

Calamaria garoensis

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Calamaria garoensis Latest News

Recently, a team of researchers from multiple institutions has described a new species of burrowing reed snake from Meghalaya's West Garo Hills district and named it as Calamaria garoensis.

About Calamaria garoensis

- It is a new species of **burrowing reed snake**.
- It is found mainly in **Garo Hills of Meghalaya**.
- It is currently known only from this region, indicating a potentially restricted distribution .
- **Characteristics**
 - It is characterised by smooth **dorsal scales** arranged in 13 rows, a short **non-tapering tail with an obtuse tip**, and a distinct broad median black stripe on the underside of the tail.
 - The body exhibits longitudinal striping along with a faint nuchal ring, distinguishing it from all known related species.

Key Facts about Reed Snakes

- They are small, slender, **non-venomous snakes**.
- Reed snakes of the genus Calamaria are **small, secretive, and largely burrowing**.
- **Appearance:** Typically brown, reddish, or blackish in color.
- **Distribution:** They are found in **southern and southeastern Asia**.
- **Habitat:** They are mostly found in **moist forests, leaf litter**, under logs, stones, and soil.
- They are fossorial/semi-fossorial – spend most of their time underground or hidden in leaf litter.
- **Diet:** They eat small, soft-bodied invertebrates

Source: **TH**

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