



ARE ALL BLACK SNAKES BLACK?

BLACK SNAKES

This group is an assemblage of six species with a hard to explain relationship. Taxonomists agree that lumping these species into one genus does not make much sense. There are similarities between them such as primitive characters and, to some extent, their venoms have similar properties.

There are, however, differences in their biology, genetics and ecology. For example, one of them, the red-bellied black snake, bears live young, while the rest of the group's members are egg layers. All members of this group are venomous and all are considered potentially dangerous.



Red-bellied black snake,
Pseudechis porphyriacus.