

# DANGEROUS SNAKES OF ZULULAND



KwaZulu-Natal has eighty three different types of snakes. Forty four species are not venomous, while eight can inflict rather painful bites. Eleven species are considered potentially deadly.

**VERY DANGEROUS**  
Has caused human fatalities

**DANGEROUS**  
Painful bite, but does not require antivenom



**VERY DANGEROUS**

**Black Mamba**  
(*Dendroaspis polylepis*)



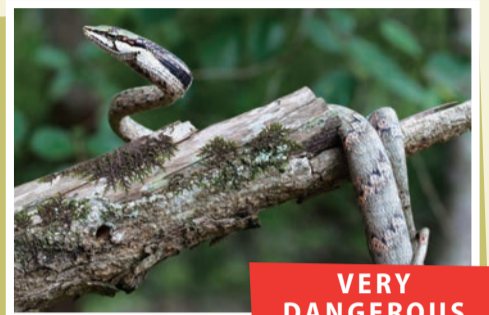
**VERY DANGEROUS**

**Black Mamba**  
(*Dendroaspis polylepis*)



**VERY DANGEROUS**

**Green Mamba**  
(*Dendroaspis angusticeps*)



**VERY DANGEROUS**

**Southern Twig Snake**  
(*Thelotornis capensis capensis*)



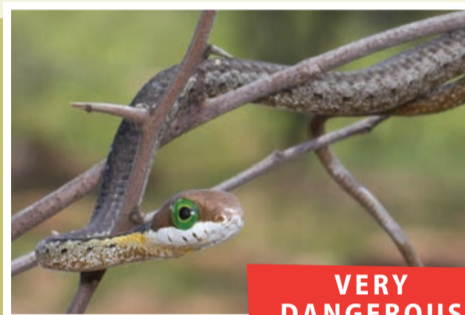
**VERY DANGEROUS**

**Common Boomslang - male**  
(*Dispholidus typus viridis*)



**VERY DANGEROUS**

**Common Boomslang - female**  
(*Dispholidus typus viridis*) Photo André Coetzer



**VERY DANGEROUS**

**Common Boomslang - juvenile**  
(*Dispholidus typus viridis*)



**DANGEROUS**

**Bibron's Stiletto Snake**  
(*Atractaspis bibronii*) Photo Warren Dick



**VERY DANGEROUS**

**Snouted Cobra**  
(*Naja annulifera*)



**VERY DANGEROUS**

**Mozambique Spitting Cobra**  
(*Naja mossambica*)



**VERY DANGEROUS**

**Rinkhals**  
(*Hemachatus haemachatus*)



**VERY DANGEROUS**

**Forest Cobra**  
(*Naja melanoleuca*)



**DANGEROUS**

**Rhombic Night Adder**  
(*Causus rhombeatus*)



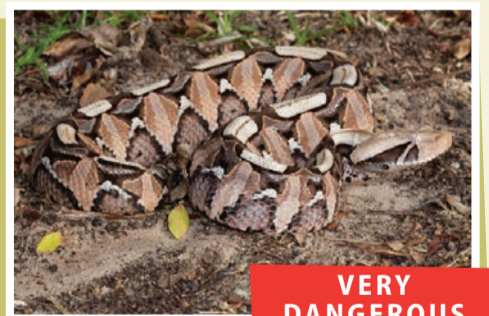
**VERY DANGEROUS**

**Puff Adder**  
(*Bitis arietans arietans*)



**VERY DANGEROUS**

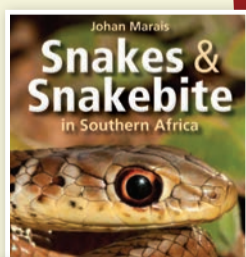
**Puff Adder**  
(*Bitis arietans arietans*)



**VERY DANGEROUS**

**Gaboon Adder**  
(*Bitis gabonica*)

**JOHAN MARAIS** is the author of various books on reptiles including the best-seller *A Complete Guide to Snakes of Southern Africa*. He is a popular public speaker and offers a variety of courses including **Snake Awareness**, **Scorpion Awareness** and **Venomous Snake Handling**. Johan is accredited by the International Society of Zoological Sciences (ISZS) and is a Field Guides Association of Southern Africa (FGASA) and Travel Doctor-approved service provider. His courses are also accredited by the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA).



## EMERGENCY PROTOCOL

### IN THE EVENT OF A SNAKE BITE

- 1 Keep the victim calm, immobilized and transport the victim to the closest hospital **without delay**.
- 2 If the victim stops breathing, resort to artificial respiration or make use of a Bag Valve Mask.
- 3 Call the Poison Information Centre help-line for further advice: 0861 555 777.

### DO NOT

- ... apply a tourniquet.
- ... cut and suck the wound.
- ... use ice or very hot water.
- ... give the victim alcohol.
- ... apply electric shock.
- ... inject antivenom randomly.

Antivenom (if required) must be administered by a doctor in a hospital environment.

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