

COMMON SNAKES OF GWERU



Zimbabwe has around 81 species of snakes. Thirteen species are considered highly venomous. Twelve species can give a bad bite. Most snakes are mildly venomous or harmless to humans.

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

Black Mamba
(*Dendroaspis polylepis*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Snouted Cobra
(*Naja annulifera*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Snouted Cobra - banded form
(*Naja annulifera*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Mozambique Spitting Cobra
(*Naja mossambica*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Boomslang
(*Dispholidus typus*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Oates' Vine Snake
(*Thelotornis oatesii*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*) - Photo Luke Kemp



VENOMOUS

Snouted Night Adder
(*Causus defilippii*) - Photo Luke Kemp



VENOMOUS

Bibron's Stiletto Snake
(*Atractaspis bibronii*)



CAN INFLICT A PAINFUL BITE

Southern African Python
(*Python natalensis*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Olive Grass Snake
(*Psammophis mossambicus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Herald Snake
(*Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*) - Photo Luke Kemp



HARMLESS

Brown House Snake
(*Boaedon capensis*) - Photo Luke Kemp



HARMLESS

Spotted Bush Snake
(*Philothamnus semivariegatus*) - Photo Luke Kemp



HARMLESS

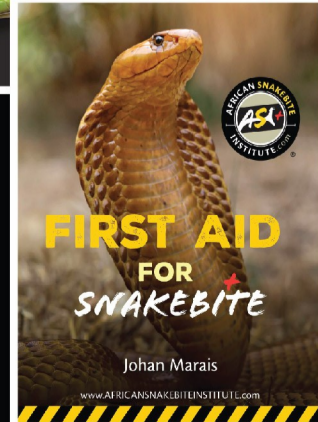
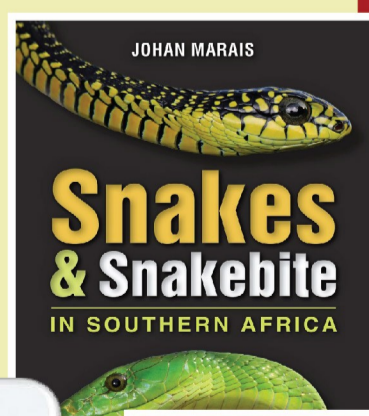
Green Water Snake
(*Philothamnus hoplogaster*) - Photo Luke Kemp



HARMLESS

Common Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis scabra*) - Photo Luke Kemp

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.
- 3 Call Johan Marais for further advice:
+27 82 494 2039.

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.