



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

## North-east African Carpet Viper (*Echis pyramidum*)



Max length  
65 cm



Found in semi-desert and dry savanna. It is very common in its range and accounts for many snakebites and fatalities a year. They are nocturnal and many people stand on them at night. It is an ambush hunter that will coil up into a striking position and await its prey. During the day they hide under brush piles, logs and rocks or in holes. When harassed, the Carpet Vipers coil and uncoil, creating a hissing noise with the scales. The North-east African Carpet Viper's venom is potently cytotoxic, causing severe pain, swelling, blistering and in many cases severe tissue damage. Monovalent antivenom is effective and should be administered.

