**Masticophis mentovarius** (Duméril, Bibron & Duméril, 1854). Diet. The Neotropical Whipsnake, *Masticophis mentovarius*, is a large colubrid (maximum snout–vent length = 2,527 mm; Johnson, 1977), with a distribution on the Atlantic versant that extends from San Luis Potosí, Mexico, to Honduras, and in northern South America on the Guajira Peninsula of Colombia and Venezuela, as well as in north-central Venezuela and Isla Margarita; on the Pacific versant, its distribution ranges from Sonora, Mexico, southward to central Panama; its elevational distribution has been reported as from sea level to 2,500 m (Johnson, 1982; Wilson and Johnson, 2010; Knight et al., 2016). This species is diurnal and terrestrial, but can climb low on vegetation and often is found in open areas (Campbell, 1998). Its diet consists of arthropods, fishes, amphibians, lizards, snakes, small turtles, birds and their eggs, and mammals (Savage, 2002; Solórzano, 2004; Bernarde and Abe, 2010; Calderón-Patrón et al., 2011; Martínez-Fonseca and Sunyer, 2015).

*Masticophis mentovarius* is known to prey on such amphibians as *Leptodactylus (= Adenomera) andreae, Lithobates forreri* (L. Porras and L. Wilson, pers. comm.), and reptiles *Ameiva (= Holcosus) sp., Anolis (= Norops) cupreus, Aspidoscelis sackii, Ctenosaura sp., Sceloporus cozumelae, Conophis lineatus*, and predatory attempts have been reported on individuals of *Boa constrictor (= imperator) and Crisantophis nevermanni*; it also is known to prey on the following mammals: *Rattus rattus*, and *Tlacuatzin canescens* (Lee, 1996; Gutiérrez-Mayén, 2001; Savage, 2002; Pérez-Higareda et al., 2007; Dugan and Figueroa, 2008; Bernarde and Abe, 2010; Calderón-Patrón et al., 2011; Martínez-Fonseca and Sunyer, 2015).

On 9 July 2007, at the campus of the Universidad de Guadalajara (20°42'14.82"N, 105°13'17.9"W; datum WGS 84; elev. 10 m) in Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico, we observed a *M. mentovarius* (total length ≤ 1 m) eating a live juvenile Brown Basilisk, *Basiliscus vittatus* (Fig. 1). The total time elapsed from capture to swallowing the lizard was about 5 min. This note represents the first record of *M. mentovarius* preying on *B. vittatus*. The individual was not captured.

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*Fig. 1.* Predation by a *Masticophis mentovarius* on a *Basiliscus vittatus* observed in Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico. (A) *Masticophis mentovarius* bites and subdues a *B. vittatus*; (B, C) the *B. vittatus* attempts to escape by biting the *M. mentovarius*; and (D) the *M. mentovarius* swallows the *B. vittatus*. © Frank Mc Cann
The distribution of *M. diastema* extends from from northeastern Mexico to Honduras (Roze, 1996). In Mexico, this elapid is known to occur in the states of Hidalgo, Puebla, Oaxaca, Veracruz, and Yucatán (Roze, 1996; Campbell and Lamar, 2004; Fernández-Badillo et al., 2011; Ramírez-Bautista et al., 2014). This medium sized species (snout–vent length 500 to 750 mm) is diurnal and nocturnal, and preys primarily on small snakes and lizards; cannibalism also has been reported (Fernández-Badillo et al., 2011). Typically regarded as a terrestrial snake, *M. diastema* can be found under trash, rocks, or logs (Roze, 1996).

On 23 November 2010 at 1033 h, at ca. 0.83 km SW of Coatapa, Municipio de Atlapexco, Hidalgo (21°04'12.69"N, 98°22'51.18"W; elev. 309 m), we observed and photographed an adult *M. diastema* (ca. 60 cm in total length) in semi-deciduous tropical forest, stretched vertically on a creeper plant (*Arrabidaea* sp.) at a height of 40 cm, near a cluster of small understory shrubs (Fig.1). The snake remained in this position for several minutes, then...