

Department of Biology

11 July 2016

Emily M. Braker  
Vertebrate Collections Manager, Zoology Section  
University of Colorado Museum of Natural History  
265 UCB, Bruce Curtis Building  
Boulder, CO 80309-0218



Dear Emily:

I am writing to request a loan of some of your holdings of the Mexican snake, *Dipsas brevifacies* for a histological reproductive examination. To do this work, I will make a small incision on the lower abdomen and remove one reproductive organ. In females in which ovaries are in advanced yolk deposition or if the eggs are in the oviducts, eggs will be counted only. A histological slide will be made from each removed gonad. The histology slides and snakes will be promptly return to UCM. My findings will be published in a scientific journal as part of my efforts to characterize the reproductive cycles of little-studied snakes from Mexico. In checking your holdings of *Dipsas brevifacies* on VertNet, I noted you had 19 specimens. It would help if I could borrow four of your holdings of this species. Thus I would not touch the majority of your *Dipsas brevifacies*. By making small loan requests of this snake, I expect to accumulate enough new information to publish a short paper. Please select adult specimens that have not been previously dissected. Please do not send brittle specimens.

I thank you for considering my request and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

Stephen R. Goldberg  
Emeritus Professor of Biology  
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7214 Painter Avenue  
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