

The SNAKES of SOUTHERN AFRICA

Southern Africa has **177** different species of snakes.

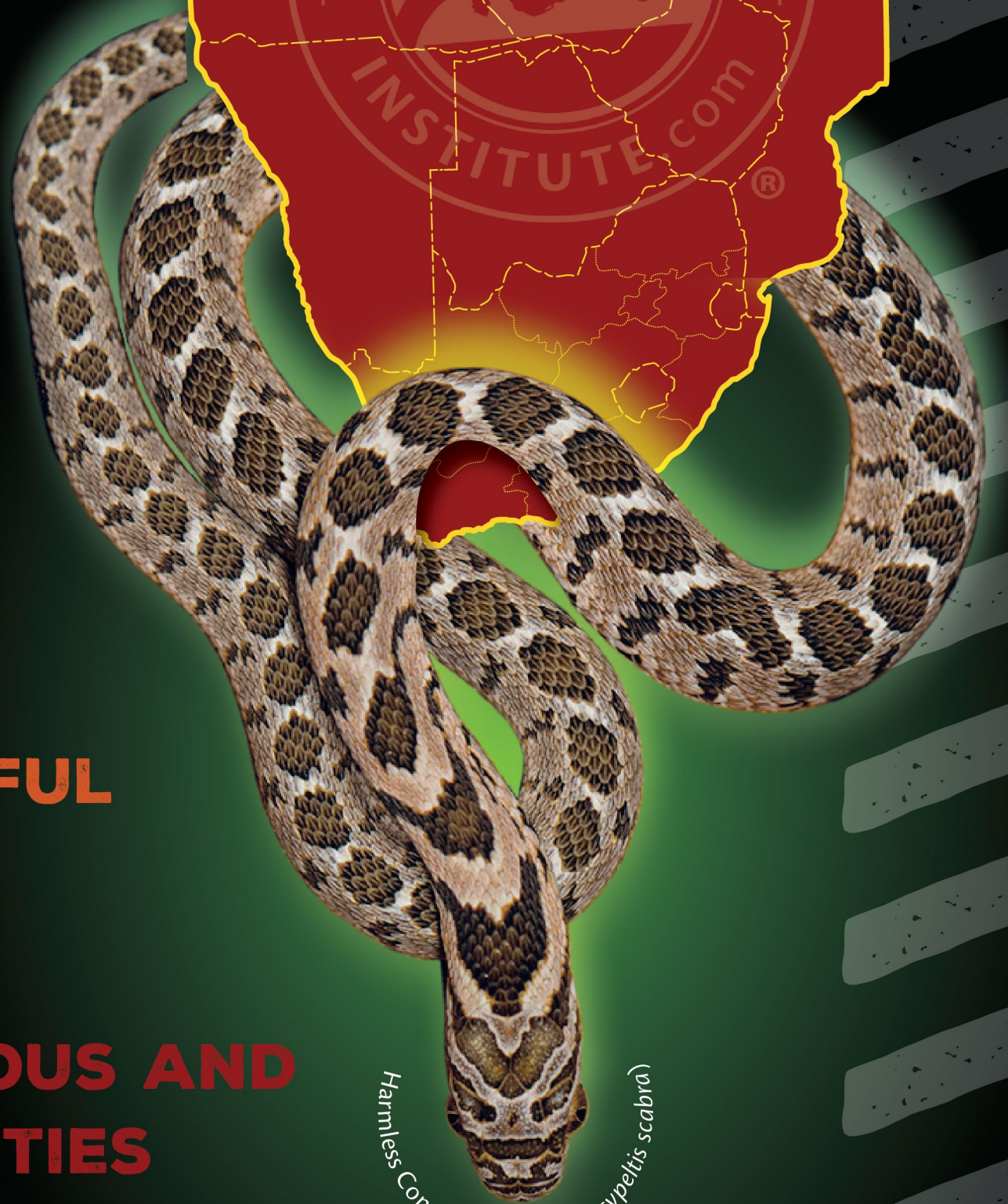
75 SPECIES ARE HARMLESS TO HUMANS

50 SPECIES ARE MILDLY VENOMOUS AND ARE NOT CONSIDERED DANGEROUS

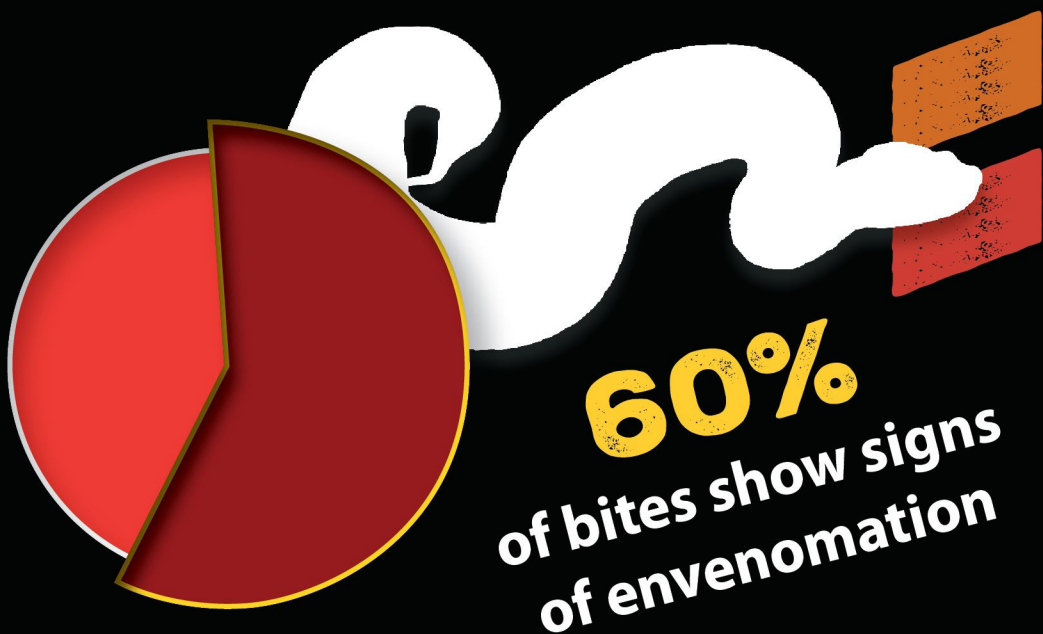
3 SPECIES CAN INFLICT A PAINFUL BITE THAT MIGHT REQUIRE SOME STITCHES

30 SPECIES CAN INFLICT A PAINFUL BITE BUT ANTIVENOM IS NOT REQUIRED

19 SPECIES ARE HIGHLY VENOMOUS AND HAVE CAUSED HUMAN FATALITIES IN THE PAST



40% of snakebite victims have dry bites or bites from harmless snakes



60% of bites show signs of envenomation

MOST DANGEROUS

The **BLACK MAMBA** is considered the most dangerous snake due to its size and potent neurotoxic venom.



SERIOUS SNAKEBITES

Most serious snakebites are inflicted by the Mozambique Spitting Cobra, Puff Adder, Stiletto Snake and Night Adder. **They account for 90% of all bites.**

MOST BITES OCCUR...

- **EARLY EVENING** in warm summer months Nov - Apr.
- **WHERE? 84%** of bites are below the knee.
- **Who?** Largely males between **14-25** years of age.

IN CASE OF A SNAKEBITE

DO NOT

- ✦ ... cut and suck
- ✦ ... apply a tourniquet
- ✦ ... inject antivenom



Transport the victim to the nearest hospital



Johan Marais | +27 82 494 2039 | johan@asiorg.co.za

www.AFRICANSNAKEBITEINSTITUTE.com

**ANTI-
VENOM**
FEWER THAN 15%
of snakebite victims
need and receive
antivenom.

