## African Herp News

# Newsletter of the Herpetological Association of Africa



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#### LACERTIDAE

Nucras taeniolata (Smith, 1838) Albany Sandveld Lizard

A single intact male *Nucras taeniolata* was found in the stomach contents of a road -kill *Varanus albigularis* (Conradie, 2012, this volume). *Nucras taeniolata* is a poorly documented species which has a restricted distribution within the Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. Branch & Burger (2009) reports that only 33 specimens exist in museum collections, and that these are restricted to two populations within the Eastern Cape Province (from Groendal Wilderness Area to Addo National Elephant Park, and from the Thomas Baines Nature Reserve to the Great Fish River Reserves), representing only 11 quarter-degree grid squares (QDGS). This specimen from 3226DC represents a new QDGS record for the species. The closest documented record is 17 km east in the Doubledrift Nature Reserve (3226DD). The specimen has been lodged in the Port Elizabeth Museum under catalogue number PEM R20208. This new record shows the importance of collecting road-kills and analyzing stomach contents (see also Branch & Haagner, 1999) in documenting the distribution of poorly known species.

Another notable record of this species is a recently deposited specimen in the Port Elizabeth Museum from the Gamtoos Valley near Thornhill (PEM R20003), now representing the most southern record for the species (3325CC) as well as the recent additional of six specimens to the PEM collection from the Groendal Wilderness Area (PEM R20188–20193; and see cover image), bringing the total of preserved specimens of this species up to 40 and adding an additional two QDGS cells to the species distribution map.

#### Geographical Distributions

### REFERENCES

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