



HARMLESS

Common Egg-eater (*Dasypeltis scabra*)



Max length
1.1 m



This is one of the most common and widespread snakes in Africa. There are a few egg-eaters in Africa with quite similar patterns. The colour of this snake may vary and usually matches that of its environment. It may be confused with the Common Night Adder or carpet vipers, but is more slender and elongate with multiple V-markings on the head and neck. This snake is completely harmless and feeds exclusively on birds' eggs at night. When confronted it will coil and uncoil, rubbing its roughly-keeled scales together to make a hissing sound while striking repeatedly, showing the black inner lining of the mouth.

