

Notes from the Leyden Museum

Vol. 9

On a collection of Reptiles and Fishes from the West-Indies

Dr. Th. W. van Lidth de Jeude

1887

Crotalus horridus, var. *unicolor*, v. L. d. J.

One specimen of a rattle-snake from Aruba has three pairs of large scales behind the rostral, 166 ventrals, one undivided anal and 22 caudals, the first of which is divided in two. It shows no sign of streaks behind the eye, nor any marking whatever. It is on the back of a uniform gray color, somewhat lighter on the ventrals; the very short tail is darker than the body, and its lower part of a bluish black color. This specimen measures about 62 cm.

On examining the rattle-snakes in the collection of the Leyden Museum, I found a specimen without indication of locality, presented to our Museum by the Royal Zoological Society »Natura Artis Magistra" at Amsterdam, which specimen agrees very well with the specimen from Aruba. It is of nearly the same length, of the same color without any marking, and shows also the bluish black lower surface of the end of the tail. The tail of this specimen is longer than that of the snake from Aruba. As to the arrangement of the scales on the head it wholly agrees with the first mentioned specimen, and has 160 ventrals, one undivided anal and 28 caudals, the first of which is divided in two.

Moreover, two specimens from Aruba are still living in the Zoological Gardens of the R. Z. Society »N. A. M." at Amsterdam. They were also collected during the Expedition and have been presented to the forenamed Society. One of them resembles the first mentioned specimen in color and in the total absence of any marking, the other is also of the same color, but shows on the back a trace of lozenge-shaped spots. Both have the bluish black color on the lower surface of the end of the tail.