

Brown House Snake

Scientific Name: *Lamprophis fuliginosus*

Class: Reptilia

Order: Squamata

Family: Colubridae



It varies in length from 18 to 45 inches and in color from tan biscuit to rust above and from white to dull white below. It has two lines that start from the nostril on each side of its head with the lower line going along the upper jaw and the upper line running above the eye. Its scales are smooth and shiny. The males are smaller than the females.

Range

Arabia to Eastern Africa, south to the Cape region

Habitat

It is found from outer desert regions to forests and sometimes in urban areas.

Gestation

Gestation is 54 to 57 days

Litter

A clutch of 6 to 13 eggs

Behavior

It is mainly nocturnal. It tries to avoid its chief predators such as owls and small carnivores (I.E. Civets). They constrict their prey.

Reproduction

Mating takes place during September and October. Clutches of 6 to 13 eggs are produced in November through January and are hatched 54 to 57 days later. New born are 8 to 10 inches long.

Wild Diet

Adults prefer mice and young rats while the juveniles eat small lizards.