

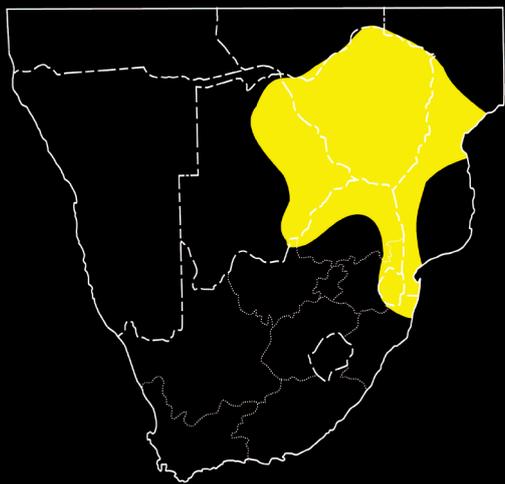


Photo Adriaan Jordaan

MILDLY VENOMOUS

## Boulenger's Garter Snake (*Elapsoidea boulengeri*)

Maximum Length:  
77 cm



Other names:  
Hoëveld Kousbandslang

Boulenger's garter snake is secretive and seldom encountered. Juveniles have 12 – 17 white or pale yellow bands on the body and tail that fade with age. Adults are usually plain blackish brown or dark brown with a lighter belly and 8 - 17 narrow white bands.

It is a fossorial snake that may emerge at night from an underground shelter or deserted termite mounds. These snakes are quite placid and rarely bite. They feed on snakes, lizards and their eggs and frogs, especially rain frogs. Small rodents are also taken.

Little is known about their venom and bites have caused nausea, vomiting, pain and swelling.



Photo Paul Swanepoel



Photo Adriaan Jordaan



Photo Maritus Burger