

A NEW MAXIMUM SIZE RECORD FOR *CROTALUS MOLOSSUS* (BAIRD & GIRARD, 1853)

The Blacktail Rattlesnake, *Crotalus molossus*, is a medium-sized serpent, with adults typically measuring 800 to 900 mm in total length (TL) (Price, 1998). The maximum TL of *C. molossus* reportedly ranges from 1257 to 1370 mm (Tennant, 1984; Stebbins, 2003; Boundy, 1995; Hardy and Greene, 1995; Price, 1998; Dixon and Werler, 2005). On 14 June 2008, Dallas and Doug Backer collected a Blacktail Rattlesnake that exceeded the previously reported size maxima for this species. This snake was collected on a private ranch (29°31'20.8"N, 103°23'33.2"W; Musgrave Road, ca. 16 km east of Highway 118) in Brewster County, Texas. The elevation of the collection site is approximately 1020 meters and the vegetation similar to the Lechuguilla-Creosotebush-Cactus Association described by Wauer (1971). The TL of the snake measured 1524 mm, exceeding the previously reported maximum size record (1370 mm) by 154 mm. A voucher photograph (SRSU 6752) of this snake is deposited in the James F. Scudday Vertebrate Collection at Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas.

Literature Cited

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