

# DANGEROUS SNAKES OF MALAWI



Malawi has 66 different types of snakes. Eleven are considered potentially deadly, while another five are capable of inflicting extremely painful bites.

**VERY DANGEROUS**

Has caused human fatalities

**DANGEROUS**

Painful bite, but does not require antivenom



**VERY DANGEROUS**

Swamp Adder  
(*Proatheris superciliaris*)



**DANGEROUS**

Rhombic Night Adder  
(*Causus rhombeatus*)



**VERY DANGEROUS**

Puff Adder  
(*Bitis arietans arietans*)



**VERY DANGEROUS**

Gaboon Adder  
(*Bitis gabonica*)



**DANGEROUS**

Bibron's Stiletto Snake  
(*Atractaspis bibronii*)



**DANGEROUS**

Bibron's Stiletto Snake  
(*Atractaspis bibronii*)



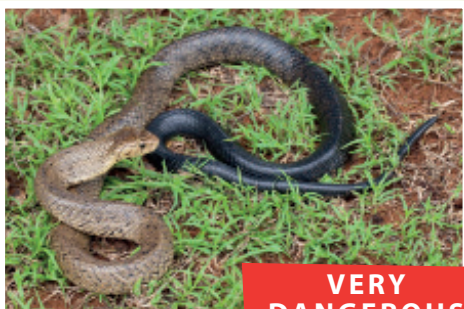
**VERY DANGEROUS**

Black Mamba  
(*Dendroaspis polylepis*)



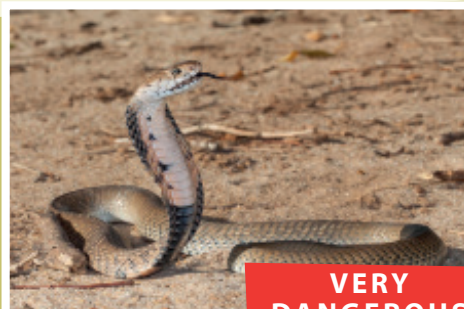
**VERY DANGEROUS**

Eastern Green Mamba  
(*Dendroaspis intermedius*) Photo Tyrone Ping



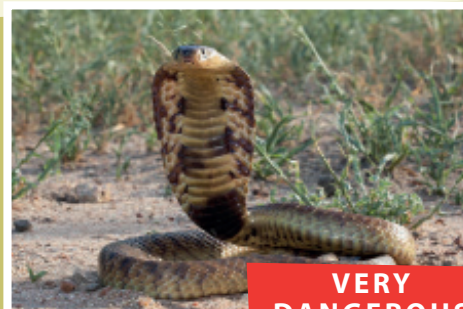
**VERY DANGEROUS**

Forest Cobra  
(*Naja subfulva*)



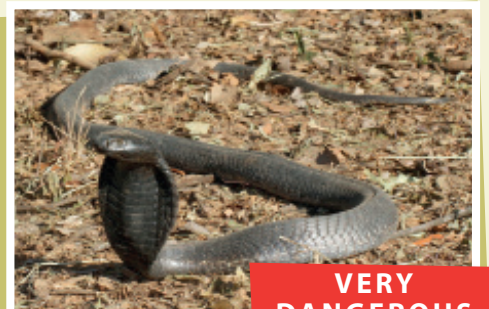
**VERY DANGEROUS**

Mozambique Spitting Cobra  
(*Naja mossambica*)



**VERY DANGEROUS**

Snouted Cobra  
(*Naja annulifera*)



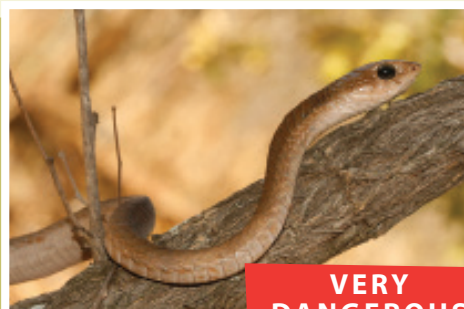
**VERY DANGEROUS**

Black-necked Spitting Cobra  
(*Naja nigricollis*)



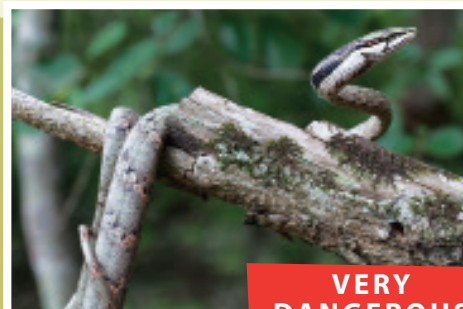
**VERY DANGEROUS**

Common Boomslang - male  
(*Dispholidus typus viridis*)



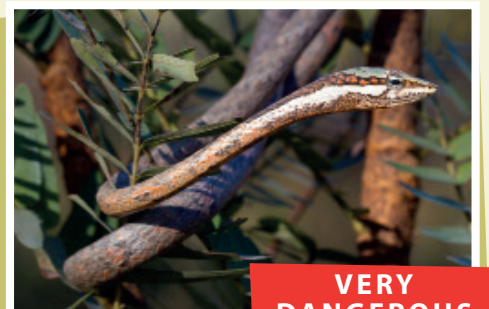
**VERY DANGEROUS**

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



**VERY DANGEROUS**

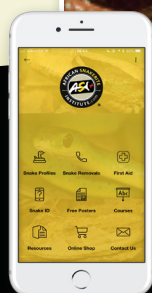
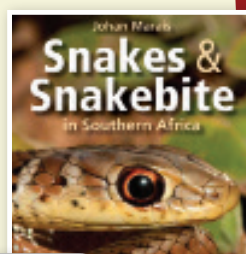
Southern Twig Snake  
(*Thelotornis capensis capensis*)



**VERY DANGEROUS**

Oates' Twig Snake  
(*Thelotornis capensis oatesii*)

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).



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## 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.