**Texas Glossy Snake**

***Arizona elegans***



Source: Wikipedia

DESCRIPTION

* Overall hue is yellowish-tan to tannish red
* Dark-edged reddish-brown blotches down the center of back, contrasting with the paler background color
* On either side of the primary markings are two rows of smaller blotches
* Unmarked white abdomen
* Thin body, smooth scales, round pupils
* Adults range from 27 – 36 inches in length
* Non-venomous

LIFE CYCLE

* Oviparous, producing eggs that hatch outside the body.
* Breed in late spring and early summer
* Young hatch out in early fall
* Clutches average from 10-20 young

BEHAVIOR

* Nocturnal
* Stay in underground burrows during the day
* Pointed head allows them to burrow into loose soil quickly

HABITAT

* Habitat follows the Carrizo Sands geological formation, which runs southwest to northeast through Milam County
* Sandy soils, grasslands

FOOD

* Small mammals
* Lizards
* Other snakes

SOURCES

* Chris Harper Herpetology Slideshow to ECRC
* <http://www.birdsandherps.com/bvsnakes/>
* *Texas Snakes; a Field Guide*, James R. Dixon and John E. Werler, UT Press, Austin, 2005, pp. 90-91.
* <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glossy_snake>
* <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arizona_elegans_arenicola>