pitvipers vary in color and pattern, with a green, olive, or bluish dorsum and labials, chin, and venter some shade of yellow.

Herein we describe an unusual yellow color morph (Fig. 1) encountered on 14 July 2018 near the Hiranyakeshi Temple in Amboli, Maharashtra (15.964186°N, 74.017344°E). This snake (about 60 cm SVL) was yellow with slightly darker irregular markings, a darker dorsum with a faint olive cast fading into yellowish white labials and a bright yellow venter, and yellow-orange irises.

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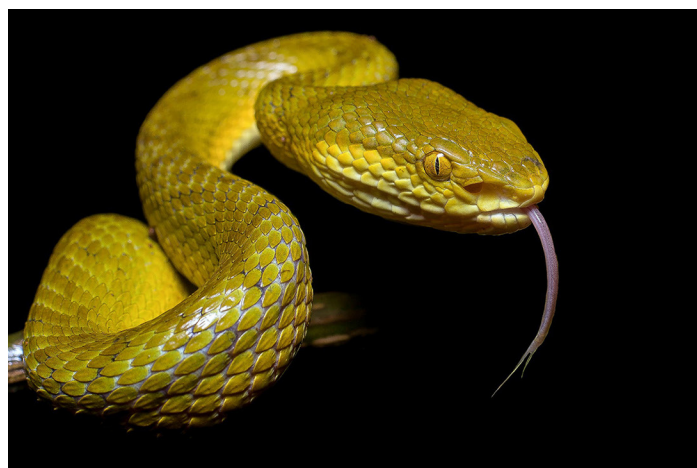


Fig. 1. An unusual yellow Bamboo Pitviper (*Trimeresurus gramineus*) from Amboli, Maharashtra, India. Photographs by Samruddha Patil.

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