

DANGEROUS SNAKES OF ZIMBABWE



Zimbabwe has eighty one different types of snakes. Thirty three species are not venomous, while ten can inflict rather painful bites. Thirteen 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

Eastern Green Mamba
(*Dendroaspis intermedius*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Southern Twig Snake
(*Thelotornis capensis capensis*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Eastern Twig Snake
(*Thelotornis mossambicanus*) Photo David Maguire



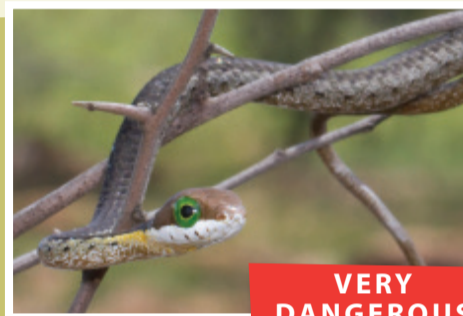
VERY DANGEROUS

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*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Anchieta's Cobra
(*Naja anchietae*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Snouted Cobra
(*Naja annulifera*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Mozambique Spitting Cobra
(*Naja mossambica*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Rinkhals
(*Hemachatus haemachatus*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Forest Cobra
(*Naja subfulva*)



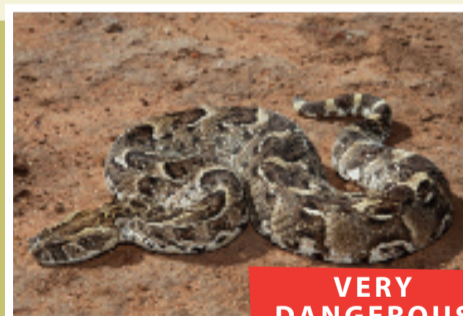
DANGEROUS

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



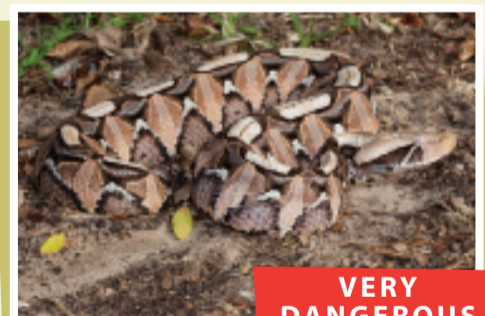
DANGEROUS

Berg Adder
(*Bitis atropos*) Photo James Harvey



VERY DANGEROUS

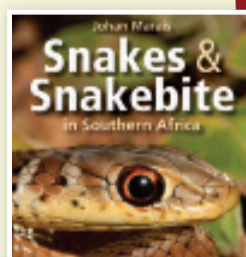
Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans arietans*)



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).



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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.