**General Info**

This is Volume 1 Number 1. A good portion of the newsletter will sum up the responses and ideas generated by the initial public offering of Varanews, Number 0.

Overall, the response has been quite impressive, not only in numbers (detailed later on), but in the enthusiasm expressed by many of you. Several respondents sent in a list of other potentially interested parties...one list contained 150 individuals, herp societies and zoos.

Many offers to assist in the growth of Varanix were tendered. Possibilities you might consider are discussed in the following pages. Remember the projects will only move forward if enough people are inclined to get involved.

Beginning with this issue, the intent is to mail Varanews every 2 months. As with any publication, it helps to have material to put into print. Even if you have an idea for an article, jot down a few lines and send them in. There's a good chance someone will pick up from there.

Sections of the newsletter will only appear when there is something to print. If you are drawn to a particular section, send in an article, how-to, or 7 to get things going. If you don't see a topic you would be interested in, speak up.

**Responsibility**

With increasing non-positive legislation targeting captive care of many creatures, successful captive propagation is becoming a significant justification to continue to maintain animals in captivity. Indeed, many of your comments stressed the importance to move forward with captive breeding programs. You are not alone.

An article discussing the largest skink, *Corucia zebrata*, stresses importance of captive breeding (Sprackland, 1990):

"More than ever, the conservation of many animals and plants may rest in the hands of serious and properly educated private keepers and breeders."

An article featuring several varanids (*V. dumerili*, *V. exanthematicus*, *V. salvator*, *V. niloticus*) begins a discussion of captive care with the following statement (Bennett, 1990):

"Catching such an animal, flying it to the other side of the world and keeping it merely as a pet, or as an object of curiosity, has exactly the same effect as using the unfortunate creature's gallbladder as an aphrodisiac, or removing its skin to make a pretty pair of shoes, i.e., the overall population is further depleted."

Seen in a discussion of the increasing need for captive propagation of dart-poison frogs (ISSD Notes from the Editors, 1990):

"The obligation must continue to the point of reproduction, because it is just not good enough to have these jewels for a short time and then lose them."

Captive breeding...where does one start? Here are a couple ideas to get the thought processes started.

**Proper husbandry techniques**: It should be obvious that the first step to captive propagation is healthy animals. The well-intentioned keeper must be equipped with the proper tools if he or she is to be successful.

If your animal is healthy, you're doing something right. Keeping track of environmental parameters (e.g., temperature range, lighting) and "personal" statistics (e.g., weight, length, feeding) is an important part of repeating success and avoiding failure with subsequent animals.

Varanix exists as the means for you to pass along your experiences to others who share the same admiration for Varanidae. If you've developed a handy chart or system of keeping records, send it in for publication. This can only increase the number of individual captive care success stories, which is a step in the right direction for captive breeding.

As difficult as it may be, it is just as important to let others know about your misfortunes so they can avoid the same pitfalls. Requests for anonymity are always strictly respected.
Efficient habitat design: The spatial requirement is one area that sets apart the captive care of varanids. Providing enough elbow room for an individual animal can be difficult enough, especially for the larger species. A successful breeding program must begin with an even more significant piece of real estate.

Once the essential environmental parameters have been determined, efficient "life-support" systems must be put within reach of the amateur herpetoculturist if he or she is to meet and exceed these basic needs. This means low-cost, low-maintenance systems, design of a large, heated, recirculating water tank with easy access and quick drain/refill plumbing always comes to mind.

If you've been involved in or know of successful breeding programs, share the details of the project with the readership.

Cited

Who Heard The Call?
Number 0 of Varan News was sent to 98 herp societies. As of mid-September, responses numbered more than 100, including the US, but also including Australia, Germany, India and New Zealand. (Responses continue to trickle in..) The enthusiasm level of those responding ranges from the enthusiastic initiate to the seasoned professional herpetologist, with the balance leaning toward the former.
Several herp societies responded by putting Varan in their newsletter exchange program. They are:

Arizona Herpetological Association
Greater Cincinnati Herpetological Society
Idaho Herpetological Society
Michigan Society of Herpetologists
The Alaskan Reptile & Amphibian Society
Tucson Herpetological Society

Many thanks to all of you who let your members know about Varan.

$ $ $
As previously noted, the response to the call for varanid-lovers has been quite impressive. So good, in fact, that it is time to share the cost of printing and mailing.

Mailing each issue will soon cost between 30 and 50 cents in the US. Printing this issue cost about $150; using recycled paper adds $20-$30% to the cost. (Extra copies are printed for distribution to stores and the potential requests for back issues. Let Varan know if you would like extra copies to distribute.)

A membership fee, whether individual, family or organization, of $10 per year will help cover these basic expenses. (Consider the following: $2 - $3 will be spent to mail your copies in the US, for a year... overseas is a bit more. There is currently no other source of revenue, e.g., paid advertising, to cover expenses. Then there are mailing labels...)

Remember, you will also receive the fact and care sheets when they are completed, as well as whatever else is generated by the collective efforts of the members.

If you are reading this because you returned the info sheet or sent in a letter requesting Varan News, you will receive the next issue. Volume 1 Number 1 (V1N1), due early December. In order to receive the following issue, V1N2, the $10 fee must be received by January 15, 1991.

Inquiries:
Greg Naderio
8728 D St. Sapulveda Bl. #243
Los Angeles, CA 90045
USA

Attn: Varan

Messages may also be left on CompuServe, user ID: 71320,721

Editorial Review Board: Mark Bayless
Robert G. Sprackland

Varan News is the newsletter of Varan, the Varanid Information Exchange. Varan was founded to serve the interests of varanids and varanid-keepers throughout the world. A primary function of the eXchange is to build a collective knowledge base that will serve to improve the standard of living of these magnificent creatures in the captive world.

Editorial subscriptions may be in print or, preferably, in electronic form. Both PC and Mac diskettes are acceptable, in ASCII, Microsoft Word, WordPerfect or RTF format.

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Are You There?

Letters sent to the following societies were returned by the Post Office. If you know where they can be located, let them know about Varanix.

- South Texas Amphibian & Reptile Society
- Iowa Herpetological Society
- Tampa Bay Herpetological Society
- Rocky Mountain Herpetological Society
- Dallas Herpetological Society
- Sacramento Valley Herpetological Society
- St. Louis Herpetological Society

Public Relations

In a sense, Varanus has begun to “come out of the closet” with the recent movie in which a V. salvator (actually several V. salvator) starred as a V. komodoensis. Increasing public awareness of Varanidae will require maintaining a responsible public image of monitors and keepers thereof. This is especially true for amateur herpetologists, if we are to legally retain the privilege to keep these creatures. (Unfortunately, as many of you know firsthand, many countries, states, and counties already ban captive care of varanids.) A few sensationalized TV news fillers about a monitor on the loose are all it takes to start a ‘pit-bull’ mentality directed at varanids.

Be careful and be responsible.

911

Quite a few people asked for information and a list of publications about their varanid. The availability of species-specific fact and care sheets (discussed later) would be a major step in providing the well-intentioned herpetoculturist with the basic tools to get off to a good start.

Until data sheets are available, other mechanisms are required.

Best efforts will be made to locate and publish articles which respond to your questions, such as this month’s reprint of Pete Strimple’s year-long observations on a V. exanthematicus.

Would you like to be part of a panel of “Answer-Hominids” who could help field questions and provide accurate responses? If so, let Varanix know. Please specify your area of expertise, i.e., the categories you would feel comfortable addressing. Also, indicate the most convenient way to communicate the questions/answers—letter, phone, CompuServe?

When seeking assistance, please supply as much information as possible about your animal and its lifestyle. (As you will read later, Varanus can be reached a variety of ways...the hitch is that all but one of them require a computer and a modem.) Please provide the following details, as best you can.

- Species
- Size
- SVL (snout-to-vent length)
- TL (total length)
- Weight
- Food
- type
- frequency fed
- Habitat
- dimensions
- substrate
- heating
- temperature in habitat
- type of heating (e.g., hot rock, incandescent bulbs)
- Type of lighting
- sunlight (filtered/unfiltered)
- fluorescent
- Description of problem

If requesting species identification, please provide clear photos, at least a profile and top angle shot.

Computer Bytes, Man

Contacting Varanix just got easier for those of you with a computer and a modem. (Which means it also got harder for some of you to find an excuse not to contribute something!)

Herp-Net

I recently went on-line to Herp-Net, the Herpetology Online Network, to let people know about Varanix. As stated in the July/Aug 1990 issue of Reptile & Amphibian Magazine, Herp-Net is “a computer-based system that allows anyone with an interest in reptiles or amphibians to participate in a national (and international) network of professional and herpetologists, veterinarians, biologists, students, and others”.

Herp-Net can be accessed at any modem speed by calling (215) 464-3562. There is no membership fee. You pay only for phone time.

CompuServe

CompuServe is a subscription service which offers a wide range of features. There is an electronic mail system through which messages and files (such as article submissions) can be sent via modem. My user ID is 71320,721.

When specifying a keyword or subject, use
monitor', 'varanix' or 'varanews'. (In most electronic communications, the sender may provide a subject or keyword for the file which is being uploaded, or sent, to the recipient's "mailbox". This feature is useful when sifting through a "stack" of mail, as automatic searches may be done on these words. Only the desired files are then downloaded, or retrieved, from the mailbox.) I will make it a habit to check for messages at least once a week...more often as life allows.

Conferences
If you know of any conferences, symposiums, etc. which will in any way present something about varanids, please let Varanix know as soon as possible so the information can be passed to the readership in time.

Herp Hot Spots
Wouldn't it be nice to know where the reptile stores and zoos are located when visiting another city, especially those which keep monitors? Rest assured that you are not the only one who looks in the yellow pages for such attractions.
Let the readership know about the Saurian points of interest in your area: stores, zoos, your house on weekends. Send in the name, address, etc. along with a few words of what each place has to offer. Providing the phone number and nearest main cross streets would also be helpful. Lists will be compiled and printed in future editions of this newsletter.

Projects

The following projects are looking for bodies:

Savannah Monitor (V. exanthematicus) Study
Mark Bayless of Berkeley, CA is doing a study of all subspecies of V. exanthematicus. He has a detailed questionnaire about you and your monitor. The purpose of the study is to improve husbandry techniques. The results will be available to all.
If you would like to participate, send a SASE either to Mark at the address below, or to Varanix.

Mark Bayless
1406 Holly
Berkeley, CA 94703

Just the Facts
On occasion, a local pet store will pay a few dollars (and food items) for a couple hours of "Show & Tell" with my V. niloticus. This provides an opportunity for people to see firsthand that these guys have interesting personalities. Of course, the same basic questions are asked by most everyone displaying an interest. Inevitably, when in the middle of an answer, someone will arrive and the answer will have to be repeated.

Needless to say, it is rewarding to see people walk away with a better understanding of an ugh-reptile. What would help the education process is a short fact sheet which asks and answers the most frequently-asked questions.

What is it?
What does it eat in the wild?
What does it eat in captivity?
How big does it get?
Where does it come from?

If you will jot down and send in the questions/answers for those varanids you know best, fact sheets will be created and published in a future issue of Varanews. (Please include any other questions/answers that are not on the list.) Then, you will have them ready to photocopy and distribute. Of course, the fact sheets will also be useful at herp shows and school displays.

If you would like to translate the fact sheets, let Varanix know. They will be printed in as many languages as are provided.

Care in Captivity Data Sheets
If the previous project leaves you unfulfilled, how about helping put together a data sheet for your favorite monitor(s)? Care in Captivity sheets are available for a number of reptiles and amphibians, but appear to be scarce to non-existent for varanids.

A care sheet typically contains:
- Description of species
- Distribution
- Physical traits (e.g., markings, size, weight)
- Behavioral characteristics
- Environmental captivity requirements
  - Ambient temperature range
  - Humidity range
  - Lighting
  - Water
  - Substrate
  - Preferred hiding and resting spot
- Feeding
  - Foods in the wild
  - Foods in captivity
  - Frequency
- vitamin supplements
- Diseases
- those diseases known to affect species
- description of symptoms
- treatment
- List of References which provide a discussion of the species in greater depth

This is your chance to contribute to the well-being of varanids in captivity by sharing your experience. Send in as much information as you know. Please make a best effort to verify its accuracy.

Volunteers are needed to help compile, edit and verify the care sheet information for each species. As with the fact sheets, the care sheets will be prepared in as many languages as possible.

**Speaking of Facts**

Robert G. Sprackland ([1989, The Vivarium 1(4):40-44]) reports that a survey of reptiles imported into the US in 1981 includes somber statistics for 3 species of monitors:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Alive</th>
<th>Leather Goods</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>V. exanthematicus</td>
<td>819</td>
<td>50,344</td>
<td>50,963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V. nicolicus</td>
<td>988</td>
<td>1,065,514</td>
<td>1,066,502</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V. salvator</td>
<td>1,797</td>
<td>549,234</td>
<td>545,031</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Specifically Species**

If you have some ideas and material for a series of articles focusing on a specific species, let VaraNews know. Contributions from several of your learned herpetologists would certainly provide a wealth of wisdom and expertise for the readership. (Notice how well this ties in with the creation of care sheets.)

**Tips & Tricks**

This should be one of the most useful sections of the newsletter. How are you dealing with the environmental necessities of captive care for your varanid? The broad range of topics worth considering include food/feeding, heating, water systems, habitat design and maintenance techniques.

**Hogwarmer**

Is anyone using these to keep their Saurians roasty-toasty? A few local calls turned up nothing (though one woman initially reacted as though it was an obscene phone call). The hogwarmer I got a glimpse of was about a 3x3-foot sheet of hard fiberglass or composite plastic with thermostat-controlled heating elements throughout. If you know anything about them (e.g., suitability, where can they be found and at what price), let the readership know.

**Rub Trouble**

Has anyone found an effective deterrent to snout-rubbing on sides of the cage? If you've ever seen the results of excessive snout-rubbing on these splendid creatures, you know how saddening it is.

**Water tanks**

Rubbermaid Agricultural Products division manufactures 3 oval watering tanks designed for livestock, such as cattle and sheep. A local distributor (Target Specialties, Cerritos, CA) provided the following prices, which are quite reasonable compared to the cost of molded-polypropylene tanks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>Dimensions (inches)</th>
<th>Cost ($US)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50 gallon</td>
<td>52l x 31w x 12h</td>
<td>71.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 gallon</td>
<td>52l x 31w x 25h</td>
<td>88.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>150 gallon</td>
<td>58l x 30w x 25h</td>
<td>129.29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you have any experience with these and are doing anything special for heating, filtering, water circulation and draining, send in a sketch and/or description of the setup for publication in this section.

**Plants**

Scribble down and send in any hints you might have about maintaining plants in your monitor's habitat... type of plant, durability, required maintenance, automatic watering system...

**Publications**

This is where books, magazines, newsletter articles, etc. of interest to Varanix members will be discussed. The items will also be logged in the electronic bibliography.

**The Electronic Bibliography**

A number of members sent articles, which have been published in other herp newsletters, for reprint in VaraNews. Enough material was sent in for several newsletters. Many thanks to all of you for your enthusiastic support.

Another project the receipt of these articles is pushing forward is the development of an electronic bibliography of publications relating to varanids. The long-term goal is to create an electronic library and "intelligent" index which would provide a list of publications when querying about a topic, or topics (e.g., prasinus,
reproduction, captivity). In order to achieve this, each entry must be accompanied by a list of keywords and a brief synopsis.

Opportunity knocks! You can help by sending in copies of articles you have. Please indicate if they may be reprinted and to whom credit is due. If you can submit them in electronic form on diskette, all the better.

Let Varanix know if you are willing to key in articles. Please specify computer type and software you use.

Garbage
I recently subscribed to Garbage. The Practical Journal for the Environment. It's an interesting, every-other-month magazine that provides useful information about ways to deal with environmental topics, such as: how to conserve energy, composting and non-chemical ways of doing things. Garbage (in more than one way) seems to be showing up in more magazine racks with each issue. (One my favorite sections is "In the Dumpster", which looks at the packaging-to-consumable ratio of everyday products. Oh, those microwave-abies!)

What does this have to do with varanids? Indirectly, every effort to save/maintain the environment saves it for all of us. However, the reason I bring it up is that their bulk subscription rate is $9 per year ($21/yr regular, "special offer" at $18/yr). It takes a minimum of 12 subscriptions to qualify. Look one over and if you would like to subscribe, I would ask for $12 for a year's subscription. The $3 difference will go toward the cost of operating Varanox. (If you would like to subscribe, but $9 is the max you can afford, so be it. Anything over that will definitely help.)

The deadline for mailing in the group subscription is December 31, 1990. If you would like to subscribe, mail a check along with your name and mailing address for the subscription. The check will have to be made out to me (see the address section, page 2), as Varanix has no such thing as a bank account. They will be held until there are at least twelve, but no later than mid-December. If there aren't enough subscribers, your checks will be voided and returned.

Zoo Life
This is another interesting quarterly magazine which recently hit the streets. (The most recent issue, Summer 1990, just happened to have a full page photo of V. konodensis) A one-year subscription costs $11.95. The address is: Zoo Life, P.O. Box 886, Farmingdale, NY 11735-9786. The phone number is 1-800-777-0733.

Book Authors
Several people indicated that they are working on the publication of a booklet/book about varanids. This notice is for you if you have done your research and considered such a venture but were overwhelmed by the publishing effort and cost. Contact me if you want to discuss the production of your work.

V. exanthematicus, One Year In Captivity
In response to a number of requests about the care of Savannah monitors, Varanix offers the following article which was originally printed in The Forked Tongue 14(7):5-7, 1989, the newsletter of the Greater Cincinnati Herpetological Society.

Report on the Maintenance and Growth of a Juvenile West African Savannah Monitor, Varanus exanthematicus (Bois, 1792), During Its First Year in Captivity by Pete Strimple.

On 17 November, 1987, I received a male juvenile savannah monitor, Varanus exanthematicus, from Louis Porras (Zooherp. Inc., Sandy, Utah). No precise locality data was available, however, I was informed that it came from the Ghana/Togo region of western Africa (L. Porras, pers. comm.). At the time this specimen was received it measured 29.2cm (11.5in) in total length and weighed 88.5g.

The information contained in this article was collected over a one-year period (actually 366 days) from 17 November, 1987 through 17 November, 1988.

No information was available as to the exact date that this monitor was hatched and therefore its age is uncertain. However, considering that savannah monitors are rather small at hatching (generally between 13.0 - 20cm) it would seem that at a length of 29.2cm, this specimen had grown a considerable amount since hatching, which may have occurred as early as the first month or two of 1987. Consequently, the information contained in this article pertains to this monitor's first year in captivity, not to its first year of life.

Description
Compared to the dozens of small savannah monitors that I have seen, the color pattern of this specimen was one of the most attractive. The
ground color was typical, being tanish to
tanish-gray. The dorsal pattern, however, was
more unusual, consisting of sharply-defined,
reddish-brown ocelli with bright orangish-cream
center. Also, there was a pattern of orangish or
orangish-cream colored bars extending from the
edge of the ventral surface up onto the sides of
the body. The ventral surface itself was creamish-
white marked with punctuations of distinct
reddish-brown coloration.

Maintenance
Prior to my receiving this monitor, I had prepared
a cage for it in the form of a plastic sweater box
measuring 39.4 x 27.9 x 17.1cm (15.5 x 11.0 x
6.725in). Holes were made in both ends of this
container to allow for adequate ventilation.
Newspaper was used as a substrate and a water
dish (large enough to allow soaking) was available
at all times.

The room (a basement) in which this specimen
was maintained had an ambient temperature that
ranged between 21 - 27C (70 - 80F). Considering
the fact that savannah monitors inhabit warm
regions in Africa, the ambient temperature range
of the basement was considered inadequate and,
therefore, supplemental heat was deemed
necessary. This was provided by placing the
savannah monitor’s container on the wooden lid
of a cage that contained several water monitors,
Varanus salvator. The container was positioned
so that it was partially over an area that was warmed
from the heat of a 290-watt infra red heat lamp,
which was the heat source for the water monitors’
cage. As a result, the temperature in the savannah
monitor’s cage could be elevated to between 30 -
32C (86 - 90F). The temperature could be easily
regulated by simply moving more of the container
on or off of the simply moving more of the
container on or off of the “hot spot” of the other
monitors’ cage lid.

After approximately 2 months, the savannah
monitor was transferred to a larger cage; an
aquarium that measured 92.1 x 53.0 x 44.6cm (36.0
x 13.0 x 17.6in). Again, newspaper was used as a
substrate and a plastic water bowl (large enough
to allow soaking) was available at all times. A
retreat was provided by resting one edge of a flat,
thin rock against the edge of the water bowl.

This cage was fitted with a plywood lid each end
of which had a ceramic light socket attached to it.
Heat was provided by a 100 watt, red-colored
flood lamp bulb at the left end of the cage. The
socket for this bulb was wired to a dimmer switch
so that the amount of heat could be easily
controlled. A thermometer was placed at the left
end of the cage and the temperature was
maintained between 31-35C (88 - 95F). An
incandescent bulb (60 watt) was put in the socket
at the other end of the cage. This bulb provided
adequate light for the cage and was operated on a
diurnal cycle, manually at first but later with the
use of a timer.

At the time this article was written (June, 1989),
this specimen was still begin maintained in the
above-mentioned cage, although future plans
tailor moving this monitor to a larger cage that
will eventually house a small breeding group of
west African savannah monitors.

Feeding
When first obtained this specimen was fed small
mice (approx. 9 - 13g) or rat pinks (approx. 8 - 9g).
After approximately months, it was fed medium-
sized mice (approx. 15 - 18g) and after a few more
months it was fed adult mice (approx. 20 - 22g).

During the period of this study food was offered,
and subsequently accepted, at approximately
weekly intervals, although there were several
occasions when feeding occurred at up to 10 day
intervals. Currently this savannah monitor is
eating 2 - 4 adult mice at weekly intervals. As it
grows, it will be fed either more mice or small
rats. It should be pointed out that all of the food
that has been (and still is) offered to this specimen
has either been fresh-killed or frozen/thawed,
thereby eliminating the possibility of injury that
could result from leaving live rodents in its cage.

Growth
Upon receiving this specimen its total length and
weight were measured and recorded on
“GROWTH RECORD” cards, thus initiating a
growth study. Subsequently, these measurements
were taken semi-monthly with the data collected
being recorded on the same cards. Total length
measurements, made by manually straightening
out this specimen along a meter stick, are
reported to the nearest 0.1cm. Surprisingly, this
method proved quite quite easy; the monitor
offered little if any resistance. Weight
measurements were made on an Ohaus triple
beam balance and are reported to the nearest 0.1g.
Table 1 contains the actual measurements and the
dates on which they were taken.

As can be seen from the data presented in Table 1,
this specimen increased 18.7cm (7.4in) in total
length, as average of 1.6cm (0.6in)/month, and
increased 214.0g in weight, an average of 17.8g/
month. These figures calculated out to be a
monthly weight/length ratio of 11.4g/cm.
Table 1: Total length and weight measurements for a juvenile Savannah monitor, *Varanus e. exanthematicus*, during its first year in captivity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Total Length (cm)</th>
<th>Total Length (in)</th>
<th>Weight (grams)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/17/87</td>
<td>29.2</td>
<td>(11.5)</td>
<td>86.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/30/87</td>
<td>29.2</td>
<td>(11.5)</td>
<td>90.9</td>
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<td>12/16/87</td>
<td>29.8</td>
<td>(11.75)</td>
<td>95.9</td>
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<td>(11.9)</td>
<td>102.8</td>
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<td>(12.0)</td>
<td>110.9</td>
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<td>(12.0)</td>
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<td>(12.25)</td>
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<td>37.1</td>
<td>(14.6)</td>
<td>204.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/27/88</td>
<td>38.4</td>
<td>(15.1)</td>
<td>220.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/16/88</td>
<td>40.0</td>
<td>(15.7)</td>
<td>231.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/27/88</td>
<td>40.6</td>
<td>(16.0)</td>
<td>242.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/15/88</td>
<td>41.9</td>
<td>(16.5)</td>
<td>251.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/28/88</td>
<td>42.9</td>
<td>(16.9)</td>
<td>261.0</td>
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<tr>
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<td>(17.1)</td>
<td>277.5</td>
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<td>(17.6)</td>
<td>283.4</td>
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<tr>
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<td>45.7</td>
<td>(18.0)</td>
<td>290.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/27/88</td>
<td>46.2</td>
<td>(18.2)</td>
<td>298.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/17/88</td>
<td>47.9</td>
<td>(18.5)</td>
<td>302.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: This author encourages herp hobbyist and professionals to maintain accurate records on the feeding and shedding of their specimens, and growth records on at least some of them. The information obtained from these records will not only be of use to you, but also to other people who are maintaining the same species in captivity.

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*V. albigularis, V. beckeri, V. timorensis,* and more.

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