Systematics of the Neotropical Snake *Dendrophidion percarinatum* (Serpentes: Colubridae), with Descriptions of Two New Species From Western Colombia and Ecuador and Supplementary Data on *D. brunneum*

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ABSTRACT. Dendrophidion percarinatum (Cope) is redefined on the basis of standard and new characters to distinguish it from two new South American species with which it has previously been confused. The redefined D. percarinatum is distributed from Honduras through Central America to western Colombia, with a seemingly outlying locality in extreme western Venezuela. One new species, D. prolixum, is sympatric with D. percarinatum at a few localities in central western Colombia and the distribution of the new species continues southward into northwestern Ecuador. A second new species, D. graciliverpa, occurs throughout western Ecuador, where its distribution extensively overlaps that of D. brunneum (Günther). Hemipenes of the two new species are unusually long and slender (gracile morphotype), a morphology distinct from other described Dendrophidion hemipenes, which are shorter and more robust (robust morphotype). Additionally, the new species differ from D. percarinatum in color patterns but not in standard scutellation characters such as segmental counts. Similarly, the two new species differ from one another in coloration but not in scutellation or hemipenial morphology. Hemipenes of D. percarinatum and the new species are described in detail. The holotype of D. brunneum is redescribed to ensure the proper application of that name. New specimens document the widespread occurrence of D. brunneum in the lowlands of western Ecuador and apparent extensive pattern polymorphism, including unicolor, striped, crossbanded, and punctate forms; more data on coloration in life are needed. Some previous records of "D. percarinatum" from interandean valleys of the Río Caquetá/Magdalena system are from mistaken identities. However, several specimens from the Río Magdalena resemble D. percarinatum in scutellation but differ in color pattern; their status needs further study.

Key words: Colombia, Ecuador, systematics, Chocó, Central America, South America, Dendrophidion, snakes, new species, hemipenis, morphology