



# Road-killed Blue Ridge Two-lined Salamander (*Eurycea* cf. *wilderiae*) Scavenged by a Grand Globe Snail (*Mesodon normalis*) in Georgia, USA

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Both the Blue Ridge Two-lined Salamander (*Eurycea* cf. *wilderiae*) and the Grand Globe Snail (*Mesodon normalis*) inhabit the Appalachian Mountains of the eastern United States (Emberton 1995; Kozak et al. 2006). Salamanders often attempt to cross roads on rainy nights, and vehicular mortality is a significant threat to amphibian populations in certain regions (Gibbs and Shriver 2005; Glista et al. 2008).

At 0036 h on 22 October 2021 we observed a *M. normalis* feeding on a road-killed *E. cf. wilderiae* carcass (Fig. 1) on Everett Springs Rd south of the John’s Mountain Wildlife Management Area in Floyd County, Georgia (34.5288840°N, 85.114975°W). The snail and the salamander carcass were moved away from the road after photographs were taken. We observed this interaction while conducting salamander surveys along roads in the region on a rainy night during the courtship period for *Eurycea* spp. We also observed several other salamanders: *E. cf. wilderiae*, *E. aquatica*, *E. longicauda*, *Plethodon glutinosus*, *Pseudotriton ruber*, *Hemidactylium scutatum*, and *Ambystoma opacum* crossing roads during that survey.

Few reports document gastropods feeding on amphibian carcasses (Tan et al. 2015; Pustilnik 2020; Yadav et al. 2021; Ayres 2022). *Mesodon normalis* is known to feed on bark, lichen, soil, and fungi (Froster and Stiven 1996), but scavenging behavior on amphibian carcasses has not been reported until now.

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**Fig. 1.** A Grand Globe Snail (*Mesodon normalis*) feeding on a Blue Ridge Two-lined Salamander (*Eurycea* cf. *wilderiae*) in Floyd County, Georgia, USA. Photographs by Yatin Kalki.

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