

Woma Python

Scientific Name: *Aspidites ramsayi*

Class: Reptilia

Order: Squamata

Family: Pythonidae



The woma is a large, non-venomous snake. The average length of an adult is 5 to 9 feet. The body is olive- to reddish-brown with darker crossbands. The snake's head is about the same color as the body ground color. A pair of spurs near the cloaca may represent vestigial hind limbs, although in the male, the spurs can aid in mating.

Range

Their range is Central Australia.

Habitat

They inhabit arid regions and desert sand hills.

Gestation

Incubation: 50 to 75 days

Litter

Clutch: Average 8, based on observations of related species

Behavior

The woma is nocturnal, although it does move about during the day under favorable temperatures. The woma subdues its prey by coiling and suffocating (a constrictor). The snake can swallow live animals considerably greater in diameter than the snake.

Reproduction

About 2 to 3 months after mating, the female lays her eggs, each of which is covered by a leather-like shell. The eggs stick together under the warmth generated by the female coiling her body around the eggs. The female continues to coil her body around the eggs for 50 to 75 days until the eggs hatch.

Wild Diet

Small mammals, reptiles, ground birds