

COMMON SNAKES OF KOLWEZI, DRC



Kolwezi has a large selection of snakes species. Eight species are considered highly venomous and around five species are venomous or can inflict a painful bite. Another five species are mildly venomous and eight more are harmless.

HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Has caused human fatalities

VENOMOUS

Painful bite, but does not require antivenom

MILDLY VENOMOUS

Not thought to be harmful to humans

HARMLESS

Not dangerous to humans



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Brown Forest Cobra
(*Naja subfulva*) - photo Luke Kemp



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Black-necked Spitting Cobra
(*Naja nigricollis*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Gaboon Adder
(*Bitis gabonica*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Spotted Boomslang
(*Dispholidus punctatus*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Oates' Vine Snake
(*Thelotornis capensis oatesii*)



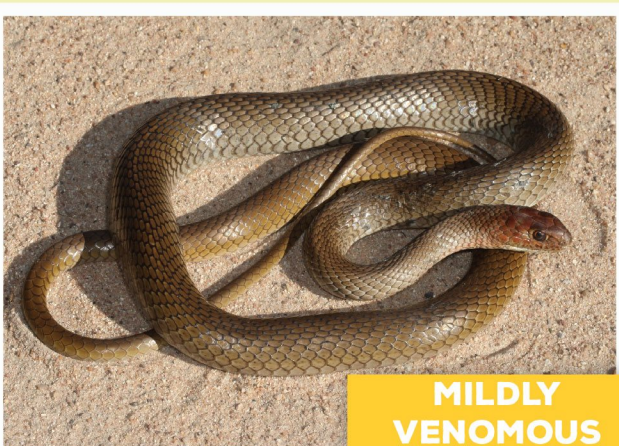
VENOMOUS

Stiletto Snake
(*Atractaspis* sp.) - Photo Bill Branch



VENOMOUS

Common Night Adder - Plain form
(*Causus rhombeatus*) - Photo Chad Keates



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Olive Grass Snake
(*Psammophis mossambicus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Dwarf Sand Snake
(*Psammophis angolensis*) - photo Ashley Kemp



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Herald Snake
(*Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Shreve's Tree Snake
(*Dipsadoboa shrevei*)



HARMLESS

Common Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)



HARMLESS

Angola Green Snake
(*Philothamnus angolensis*) - photo Luke Kemp



HARMLESS

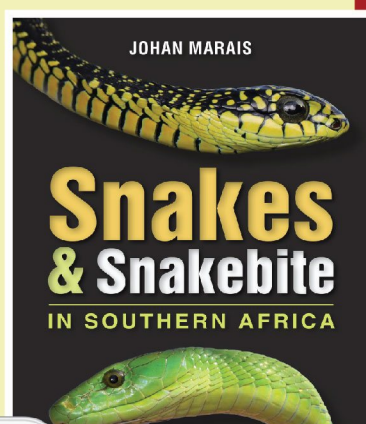
Sooty House Snake
(*Boaedon fuliginosus*)



HARMLESS

Common File Snake
(*Limaformosa capensis*)

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 CEO of the African Snakebite Institute. The **African Snakebite Institute (ASI)** offers a variety of courses including Snake Awareness, Scorpion Awareness and Venomous Snake Handling. ASI is accredited by the **International Society of Zoological Sciences (ISZS)** and Travel Doctor-approved service provider. The courses are also accredited by the **Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA)**. ASI is the largest provider of quality snake handling and safety equipment in Africa.



Free ASI SNAKES App

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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.

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.