



Department of Biology

15 April 2016

Emily Braker
Collection Manager
Herpetology
University of Colorado Museum
Campus Box 334
University of Colorado
Boulder CO 80309-0334

Dear Ms. Braker


I am writing regarding a study I am doing on the testis cycle of the Mexican hook-nosed snake, *Ficimia streckeri*. This study has been a great challenge as there are not many of these snakes in collections. I have been able to document part of the cycle through loans from different museums. However, I lack data from early or late in the activity season.

I realize you only have 13 *F. streckeri* in your collection. One of them (UCM 64269) is from October which is a month from which I have no data. To be of value, the snake needs to be an adult male with its visceral organs intact. *Ficimia streckeri* of 180 mm SVL or larger are adults. Would you kindly look this snake over and, if it meets my criteria, please consider loaning it to me.

In doing my investigation, I will make a small incision on the lower abdomen and remove one reproductive organ. A histological slide will be made from the removed gonad. The histology slide and snake will be promptly returned to UCM. My findings will be published in a scientific journal. If the snake would help my study and you agree to the loan, please send to Stephen Goldberg, Whittier College, Biology Department, 7214 Painter Avenue, Whittier, CA 90602.

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

Sincerely yours,


Stephen R. Goldberg
Emeritus Professor of Biology
sgoldberg@whittier.edu
phone 562-631-8959

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