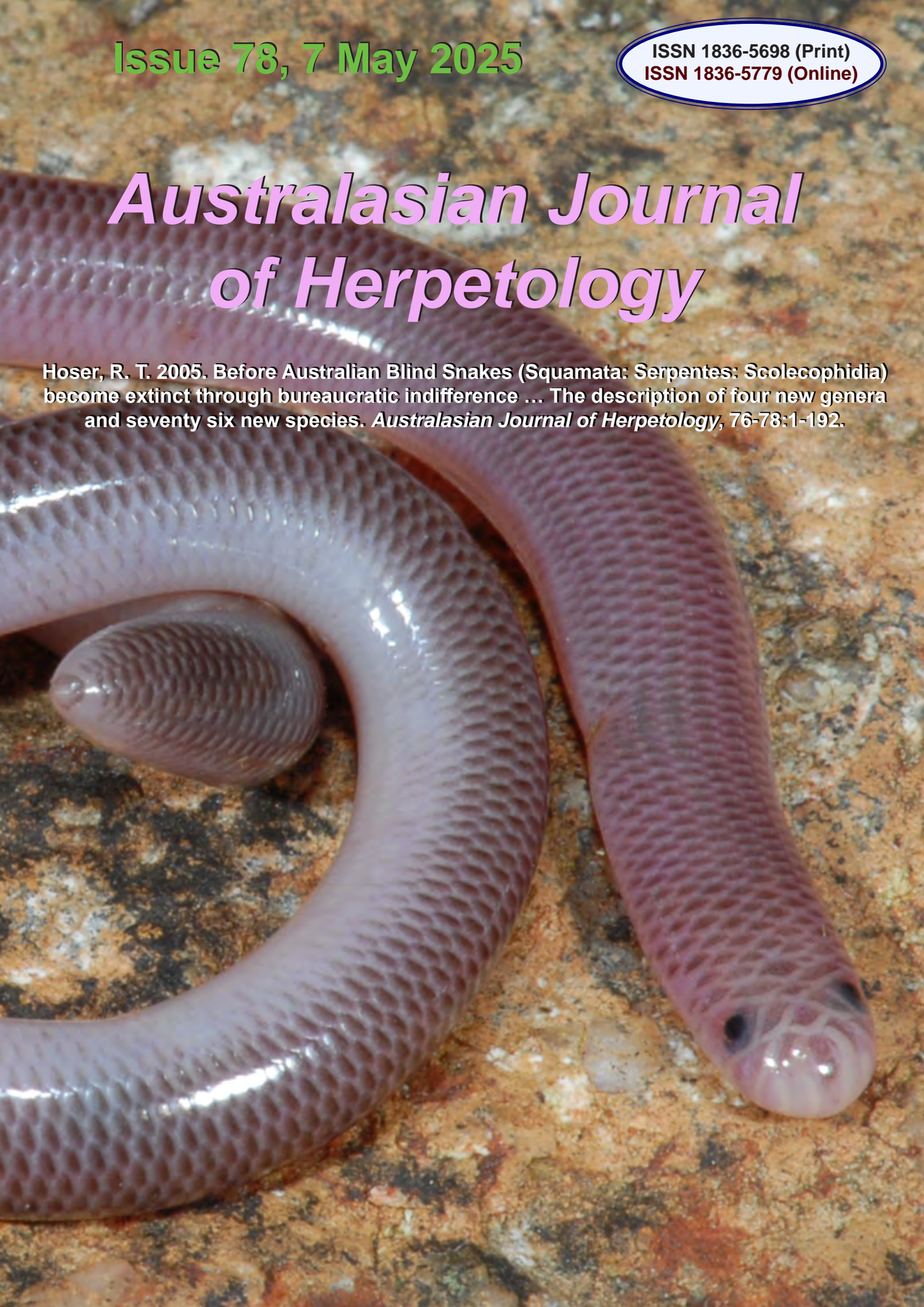


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Hoser, R. T. 2005. Before Australian Blind Snakes (Squamata: Serpentes: Scolecophidia) become extinct through bureaucratic indifference ... The description of four new genera and seventy six new species. *Australasian Journal of Herpetology*, 76-78:1-192.



... Continued from *AJH* Issue 77 ...

Jackyhosertyphlops leverorum sp. nov.
description continued. ...

JACKYHOSERTYPHLOPS LEVERORUM SP. NOV.
LSIDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:FD71C32B-7E41-44A9-97E1-28910677E8D0

Holotype: A preserved specimen at the Western Australian Museum Herpetology Collection (WAM), Perth, Western Australia, Australia, specimen number R114282 collected from Wittenoom, Western Australia, Australia, Latitude -22.233333 S., Longitude 118.316667 E.

Diagnosis (continued from *AJH* Issue 77).

Jackyhosertyphlops leverorum sp. nov. is confined to the Wittenoom and Tom Price area of the central Hamersley Ranges district. *J. gambellae* sp. nov. is a taxon from the west Hamersley district of Western Australia.

J. adelynhoserae (Hoser, 2013) is herein confined to the region generally north of the Fortescue River and south of the De Grey River in the northern Pilbara of Western Australia.

J. ohno sp. nov. is a taxon from the hilly area between the Robe River in the north and the Cane River in the South, in the west Pilbara of western Australia.

J. toriswedoshae sp. nov. is a species from the Paterson Range area on the south-west edge of the Great Sandy Desert in Western Australia.

J. timbukthree sp. nov. is a species from the vicinity of Reeves Knoll in the border zone between the Gibson and Great Sandy Deserts of north-east Western Australia.

J. gregswedoshi sp. nov. is a species from the elevated western parts of the Tanami Desert in association with the Gardiner Range on the Western Australia and Northern Territory border in far east Western Australia and adjacent Northern Territory.

J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov. is from the central Australian ranges, generally within 150 km of Alice Springs, Northern Territory.

J. lachlandundasi sp. nov. occurs south of the Amadeus basin in association with the elevated areas of the Petermann Ranges, in the far south-west of the Northern Territory, Australia.

The eleven preceding species (refer also to the part of this description in *AJH* Issue 77) are separated from one another by the following relevant unique character combinations:

Jackyhosertyphlops nigroterminatus is a greyish purple coloured snake on top. Each scale on the dorsum has a pale cream etching, while the centre is coloured, giving the snake a very faint lined patterning of lighter and darker purplish lines. There

is no obvious lightening at the tip of the snout, (except in young specimens where the snout may appear whitish in colour).

Top of head and neck behind the eyes is a dark chocolate brown as is the tail. There is faint brown, yellow or grey etching on the anterior scales of the head in front of the eyes in most specimens, or no etching at all in some. The brown of the head continues from 1 to 2 times the distance of the snout to between the eyes and fades indistinctly and gradually to the dorsal colour, which is the same for the entire length of the snake save for the chocolate brown tail tip.

Venter is a lighter colour than the dorsum, but of similar colour.

Eye spot is slightly anterior of centre in the ocular scale.

Jackyhosertyphlops leverorum sp. nov. is a reddish coloured snake with purple tinge on top. Each scale of the dorsum is dark etched and paler at the centre. This means there is no impression of longitudinal lines running along the body. The front of the snout, including all or most of the rostral is yellow in colour. The rostral itself is extremely oversized and more strongly beaked than in most other species in this complex. From anterior to the eyes to the back of the head and nearby neck the colour is blackish on top. The black extending 2.5 to 3.5 times the distance of snout to between the eyes. Etching of scales on the anterior snout is either non-existent or extremely faint. The tail only is black in colour, the transition in the pelvic area being abrupt. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The lower scales are immaculately whitish as opposed to having dark centres.

Eye spot is either dead centre or slightly posterior in the ocular scale.

J. mariolisi sp. nov. is a reddish orange coloured snake on top. Each scale of the dorsum has a whitish patch at the anterior edge. The latter half of the body has a slight purple or brown tinge to it. The front of snout and adjacent scales are whitish in colour, this not extending as far as the eyes. Rostral is bluntly beaked. Tail only is dark brownish black, the transition from the anterior upper body colour being ill-defined over 2-3 scale rows. The dark brown of the back of the head commences anterior to the eyes and extends 2 times the distance from snout

to eyes back, from where it transitions gradually to the normal dorsal colouration. The transition occurs over 6-7 scale rows. There is no etching of scales on the snout. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light (as in white) lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The lower scales are immaculately whitish as opposed to having dark centres.

J. gambellae sp. nov. is a pinkish coloured snake on top. Snout is whitish in colour extending to between the eyes, where the colour transitions to a dull yellowish brown colour before transitioning again to the pink of the rest of the dorsum. The area of dull yellow brown extends back slightly more than the distance from snout to eyes. The pink of the dorsum is the same along the length of the snake until about the last 15 percent of the body where there is a transition to a strong yellowish-brown tinge. The tail only is ivory black. The transition at the tail area from dull yellow brown to black is across three scales wide. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The venter itself is pinkish white rather than white.

J. adelynhoserae (Hoser, 2013) is a yellowish brown coloured snake on top, with the latter third of the snake being a noticeably different colour to the anterior two thirds.

Snout is bluntly beaked. Rostral and nasal scales wholly off white. Other dorsal anterior scales of the snout are dark brown, extending 1.5 to 2 times the distance of snout to eyes behind the eyes. Transition from dark to lighter body colour occurs across about 5 rows of scales, the transition being affected by reducing amount of dark pigment on the scales. That is the scales have either dark (brown) pigment or the yellowish brown of the dorsum, but not any intermediate or other colour pigment. The flanks are noticeable in that the transition to white of the venter is higher up the flank than in the preceding species making the white demarcation line easily visible when the snake is viewed from the side. It is also jagged edged caused by the interplay of the row of dark scales meeting the row of immaculate white scales of the venter. The tail is extremely dark brown to black in colour, the transition occurring at the vent or anterior to the vent. Eye spot is slightly below and anterior to centre of the ocular scale.

J. ohno sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. adelynhoserae* (Hoser, 2013) as detailed above. It is separated from that species by being reddish orange, brown in colour on top, blackish on top of the head and near neck rather than dark brown and by having an eye spot at the centre of the ocular scale.

J. toriswedoshae sp. nov. is a very light whitish pink

coloured snake on top, enabling one to see materials inside the snake. Tip of snout is brown, behind that (on top) is yellowish-white and behind that, commencing anterior to the eyes is brownish black. This extends about 1.5 times the distance of the snout to the eyes back behind the eyes to the upper neck, where the usual dorsal colour takes over. The dark blackish scales between the eyes are strongly (thickly) yellow etched. The entire dorsum is of the same very light whitish pink colour, except at the tail, where there is a sudden transition to black (as in entire black scales). The transition from dorsal colour to lighter venter is poorly defined and the venter is pinkish rather than white. Rostral is slightly ovoid in shape. Eye spot is slightly below the centre of the ocular scale.

J. timbukthree sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. toriswedoshae* sp. nov. as just detailed above but separated from that species by having a white tip of snout and slightly posterior of it, distinct thin yellow etching of the dark blackish scales between the eyes and a rostral that is square sided (as opposed to ovoid).

J. gregswedoshi sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. toriswedoshae* sp. nov. and *J. timbukthree* sp. nov. as just detailed above but separated from those species by having a strong reddish-brown tinge to the pink on top, becoming more brownish posteriorly and only semidistinct and thin etching of the dark blackish scales between the eyes. The rostral is square sided (as opposed to ovoid).

J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov. is a brick red coloured snake on top. The head and upper neck are dark chocolate brown. The snout tip is barely lighter, but otherwise essentially the same colour. The beak is blunt. Tail tip only is dark brown in colour. The transition to the dark of the tail is somewhat jagged edged when viewed from above. The transition from dark upper body to light lower body on the flanks is poorly defined. There are no etchings of scales on the anterior snout, between the eyes or elsewhere on the head and neck. The dorsum is the same colour throughout, excluding the dark brown tail tip. Eye spot is at the centre of the ocular scale.

J. lachlandundasi sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. haydnmcphiei* sp. nov. as detailed above. It is separated from that species by having a rostral that is oversized and bulbous at the top, (versus not so in *J. haydnmcphiei* sp. nov.), tip of snout and adjacent (anterior to eyes) is yellow in colour, dark brown to black of tail commences well anterior to the vent and the eye spot is below the centre of the ocular scale.

All the fourteen preceding west and central Australian species are separated from all other Australian Blind Snakes by the following character combination:

A moderately large, very slender, blackish-tailed blind snake with snout beaked in profile, 18 midbody scale rows, nasal cleft usually proceeding from the second labial and 535 to 680 ventrals, 13-36 subcaudals, with

males far higher than females.

The preceding species are all also characterized as follows:

Rostral (from above) is much longer than wide, about three-quarters as wide as the head and extending back to the level of the eyes or nearly so. Nasals are usually narrowly separated behind rostral. Frontal is smaller than the prefrontal. Snout angular from above, weakly to strongly beaked in profile and generally species specific. Nostrils inferior, very slightly or not swollen and much nearer to rostral than the preocular. Nasal cleft proceeds from the second labial most of the time and usually proceeds for varying distances obliquely upwards and forwards towards the rostral reaching it about half the time or getting very close the other half.

Snout may be white or whitish tipped. Rest of head and neck may be very dark brown to blackish. Tail is very dark brown to blackish towards the tip. Venter is usually white, pinkish white or light greyish white in colour. Ventral scales may or may not have darker centres, this usually being species specific.

The phylogenies of Martin *et al.* (2012 and 2013) showed Pliocene divergences of each of *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* *sp. nov.*, *J. leavemalone* *sp. nov.* and *J. tylertritti* *sp. nov.* from one another and more from other species. *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* *sp. nov.*, *J. leavemalone* *sp. nov.* diverged from each other about 2.7 MYA. *J. tylertritti* *sp. nov.* diverged nearly 5 MYA from the other two species.

According to the phylogenies of Martin *et al.* (2012 and 2013) of the other eleven species, eight diverged from nearest relatives in either the Pliocene or Miocene periods, meaning a minimum of 2.5 MYA for each species from nearest relative.

The three more-or-less Centralian taxa have not been genetically sampled, but similar divergences can be inferred from other species groups in the region that have been sampled and are constrained by the exact same biogeographical barriers, or from the geological timelines of relevance, as detailed in Hoser (2025a) and sources cited therein.

J. nigroterminatus is depicted in life online at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/euprepiosaur/52516235654/>

from Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Stephen Zozaya, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/171250498@N08/52496618323/>

from Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Wes Read, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/32222989>

from Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Mikael Poquet, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/172833617> from Lagrange, Western Australia, Australia,

photographed by Alistair Harry, and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/moloch05/32456966158/>

and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/moloch05/46278719252/>

both from 80-mile beach near Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by David "Moloch".

J. leverorum *sp. nov.* is depicted in life online at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/reptileshots/52790199041/>

from Karijini region, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Brendan Schembri, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/241282627> from Karijini National Park, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by "Curious chase".

J. mariolisi *sp. nov.* is depicted in life online at:

https://www.flickr.com/photos/zimny_anders/52444811953/

from the Ophthalmia Range, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Anders Zimny, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/265672969> from Newman, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Lee Cornish.

J. adelynhoserae is depicted in life online at:

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/189459838> from Marble Bar, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by "Pam Town", and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/euprepiosaur/46447971914/>

from Port Hedland, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Stephen Zozoya, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/reptileshots/12262823534/>

and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/reptileshots/12262971246/>

both from the Indee Region, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Brendan Schembri, and https://www.flickr.com/photos/brian_busho/49354092742/

from the Indee Region, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Brian Bush.

J. toriswedoshae *sp. nov.* is depicted in life online at:

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/248720254> from the Parnngurr Community, Telfer, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Stephen G. Hamilton.

J. haydnmcphiei *sp. nov.* is depicted in life online at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/128497936@N03/39784647853/>

from the West MacDonnell Ranges of the Northern Territory, Australia, photographed by Shawn Scott.

J. lachlandundasi *sp. nov.* is depicted in life online at: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/>

mattsummerville/49036981323/

from Kata Tjuta, Northern Territory, Australia, photographed by Matt Summerville, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/128365570@N04/32749827663/>

from Yulara, Northern Territory, Australia photographed by Max Jackson.

Distribution: *Jackyhosertyphlops leverorum* sp. nov. is confined to the Wittenoom and Tom Price area of the central Hamersley Ranges district.

Etymology: *J. leverorum* sp. nov. is named in honor of John and Lillian Lever, the founders and owners of the Koorana Crocodile farm (opened in 1981 and still going as of 2025), being the first commercial crocodile farm in Queensland, for services to wildlife conservation in Australia spanning many decades.

JACKYHOSERTYPHLOPS MARIOLISI SP. NOV.

LSIDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:93EB06B5-9505-46DF-8C08-422E8FF775F1

Holotype: A preserved specimen at the Western Australian Museum Herpetology Collection (WAM), Perth, Western Australia, Australia, specimen number R162233 collected from 11.5 km southwest of Rhodes Ridge, Western Australia, Australia, Latitude -23.145833 S., Longitude 119.265556 E.

This government-owned facility allows access to its holdings.

Paratypes: Two preserved specimens at the Western Australian Museum Herpetology Collection (WAM), Perth, Western Australia, Australia, specimen numbers R166893 (juvenile) and R166895 (subadult) both collected from 45 km north of Newman, Western Australia, Australia, Latitude -22.968056 S., Longitude 119.630556 E.

Diagnosis: Until now, eleven relevant species detailed in this description have been treated as populations of putative “*Typhlops grypus* Waite, 1918” with a holotype (NMV D12351, formerly R7102 at the National Museum of Victoria), type locality of Gregory Downs, North-west Queensland, Australia.

West and central Australia specimens of the putative species “*Typhlops grypus* Waite, 1918” are not closely related to the type form and associated species.

West and central Australia specimens remain in the genus *Jackyhosertyphlops* Hoser, 2013 as explained in the description of *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* sp. nov. published in this paper and relied upon as part of this description.

“*Typhlops grypus* Waite, 1918” and associated species are placed in the genus *Zzzzz* gen. nov. being an east Australian assemblage.

The three species *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* sp. nov., *J. leavemalone* sp. nov. and *J. taylortritti* sp. nov. all occur on the south and south-east rim of the main Pilbara district in Western Australia in adjoining elevated areas such as the north Gascoyne and hills south-east of the Pilbara.

As a trio of species the three preceding species share a lot of traits with the so-called “*Ramphotyphlops leptosoma* Robb, 1972” group, to which they are also most closely related to. This separates them from all the other west and central Australian species formerly treated as *J. grypus*.

They are separated from other species previously treated as West and Central Australian *J. grypus* by their thinner more elongate body and higher average ventral counts (over 640, versus less than 640) as well as a lighter head and/or neck than body colour, versus very much darker head and/or neck than body colour in all the other species in the complex including the following ten.

Not included in the preceding statement was a lightening of the snout tip seen in many specimens, as opposed to the general colour of the top of the head from the eyes back, which is darker in the other eleven species.

The remaining and relevant eleven species are all from the Pilbara region and arid areas west to central Australia.

They all have distributions in line with constraints caused by biogeographical barriers that affect other reptile species groups, including for example the Fortescue and Ashburton River basins, as well as inland claypan and flood zones. Whether the long-term species isolation is caused by habitat, microclimate, competing species, other factors, or combinations of them is not known.

These relevant eleven species are as follows:

The type form of the species *Jackyhosertyphlops nigroterminatus* (Parker, 1931) occurs from the southern edge of the Great Sandy Desert, north of the De Grey River to Broome and Derby in the south-west Kimberley district of Western Australia.

Jackyhosertyphlops leverorum sp. nov. is confined to the Wittenoom and Tom Price area of the central Hamersley Ranges district.

J. mariolisi sp. nov. is a taxon from the Rhodes Ridge and Newman area in the Ophthalmia Range.

J. gambellae sp. nov. is a taxon from the west Hamersley district of Western Australia.

J. adelynhoserae (Hoser, 2013) is herein confined to the region generally north of the Fortescue River and south of the De Grey River in the northern Pilbara of Western Australia.

J. ohno sp. nov. is a taxon from the hilly area between the Robe River in the north and the Cane River in the South, in the west Pilbara of western Australia.

J. toriswedoshae sp. nov. is a species from the Paterson Range area on the south-west edge of the Great Sandy Desert in Western Australia.

J. timbukthree sp. nov. is a species from the vicinity of Reeves Knoll in the border zone between the Gibson and Great Sandy Deserts of north-east Western Australia.

J. gregswedoshi sp. nov. is a species from the elevated western parts of the Tanami Desert in association with the Gardiner Range on the Western Australia and Northern Territory border in far east Western Australia and adjacent Northern Territory.

J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov. is from the central Australian ranges, generally within 150 km of Alice Springs, Northern Territory.

J. lachlandundasi sp. nov. occurs south of the Amadeus basin in association with the elevated areas of the Petermann Ranges, in the far south-west of the Northern Territory, Australia.

The eleven preceding species are separated from one another by the following relevant unique character combinations:

Jackyhosertyphlops nigroterminatus is a greyish purple coloured snake on top. Each scale on the dorsum has a pale cream etching, while the centre is coloured, giving the snake a very faint lined patterning of lighter and darker purplish lines. There is no obvious lightening at the tip of the snout, (except in young specimens where the snout may appear whitish in colour).

Top of head and neck behind the eyes is a dark chocolate brown as is the tail. There is faint brown, yellow or grey etching on the anterior scales of the head in front of the eyes in most specimens, or no etching at all in some. The brown of the head continues from 1 to 2 times the distance of the snout to between the eyes and fades indistinctly and gradually to the dorsal colour, which is the same for the entire length of the snake save for the chocolate brown tail tip.

Venter is a lighter colour than the dorsum, but of similar colour.

Eye spot is slightly anterior of centre in the ocular scale.

Jackyhosertyphlops leverorum sp. nov. is a reddish coloured snake with purple tinge on top. Each scale of the dorsum is dark etched and paler at the centre. This means there is no impression of longitudinal lines running along the body. The front of the snout, including all or most of the rostral is yellow in colour. The rostral itself is extremely oversized and more strongly beaked than in most other species in this complex. From anterior to the eyes to the back of the head and nearby neck the colour is blackish on top. The black extending 2.5 to 3.5 times the distance of snout to between the eyes. Etching of scales on the anterior snout is either non-existent or extremely faint. The tail only is black in colour, the transition in the pelvic area being abrupt. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The lower scales are immaculately whitish as opposed to having dark centres.

Eye spot is either dead centre or slightly posterior in the ocular scale.

J. mariolisi sp. nov. is a reddish orange coloured snake on top. Each scale of the dorsum has a whitish patch at the anterior edge. The latter half of the body has a slight purple or brown tinge to it. The front of snout and adjacent scales are whitish in colour, this not extending as far as the eyes. Rostral is bluntly beaked. Tail only is dark brownish black, the transition from the anterior upper body colour being ill-defined over 2-3 scale rows. The dark brown of the back of the head commences anterior to the eyes and extends 2 times the distance from snout to eyes back, from where it transitions gradually to the normal dorsal colouration. The transition occurs over 6-7 scale rows. There is no etching of scales on the snout. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light (as in white) lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The lower scales are immaculately whitish as opposed to having dark centres.

J. gambellae sp. nov. is a pinkish coloured snake on top. Snout is whitish in colour extending to between the eyes, where the colour transitions to a dull yellowish brown colour before transitioning again to the pink of the rest of the dorsum. The area of dull yellow brown extends back slightly more than the distance from snout to eyes. The pink of the dorsum is the same along the length of the snake until about the last 15 percent of the body where there is a transition to a strong yellowish-brown tinge. The tail only is ivory black. The transition at the tail area from dull yellow brown to black is across three scales wide. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The venter itself is pinkish white rather than white.

J. adelynhoserae (Hoser, 2013) is a yellowish brown coloured snake on top, with the latter third of the snake being a noticeably different colour to the anterior two thirds.

Snout is bluntly beaked. Rostral and nasal scales wholly off white. Other dorsal anterior scales of the snout are dark brown, extending 1.5 to 2 times the distance of snout to eyes behind the eyes. Transition from dark to lighter body colour occurs across about 5 rows of scales, the transition being affected by reducing amount of dark pigment on the scales. That is the scales have either dark (brown) pigment or the yellowish brown of the dorsum, but not any intermediate or other colour pigment. The flanks are noticeable in that the transition to white of the venter is higher up the flank than in the preceding species making the white demarcation line easily visible when the snake is viewed from the side. It is also jagged

edged caused by the interplay of the row of dark scales meeting the row of immaculate white scales of the venter. The tail is extremely dark brown to black in colour, the transition occurring at the vent or anterior to the vent. Eye spot is slightly below and anterior to centre of the ocular scale.

J. ohno sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. adelynhoserae* (Hoser, 2013) as detailed above. It is separated from that species by being reddish orange, brown in colour on top, blackish on top of the head and near neck rather than dark brown and by having an eye spot at the centre of the ocular scale.

J. toriswedoshae sp. nov. is a very light whitish pink coloured snake on top, enabling one to see materials inside the snake. Tip of snout is brown, behind that (on top) is yellowish-white and behind that, commencing anterior to the eyes is brownish black. This extends about 1.5 times the distance of the snout to the eyes back behind the eyes to the upper neck, where the usual dorsal colour takes over. The dark blackish scales between the eyes are strongly (thickly) yellow etched. The entire dorsum is of the same very light whitish pink colour, except at the tail, where there is a sudden transition to black (as in entire black scales). The transition from dorsal colour to lighter venter is poorly defined and the venter is pinkish rather than white. Rostral is slightly ovoid in shape. Eye spot is slightly below the centre of the ocular scale.

J. timbukthree sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. toriswedoshae sp. nov.* as just detailed above but separated from that species by having a white tip of snout and slightly posterior of it, distinct thin yellow etching of the dark blackish scales between the eyes and a rostral that is square sided (as opposed to ovoid).

J. gregswedoshi sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. toriswedoshae sp. nov.* and *J. timbukthree sp. nov.* as just detailed above but separated from those species by having a strong reddish-brown tinge to the pink on top, becoming more brownish posteriorly and only semidistinct and thin etching of the dark blackish scales between the eyes. The rostral is square sided (as opposed to ovoid).

J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov. is a brick red coloured snake on top. The head and upper neck are dark chocolate brown. The snout tip is barely lighter, but otherwise essentially the same colour. The beak is blunt. Tail tip only is dark brown in colour. The transition to the dark of the tail is somewhat jagged edged when viewed from above. The transition from dark upper body to light lower body on the flanks is poorly defined. There are no etchings of scales on the anterior snout, between the eyes or elsewhere on the head and neck. The dorsum is the same colour throughout, excluding the dark brown tail tip. Eye spot is at the centre of the ocular scale.

J. lachlandundasi sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov.* as detailed above. It is

separated from that species by having a rostral that is oversized and bulbous at the top, (versus not so in *J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov.*), tip of snout and adjacent (anterior to eyes) is yellow in colour, dark brown to black of tail commences well anterior to the vent and the eye spot is below the centre of the ocular scale.

All the fourteen preceding west and central Australian species are separated from all other Australian Blind Snakes by the following character combination:

A moderately large, very slender, blackish-tailed blind snake with snout beaked in profile, 18 midbody scale rows, nasal cleft usually proceeding from the second labial and 535 to 680 ventrals, 13-36 subcaudals, with males far higher than females.

The preceding species are all also characterized as follows:

Rostral (from above) is much longer than wide, about three-quarters as wide as the head and extending back to the level of the eyes or nearly so. Nasals are usually narrowly separated behind rostral. Frontal is smaller than the prefrontal. Snout angular from above, weakly to strongly beaked in profile and generally species specific. Nostrils inferior, very slightly or not swollen and much nearer to rostral than the preocular. Nasal cleft proceeds from the second labial most of the time and usually proceeds for varying distances obliquely upwards and forwards towards the rostral reaching it about half the time or getting very close the other half.

Snout may be white or whitish tipped. Rest of head and neck may be very dark brown to blackish. Tail is very dark brown to blackish towards the tip. Venter is usually white, pinkish white or light greyish white in colour. Ventral scales may or may not have darker centres, this usually being species specific.

The phylogenies of Martin *et al.* (2012 and 2013) showed Pliocene divergences of each of *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb sp. nov.*, *J. leavemalone sp. nov.* and *J. taylortritti sp. nov.* from one another and more from other species. *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb sp. nov.*, *J. leavemalone sp. nov.* diverged from each other about 2.7 MYA. *J. taylortritti sp. nov.* diverged nearly 5 MYA from the other two species.

According to the phylogenies of Martin *et al.* (2012 and 2013) of the other eleven species, eight diverged from nearest relatives in either the Pliocene or Miocene periods, meaning a minimum of 2.5 MYA for each species from nearest relative.

The three more-or-less Centralian taxa have not been genetically sampled, but similar divergences can be inferred from other species groups in the region that have been sampled and are constrained by the exact same biogeographical barriers, or from the geological timelines of relevance, as detailed in Hoser (2025a) and sources cited therein.

J. nigroterminatus is depicted in life online at: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/>

euprepiosaur/52516235654/
 from Broome, Western Australia, Australia,
 photographed by Stephen Zozaya, and
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/171250498@N08/52496618323/>
 from Broome, Western Australia, Australia,
 photographed by Wes Read, and
<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/32222989>
 from Broome, Western Australia, Australia,
 photographed by Mikael Poquet, and
<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/172833617>
 from Lagrange, Western Australia, Australia,
 photographed by Alistair Harry, and
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/moloch05/32456966158/>
 and
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/moloch05/46278719252/>
 both from 80-mile beach near Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by David "Moloch".
J. leverorum sp. nov. is depicted in life online at:
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/reptileshots/52790199041/>
 from Karijini region, Western Australia, Australia,
 photographed by Brendan Schembri, and
<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/241282627>
 from Karijini National Park, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by "Curious chase".
J. mariolisi sp. nov. is depicted in life online at:
https://www.flickr.com/photos/zimny_anders/52444811953/
 from the Ophthalmia Range, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Anders Zimny, and
<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/265672969>
 from Newman, Western Australia, Australia,
 photographed by Lee Cornish.
J. adelynhoserae is depicted in life online at:
<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/189459838>
 from Marble Bar, Western Australia, Australia,
 photographed by "Pam Town", and
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/euprepiosaur/46447971914/>
 from Port Hedland, Western Australia, Australia,
 photographed by Stephen Zozoya, and
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/reptileshots/12262823534/>
 and
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/reptileshots/12262971246/>
 both from the Indee Region, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Brendan Schembri, and
https://www.flickr.com/photos/brian_busho/49354092742/
 from the Indee Region, Western Australia, Australia,
 photographed by Brian Bush.

J. toriswedoshae sp. nov. is depicted in life online at:
<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/248720254>
 from the Parnngurr Community, Telfer, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Stephen G. Hamilton.

J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov. is depicted in life online at:
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/128497936@N03/39784647853/>

from the West MacDonnell Ranges of the Northern Territory, Australia, photographed by Shawn Scott.

J. lachlandundasi sp. nov. is depicted in life online at:
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/mattsummerville/49036981323/>

from Kata Tjuta, Northern Territory, Australia,
 photographed by Matt Summerville, and
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/128365570@N04/32749827663/>

from Yulara, Northern Territory, Australia
 photographed by Max Jackson.

Distribution: *J. mariolisi* sp. nov. is a taxon from the Rhodes Ridge and Newman area in the Ophthalmia Range, of the Pilbara district of Western Australia, Australia.

Etymology: *J. mariolisi* sp. nov. is named in honor of George Mariolis currently (2025) of the Sunshine Coast, Queensland, Australia, formerly of Burwood, Victoria, Australia for numerous services to the health, personal welfare and fitness industries in Australia, improving the lives of thousands of people whom he and his collaborators have trained over many decades, including through the operation of numerous successful businesses.

JACKYHOSERTYPHLOPS GAMBELLAE SP. NOV.
LSIDDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:22346424-104C-4D2B-9DD9-1833B0304C78

Holotype: A preserved specimen at the Western Australian Museum Herpetology Collection (WAM), Perth, Western Australia, Australia, specimen number R110716 collected from Brockman Mine, Pilbara District, Western Australia, Australia, Latitude -22.613333 S., Longitude 117.188056 E.

This government-owned facility allows access to its holdings.

Paratype: A preserved adult specimen at the Western Australian Museum Herpetology Collection (WAM), Perth, Western Australia, Australia, specimen number R110721 collected from Brockman Mine, Pilbara District, Western Australia, Australia, Latitude -22.613333 S., Longitude 117.188056 E.

Diagnosis: Until now, eleven relevant species detailed in this description have been treated as populations of putative "*Typhlops grypus* Waite, 1918" with a holotype (NMV D12351, formerly R7102 at the National Museum of Victoria), type locality of Gregory Downs, North-west Queensland, Australia.

West and central Australia specimens of the putative species "*Typhlops grypus* Waite, 1918" are not closely

related to the type form and associated species. West and central Australia specimens remain in the genus *Jackyhosertyphlops* Hoser, 2013 as explained in the description of *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* sp. nov. published in this paper and relied upon as part of this description.

"*Typhlops grypus* Waite, 1918" and associated species are placed in the genus *Zzzzz gen. nov.* being an east Australian assemblage.

The three species *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* sp. nov., *J. leavemalone* sp. nov. and *J. tylertritti* sp. nov. all occur on the south and south-east rim of the main Pilbara district in Western Australia in adjoining elevated areas such as the north Gascoyne and hills south-east of the Pilbara.

As a trio of species the three preceding species share a lot of traits with the so-called "*Ramphotyphlops leptosoma* Robb, 1972" group, to which they are also most closely related to. This separates them from all the other west and central Australian species formerly treated as *J. grypus*.

They are separated from other species previously treated as West and Central Australian *J. grypus* by their thinner more elongate body and higher average ventral counts (over 640, versus less than 640) as well as a lighter head and/or neck than body colour, versus very much darker head and/or neck than body colour in all the other species in the complex including the following ten.

Not included in the preceding statement was a lightening of the snout tip seen in many specimens, as opposed to the general colour of the top of the head from the eyes back, which is darker in the other eleven species.

The remaining and relevant eleven species are all from the Pilbara region and arid areas west to central Australia.

They all have distributions in line with constraints caused by biogeographical barriers that affect other reptile species groups, including for example the Fortescue and Ashburton River basins, as well as inland claypan and flood zones. Whether the long-term species isolation is caused by habitat, microclimate, competing species, other factors, or combinations of them is not known.

These relevant eleven species are as follows:

The type form of the species *Jackyhosertyphlops nigroterminatus* (Parker, 1931) occurs from the southern edge of the Great Sandy Desert, north of the De Grey River to Broome and Derby in the south-west Kimberley district of Western Australia.

Jackyhosertyphlops leverorum sp. nov. is confined to the Wittenoom and Tom Price area of the central Hamersley Ranges district.

J. mariolisi sp. nov. is a taxon from the Rhodes Ridge and Newman area in the Ophthalmia Range.

J. gambellae sp. nov. is a taxon from the west Hamersley district of Western Australia.

J. adelynhoserae (Hoser, 2013) is herein confined to the region generally north of the Fortescue River and south of the De Grey River in the northern Pilbara of Western Australia.

J. ohno sp. nov. is a taxon from the hilly area between the Robe River in the north and the Cane River in the South, in the west Pilbara of western Australia.

J. toriswedoshae sp. nov. is a species from the Paterson Range area on the south-west edge of the Great Sandy Desert in Western Australia.

J. timbukthree sp. nov. is a species from the vicinity of Reeves Knoll in the border zone between the Gibson and Great Sandy Deserts of north-east Western Australia.

J. gregswedoshi sp. nov. is a species from the elevated western parts of the Tanami Desert in association with the Gardiner Range on the Western Australia and Northern Territory border in far east Western Australia and adjacent Northern Territory.

J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov. is from the central Australian ranges, generally within 150 km of Alice Springs, Northern Territory.

J. lachlandundasi sp. nov. occurs south of the Amadeus basin in association with the elevated areas of the Petermann Ranges, in the far south-west of the Northern Territory, Australia.

The eleven preceding species are separated from one another by the following relevant unique character combinations:

Jackyhosertyphlops nigroterminatus is a greyish purple coloured snake on top. Each scale on the dorsum has a pale cream etching, while the centre is coloured, giving the snake a very faint lined patterning of lighter and darker purplish lines. There is no obvious lightening at the tip of the snout, (except in young specimens where the snout may appear whitish in colour).

Top of head and neck behind the eyes is a dark chocolate brown as is the tail. There is faint brown, yellow or grey etching on the anterior scales of the head in front of the eyes in most specimens, or no etching at all in some. The brown of the head continues from 1 to 2 times the distance of the snout to between the eyes and fades indistinctly and gradually to the dorsal colour, which is the same for the entire length of the snake save for the chocolate brown tail tip.

Venter is a lighter colour than the dorsum, but of similar colour.

Eye spot is slightly anterior of centre in the ocular scale.

Jackyhosertyphlops leverorum sp. nov. is a reddish coloured snake with purple tinge on top. Each scale of the dorsum is dark etched and paler at the centre. This means there is no impression of longitudinal lines running along the body. The front of the snout, including all or most of the rostral is yellow in colour. The rostral itself is extremely oversized and more

strongly beaked than in most other species in this complex. From anterior to the eyes to the back of the head and nearby neck the colour is blackish on top. The black extending 2.5 to 3.5 times the distance of snout to between the eyes. Etching of scales on the anterior snout is either non-existent or extremely faint. The tail only is black in colour, the transition in the pelvic area being abrupt. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The lower scales are immaculately whitish as opposed to having dark centres.

Eye spot is either dead centre or slightly posterior in the ocular scale.

J. mariolisi sp. nov. is a reddish orange coloured snake on top. Each scale of the dorsum has a whitish patch at the anterior edge. The latter half of the body has a slight purple or brown tinge to it. The front of snout and adjacent scales are whitish in colour, this not extending as far as the eyes. Rostral is bluntly beaked. Tail only is dark brownish black, the transition from the anterior upper body colour being ill-defined over 2-3 scale rows. The dark brown of the back of the head commences anterior to the eyes and extends 2 times the distance from snout to eyes back, from where it transitions gradually to the normal dorsal colouration. The transition occurs over 6-7 scale rows. There is no etching of scales on the snout. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light (as in white) lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The lower scales are immaculately whitish as opposed to having dark centres.

J. gambellae sp. nov. is a pinkish coloured snake on top. Snout is whitish in colour extending to between the eyes, where the colour transitions to a dull yellowish brown colour before transitioning again to the pink of the rest of the dorsum. The area of dull yellow brown extends back slightly more than the distance from snout to eyes. The pink of the dorsum is the same along the length of the snake until about the last 15 percent of the body where there is a transition to a strong yellowish-brown tinge. The tail only is ivory black. The transition at the tail area from dull yellow brown to black is across three scales wide. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The venter itself is pinkish white rather than white.

J. adelynhoserae (Hoser, 2013) is a yellowish brown coloured snake on top, with the latter third of the snake being a noticeably different colour to the anterior two thirds.

Snout is bluntly beaked. Rostral and nasal scales wholly off white. Other dorsal anterior scales of the snout are dark brown, extending 1.5 to 2 times the distance of snout to eyes behind the eyes. Transition from dark to lighter body colour occurs across about 5 rows of scales, the transition being affected by reducing amount of dark pigment on the scales. That is the scales have either dark (brown) pigment or the yellowish brown of the dorsum, but not any intermediate or other colour pigment. The flanks are noticeable in that the transition to white of the venter is higher up the flank than in the preceding species making the white demarcation line easily visible when the snake is viewed from the side. It is also jagged edged caused by the interplay of the row of dark scales meeting the row of immaculate white scales of the venter. The tail is extremely dark brown to black in colour, the transition occurring at the vent or anterior to the vent. Eye spot is slightly below and anterior to centre of the ocular scale.

J. ohno sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. adelynhoserae* (Hoser, 2013) as detailed above. It is separated from that species by being reddish orange, brown in colour on top, blackish on top of the head and near neck rather than dark brown and by having an eye spot at the centre of the ocular scale.

J. toriswedoshae sp. nov. is a very light whitish pink coloured snake on top, enabling one to see materials inside the snake. Tip of snout is brown, behind that (on top) is yellowish-white and behind that, commencing anterior to the eyes is brownish black. This extends about 1.5 times the distance of the snout to the eyes back behind the eyes to the upper neck, where the usual dorsal colour takes over. The dark blackish scales between the eyes are strongly (thickly) yellow etched. The entire dorsum is of the same very light whitish pink colour, except at the tail, where there is a sudden transition to black (as in entire black scales). The transition from dorsal colour to lighter venter is poorly defined and the venter is pinkish rather than white. Rostral is slightly ovoid in shape. Eye spot is slightly below the centre of the ocular scale.

J. timbukthree sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. toriswedoshae* sp. nov. as just detailed above but separated from that species by having a white tip of snout and slightly posterior of it, distinct thin yellow etching of the dark blackish scales between the eyes and a rostral that is square sided (as opposed to ovoid).

J. gregswedoshi sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. toriswedoshae* sp. nov. and *J. timbukthree* sp. nov. as just detailed above but separated from those species by having a strong reddish-brown tinge to the pink on top, becoming more brownish posteriorly and only semidistinct and thin etching of the dark blackish scales between the eyes. The rostral is square sided (as opposed to ovoid).

J. haydnmcphie sp. nov. is a brick red coloured snake on top. The head and upper neck are dark chocolate

brown. The snout tip is barely lighter, but otherwise essentially the same colour. The beak is blunt. Tail tip only is dark brown in colour. The transition to the dark of the tail is somewhat jagged edged when viewed from above. The transition from dark upper body to light lower body on the flanks is poorly defined. There are no etchings of scales on the anterior snout, between the eyes or elsewhere on the head and neck. The dorsum is the same colour throughout, excluding the dark brown tail tip. Eye spot is at the centre of the ocular scale.

J. lachlandundasi sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. haydnmcphiei* sp. nov. as detailed above. It is separated from that species by having a rostral that is oversized and bulbous at the top, (versus not so in *J. haydnmcphiei* sp. nov.), tip of snout and adjacent (anterior to eyes) is yellow in colour, dark brown to black of tail commences well anterior to the vent and the eye spot is below the centre of the ocular scale.

All the fourteen preceding west and central Australian species are separated from all other Australian Blind Snakes by the following character combination:

A moderately large, very slender, blackish-tailed blind snake with snout beaked in profile, 18 midbody scale rows, nasal cleft usually proceeding from the second labial and 535 to 680 ventrals, 13-36 subcaudals, with males far higher than females.

The preceding species are all also characterized as follows:

Rostral (from above) is much longer than wide, about three-quarters as wide as the head and extending back to the level of the eyes or nearly so. Nasals are usually narrowly separated behind rostral. Frontal is smaller than the prefrontal. Snout angular from above, weakly to strongly beaked in profile and generally species specific. Nostrils inferior, very slightly or not swollen and much nearer to rostral than the preocular. Nasal cleft proceeds from the second labial most of the time and usually proceeds for varying distances obliquely upwards and forwards towards the rostral reaching it about half the time or getting very close the other half.

Snout may be white or whitish tipped. Rest of head and neck may be very dark brown to blackish. Tail is very dark brown to blackish towards the tip. Venter is usually white, pinkish white or light greyish white in colour. Ventral scales may or may not have darker centres, this usually being species specific.

The phylogenies of Martin *et al.* (2012 and 2013) showed Pliocene divergences of each of *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* sp. nov., *J. leavemalone* sp. nov. and *J. tylertritti* sp. nov. from one another and more from other species. *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* sp. nov., *J. leavemalone* sp. nov. diverged from each other about 2.7 MYA. *J. tylertritti* sp. nov. diverged nearly 5 MYA from the other two species.

According to the phylogenies of Martin *et al.* (2012

and 2013) of the other eleven species, eight diverged from nearest relatives in either the Pliocene or Miocene periods, meaning a minimum of 2.5 MYA for each species from nearest relative.

The three more-or-less Centralian taxa have not been genetically sampled, but similar divergences can be inferred from other species groups in the region that have been sampled and are constrained by the exact same biogeographical barriers, or from the geological timelines of relevance, as detailed in Hoser (2025a) and sources cited therein.

J. nigroterminatus is depicted in life online at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/euprepiosaur/52516235654/>

from Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Stephen Zozaya, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/171250498@N08/52496618323/>

from Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Wes Read, and

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/32222989>

from Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Mikael Poquet, and

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/172833617>

from Lagrange, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Alistair Harry, and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/moloch05/32456966158/>

and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/moloch05/46278719252/>

both from 80-mile beach near Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by David "Moloch".

J. leverorum sp. nov. is depicted in life online at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/reptileshots/52790199041/>

from Karijini region, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Brendan Schembri, and

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/241282627>

from Karijini National Park, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by "Curious chase".

J. mariolisi sp. nov. is depicted in life online at:

https://www.flickr.com/photos/zimny_anders/52444811953/

from the Ophthalmia Range, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Anders Zimny, and

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/265672969>

from Newman, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Lee Cornish.

J. adelynhoserae is depicted in life online at:

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/189459838>

from Marble Bar, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by "Pam Town", and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/euprepiosaur/46447971914/>

from Port Hedland, Western Australia, Australia,

photographed by Stephen Zozoya, and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/reptileshots/12262823534/>

and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/reptileshots/12262971246/>

both from the Indee Region, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Brendan Schembri, and https://www.flickr.com/photos/brian_busho/49354092742/

from the Indee Region, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Brian Bush.

J. toriswedoshae sp. nov. is depicted in life online at: <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/248720254> from the Parngurr Community, Telfer, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Stephen G. Hamilton.

J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov. is depicted in life online at: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/128497936@N03/39784647853/>

from the West MacDonnell Ranges of the Northern Territory, Australia, photographed by Shawn Scott.

J. lachlandundasi sp. nov. is depicted in life online at: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/mattsummerville/49036981323/>

from Kata Tjuta, Northern Territory, Australia, photographed by Matt Summerville, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/128365570@N04/32749827663/>

from Yulara, Northern Territory, Australia photographed by Max Jackson.

Distribution: *J. gambellae* sp. nov. is a taxon from the west Hamersley district of Western Australia generally near the type locality (Brockman Mine, Pilbara District, Western Australia), effectively confined by major low-lying drainage systems on all sides including lesser sized systems to the east of where this taxon occurs.

Etymology: *J. gambellae* sp. nov. is named in honor of Karla Gambell currently (2025) of the Sunshine Coast, Queensland, Australia, formerly of Burwood, Victoria, Australia for numerous services to the health, personal welfare and fitness industries in Australia, improving the lives of thousands of people whom she and her collaborators (including husband George Mariolis) have trained over many decades, including through the operation of numerous successful businesses.

JACKYHOSERTYPHLOPS OHNO SP. NOV.

LSIDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:996BB81E-DB23-4DE8-8BF8-C45A8D16D2DD

Holotype: A preserved specimen at the Western Australian Museum Herpetology Collection (WAM), Perth, Western Australia, Australia, specimen number R108596 collected from 8 km east of Yarra Bluff (AKA Yerra Bluff), Western Australia, Australia, Latitude

-21.783333 S., Longitude 116.25 E.

This government-owned facility allows access to its holdings.

Paratypes: Four preserved specimens at the Western Australian Museum Herpetology Collection (WAM), Perth, Western Australia, Australia, being 1/ Specimen number R110901 (adult) collected 18.5 km southwest of Pannawonnic, Western Australia, Australia, Latitude -21.756389 S., Longitude 116.196389 E., 2/ Specimen number R108614 collected from 8 km east of Yarra Bluff (AKA Yerra Bluff), Western Australia, Australia, Latitude -21.783333 S., Longitude 116.25 E., and 3/ Specimen numbers R102200 and R113845 both collected from Pannawonnic, Western Australia, Australia, Latitude -21.65 S., Longitude 116.316667 E.

Diagnosis: Until now, eleven relevant species detailed in this description have been treated as populations of putative "*Typhlops grypus* Waite, 1918" with a holotype (NMV D12351, formerly R7102 at the National Museum of Victoria), type locality of Gregory Downs, North-west Queensland, Australia.

West and central Australia specimens of the putative species "*Typhlops grypus* Waite, 1918" are not closely related to the type form and associated species.

West and central Australia specimens remain in the genus *Jackyhosertyphlops* Hoser, 2013 as explained in the description of *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* sp. nov. published in this paper and relied upon as part of this description.

"*Typhlops grypus* Waite, 1918" and associated species are placed in the genus *Zzzzz* gen. nov. being an east Australian assemblage.

The three species *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* sp. nov., *J. leavemalone* sp. nov. and *J. tylertritti* sp. nov. all occur on the south and south-east rim of the main Pilbara district in Western Australia in adjoining elevated areas such as the north Gascoyne and hills south-east of the Pilbara.

As a trio of species the three preceding species share a lot of traits with the so-called "*Ramphotyphlops leptosoma* Robb, 1972" group, to which they are also most closely related to. This separates them from all the other west and central Australian species formerly treated as *J. grypus*.

They are separated from other species previously treated as West and Central Australian *J. grypus* by their thinner more elongate body and higher average ventral counts (over 640, versus less than 640) as well as a lighter head and/or neck than body colour, versus very much darker head and/or neck than body colour in all the other species in the complex including the following ten.

Not included in the preceding statement was a lightening of the snout tip seen in many specimens, as opposed to the general colour of the top of the head from the eyes back, which is darker in the other eleven species.

The remaining and relevant eleven species are all from the Pilbara region and arid areas west to central Australia.

They all have distributions in line with constraints caused by biogeographical barriers that affect other reptile species groups, including for example the Fortescue and Ashburton River basins, as well as inland claypan and flood zones. Whether the long-term species isolation is caused by habitat, microclimate, competing species, other factors, or combinations of them is not known.

These relevant eleven species are as follows:

The type form of the species *Jackyhosertyphlops nigroterminatus* (Parker, 1931) occurs from the southern edge of the Great Sandy Desert, north of the De Grey River to Broome and Derby in the south-west Kimberley district of Western Australia.

Jackyhosertyphlops leverorum sp. nov. is confined to the Wittenoom and Tom Price area of the central Hamersley Ranges district.

J. mariolisi sp. nov. is a taxon from the Rhodes Ridge and Newman area in the Ophthalmia Range.

J. gambellae sp. nov. is a taxon from the west Hamersley district of Western Australia.

J. adelynhoserae (Hoser, 2013) is herein confined to the region generally north of the Fortescue River and south of the De Grey River in the northern Pilbara of Western Australia.

J. ohno sp. nov. is a taxon from the hilly area between the Robe River in the north and the Cane River in the South, in the west Pilbara of western Australia.

J. toriswedoshae sp. nov. is a species from the Paterson Range area on the south-west edge of the Great Sandy Desert in Western Australia.

J. timbukthree sp. nov. is a species from the vicinity of Reeves Knoll in the border zone between the Gibson and Great Sandy Deserts of north-east Western Australia.

J. gregswedoshi sp. nov. is a species from the elevated western parts of the Tanami Desert in association with the Gardiner Range on the Western Australia and Northern Territory border in far east Western Australia and adjacent Northern Territory.

J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov. is from the central Australian ranges, generally within 150 km of Alice Springs, Northern Territory.

J. lachlandundasi sp. nov. occurs south of the Amadeus basin in association with the elevated areas of the Petermann Ranges, in the far south-west of the Northern Territory, Australia.

The eleven preceding species are separated from one another by the following relevant unique character combinations:

Jackyhosertyphlops nigroterminatus is a greyish purple coloured snake on top. Each scale on the dorsum has a pale cream etching, while the centre is coloured, giving the snake a very faint lined

patterning of lighter and darker purplish lines. There is no obvious lightening at the tip of the snout, (except in young specimens where the snout may appear whitish in colour).

Top of head and neck behind the eyes is a dark chocolate brown as is the tail. There is faint brown, yellow or grey etching on the anterior scales of the head in front of the eyes in most specimens, or no etching at all in some. The brown of the head continues from 1 to 2 times the distance of the snout to between the eyes and fades indistinctly and gradually to the dorsal colour, which is the same for the entire length of the snake save for the chocolate brown tail tip.

Venter is a lighter colour than the dorsum, but of similar colour.

Eye spot is slightly anterior of centre in the ocular scale.

Jackyhosertyphlops leverorum sp. nov. is a reddish coloured snake with purple tinge on top. Each scale of the dorsum is dark etched and paler at the centre. This means there is no impression of longitudinal lines running along the body. The front of the snout, including all or most of the rostral is yellow in colour. The rostral itself is extremely oversized and more strongly beaked than in most other species in this complex. From anterior to the eyes to the back of the head and nearby neck the colour is blackish on top. The black extending 2.5 to 3.5 times the distance of snout to between the eyes. Etching of scales on the anterior snout is either non-existent or extremely faint. The tail only is black in colour, the transition in the pelvic area being abrupt. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The lower scales are immaculately whitish as opposed to having dark centres.

Eye spot is either dead centre or slightly posterior in the ocular scale.

J. mariolisi sp. nov. is a reddish orange coloured snake on top. Each scale of the dorsum has a whitish patch at the anterior edge. The latter half of the body has a slight purple or brown tinge to it. The front of snout and adjacent scales are whitish in colour, this not extending as far as the eyes. Rostral is bluntly beaked. Tail only is dark brownish black, the transition from the anterior upper body colour being ill-defined over 2-3 scale rows. The dark brown of the back of the head commences anterior to the eyes and extends 2 times the distance from snout to eyes back, from where it transitions gradually to the normal dorsal colouration. The transition occurs over 6-7 scale rows. There is no etching of scales on the snout. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light (as in white) lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change

running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The lower scales are immaculately whitish as opposed to having dark centres.

J. gambellae sp. nov. is a pinkish coloured snake on top. Snout is whitish in colour extending to between the eyes, where the colour transitions to a dull yellowish brown colour before transitioning again to the pink of the rest of the dorsum. The area of dull yellow brown extends back slightly more than the distance from snout to eyes. The pink of the dorsum is the same along the length of the snake until about the last 15 percent of the body where there is a transition to a strong yellowish-brown tinge. The tail only is ivory black. The transition at the tail area from dull yellow brown to black is across three scales wide. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The venter itself is pinkish white rather than white.

J. adelynhoserae (Hoser, 2013) is a yellowish brown coloured snake on top, with the latter third of the snake being a noticeably different colour to the anterior two thirds.

Snout is bluntly beaked. Rostral and nasal scales wholly off white. Other dorsal anterior scales of the snout are dark brown, extending 1.5 to 2 times the distance of snout to eyes behind the eyes. Transition from dark to lighter body colour occurs across about 5 rows of scales, the transition being affected by reducing amount of dark pigment on the scales. That is the scales have either dark (brown) pigment or the yellowish brown of the dorsum, but not any intermediate or other colour pigment. The flanks are noticeable in that the transition to white of the venter is higher up the flank than in the preceding species making the white demarcation line easily visible when the snake is viewed from the side. It is also jagged edged caused by the interplay of the row of dark scales meeting the row of immaculate white scales of the venter. The tail is extremely dark brown to black in colour, the transition occurring at the vent or anterior to the vent. Eye spot is slightly below and anterior to centre of the ocular scale.

J. ohno sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. adelynhoserae* (Hoser, 2013) as detailed above. It is separated from that species by being reddish orange, brown in colour on top, blackish on top of the head and near neck rather than dark brown and by having an eye spot at the centre of the ocular scale.

J. toriswedoshae sp. nov. is a very light whitish pink coloured snake on top, enabling one to see materials inside the snake. Tip of snout is brown, behind that (on top) is yellowish-white and behind that, commencing anterior to the eyes is brownish black. This extends about 1.5 times the distance of the snout to the eyes back behind the eyes to the upper neck, where the

usual dorsal colour takes over. The dark blackish scales between the eyes are strongly (thickly) yellow etched. The entire dorsum is of the same very light whitish pink colour, except at the tail, where there is a sudden transition to black (as in entire black scales). The transition from dorsal colour to lighter venter is poorly defined and the venter is pinkish rather than white. Rostral is slightly ovoid in shape. Eye spot is slightly below the centre of the ocular scale.

J. timbukthree sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. toriswedoshae* sp. nov. as just detailed above but separated from that species by having a white tip of snout and slightly posterior of it, distinct thin yellow etching of the dark blackish scales between the eyes and a rostral that is square sided (as opposed to ovoid).

J. gregswedoshi sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. toriswedoshae* sp. nov. and *J. timbukthree* sp. nov. as just detailed above but separated from those species by having a strong reddish-brown tinge to the pink on top, becoming more brownish posteriorly and only semidistinct and thin etching of the dark blackish scales between the eyes. The rostral is square sided (as opposed to ovoid).

J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov. is a brick red coloured snake on top. The head and upper neck are dark chocolate brown. The snout tip is barely lighter, but otherwise essentially the same colour. The beak is blunt. Tail tip only is dark brown in colour. The transition to the dark of the tail is somewhat jagged edged when viewed from above. The transition from dark upper body to light lower body on the flanks is poorly defined. There are no etchings of scales on the anterior snout, between the eyes or elsewhere on the head and neck. The dorsum is the same colour throughout, excluding the dark brown tail tip. Eye spot is at the centre of the ocular scale.

J. lachlandundasi sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. haydnmcphiei* sp. nov. as detailed above. It is separated from that species by having a rostral that is oversized and bulbous at the top, (versus not so in *J. haydnmcphiei* sp. nov.), tip of snout and adjacent (anterior to eyes) is yellow in colour, dark brown to black of tail commences well anterior to the vent and the eye spot is below the centre of the ocular scale.

All the fourteen preceding west and central Australian species are separated from all other Australian Blind Snakes by the following character combination:

A moderately large, very slender, blackish-tailed blind snake with snout beaked in profile, 18 midbody scale rows, nasal cleft usually proceeding from the second labial and 535 to 680 ventrals, 13-36 subcaudals, with males far higher than females.

The preceding species are all also characterized as follows:

Rostral (from above) is much longer than wide, about three-quarters as wide as the head and extending back to the level of the eyes or nearly so. Nasals are

usually narrowly separated behind rostral. Frontal is smaller than the prefrontal. Snout angular from above, weakly to strongly beaked in profile and generally species specific. Nostrils inferior, very slightly or not swollen and much nearer to rostral than the preocular. Nasal cleft proceeds from the second labial most of the time and usually proceeds for varying distances obliquely upwards and forwards towards the rostral reaching it about half the time or getting very close the other half.

Snout may be white or whitish tipped. Rest of head and neck may be very dark brown to blackish. Tail is very dark brown to blackish towards the tip. Venter is usually white, pinkish white or light greyish white in colour. Ventral scales may or may not have darker centres, this usually being species specific.

The phylogenies of Martin *et al.* (2012 and 2013) showed Pliocene divergences of each of *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* *sp. nov.*, *J. leavemalone* *sp. nov.* and *J. tylertritti* *sp. nov.* from one another and more from other species. *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* *sp. nov.*, *J. leavemalone* *sp. nov.* diverged from each other about 2.7 MYA. *J. tylertritti* *sp. nov.* diverged nearly 5 MYA from the other two species.

According to the phylogenies of Martin *et al.* (2012 and 2013) of the other eleven species, eight diverged from nearest relatives in either the Pliocene or Miocene periods, meaning a minimum of 2.5 MYA for each species from nearest relative.

The three more-or-less Centralian taxa have not been genetically sampled, but similar divergences can be inferred from other species groups in the region that have been sampled and are constrained by the exact same biogeographical barriers, or from the geological timelines of relevance, as detailed in Hoser (2025a) and sources cited therein.

J. nigroterminatus is depicted in life online at: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/euprepiosaur/52516235654/>

from Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Stephen Zozaya, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/171250498@N08/52496618323/>

from Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Wes Read, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/32222989> from Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Mikael Poquet, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/172833617> from Lagrange, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Alistair Harry, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/moloch05/32456966158/> and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/moloch05/46278719252/>

both from 80-mile beach near Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by David "Moloch".

J. leverorum *sp. nov.* is depicted in life online at: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/reptileshots/52790199041/>

from Karijini region, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Brendan Schembri, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/241282627> from Karijini National Park, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by "Curious chase".

J. mariolisi *sp. nov.* is depicted in life online at: https://www.flickr.com/photos/zimny_anders/52444811953/

from the Ophthalmia Range, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Anders Zimny, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/265672969> from Newman, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Lee Cornish.

J. adelynhoserae is depicted in life online at: <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/189459838> from Marble Bar, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by "Pam Town", and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/euprepiosaur/46447971914/>

from Port Hedland, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Stephen Zozoya, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/reptileshots/12262823534/>

and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/reptileshots/12262971246/>

both from the Indee Region, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Brendan Schembri, and https://www.flickr.com/photos/brian_busho/49354092742/

from the Indee Region, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Brian Bush.

J. toriswedoshae *sp. nov.* is depicted in life online at: <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/248720254> from the Parnngurr Community, Telfer, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Stephen G. Hamilton.

J. haydnmcphie *sp. nov.* is depicted in life online at: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/128497936@N03/39784647853/>

from the West MacDonnell Ranges of the Northern Territory, Australia, photographed by Shawn Scott.

J. lachlandundasi *sp. nov.* is depicted in life online at: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/mattsummerville/49036981323/>

from Kata Tjuta, Northern Territory, Australia, photographed by Matt Summerville, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/128365570@N04/32749827663/>

from Yulara, Northern Territory, Australia

photographed by Max Jackson.

Distribution: *J. ohno* sp. nov. is a taxon from the hilly area between the Robe River in the north and the Cane River in the South, potentially extending north to the Fortescue River, in the west Pilbara of Western Australia, Australia.

Etymology: It was in January 1981 when I was grabbing a specimen of this taxon crossing a road on a rainy night, that it sprayed feces into my face. This led to an Aboriginal accomplice exclaiming “oh no” and hence the etymology.

JACKYHOSERTYPHLOPS TORISWEDOSHAE SP. NOV.

LSIDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:4DADF90C-CEBD-42D9-B99B-90A9AB7DAF7E

Holotype: A preserved specimen at the Western Australian Museum Herpetology Collection (WAM), Perth, Western Australia, Australia, specimen number R108923 collected from 25 km southeast of Telfer, Western Australia, Australia, Latitude -21.883333 S., Longitude 122.366667 E.

This government-owned facility allows access to its holdings.

Paratype: A preserved specimen at the Western Australian Museum Herpetology Collection (WAM), Perth, Western Australia, Australia, specimen number R47784 collected from Paterson Range, 217 km east of Nullagine, Western Australia, Australia, Latitude -21.833333 S., Longitude 122.116667 E.

Diagnosis: Until now, eleven relevant species detailed in this description have been treated as populations of putative “*Typhlops grypus* Waite, 1918” with a holotype (NMV D12351, formerly R7102 at the National Museum of Victoria), type locality of Gregory Downs, North-west Queensland, Australia.

West and central Australia specimens of the putative species “*Typhlops grypus* Waite, 1918” are not closely related to the type form and associated species.

West and central Australia specimens remain in the genus *Jackyhosertyphlops* Hoser, 2013 as explained in the description of *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* sp. nov. published in this paper and relied upon as part of this description.

“*Typhlops grypus* Waite, 1918” and associated species are placed in the genus *Zzzzz* gen. nov. being an east Australian assemblage.

The three species *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* sp. nov., *J. leavemalone* sp. nov. and *J. tylertritti* sp. nov. all occur on the south and south-east rim of the main Pilbara district in Western Australia in adjoining elevated areas such as the north Gascoyne and hills south-east of the Pilbara.

As a trio of species the three preceding species share a lot of traits with the so-called “*Ramphotyphlops leptosoma* Robb, 1972” group, to which they are also most closely related to. This separates them from all the other west and central Australian species formerly treated as *J. grypus*.

They are separated from other species previously treated as West and Central Australian *J. grypus* by their thinner more elongate body and higher average ventral counts (over 640, versus less than 640) as well as a lighter head and/or neck than body colour, versus very much darker head and/or neck than body colour in all the other species in the complex including the following ten.

Not included in the preceding statement was a lightening of the snout tip seen in many specimens, as opposed to the general colour of the top of the head from the eyes back, which is darker in the other eleven species.

The remaining and relevant eleven species are all from the Pilbara region and arid areas west to central Australia.

They all have distributions in line with constraints caused by biogeographical barriers that affect other reptile species groups, including for example the Fortescue and Ashburton River basins, as well as inland claypan and flood zones. Whether the long-term species isolation is caused by habitat, microclimate, competing species, other factors, or combinations of them is not known.

These relevant eleven species are as follows:

The type form of the species *Jackyhosertyphlops nigroterminatus* (Parker, 1931) occurs from the southern edge of the Great Sandy Desert, north of the De Grey River to Broome and Derby in the south-west Kimberley district of Western Australia.

Jackyhosertyphlops leverorum sp. nov. is confined to the Wittenoom and Tom Price area of the central Hamersley Ranges district.

J. mariolisi sp. nov. is a taxon from the Rhodes Ridge and Newman area in the Ophthalmia Range.

J. gambellae sp. nov. is a taxon from the west Hamersley district of Western Australia.

J. adelynhoserae (Hoser, 2013) is herein confined to the region generally north of the Fortescue River and south of the De Grey River in the northern Pilbara of Western Australia.

J. ohno sp. nov. is a taxon from the hilly area between the Robe River in the north and the Cane River in the South, in the west Pilbara of western Australia.

J. toriswedoshae sp. nov. is a species from the Paterson Range area on the south-west edge of the Great Sandy Desert in Western Australia.

J. timbukthree sp. nov. is a species from the vicinity of Reeves Knoll in the border zone between the Gibson and Great Sandy Deserts of north-east Western Australia.

J. gregswedoshi sp. nov. is a species from the elevated western parts of the Tanami Desert in association with the Gardiner Range on the Western Australia and Northern Territory border in far east Western Australia and adjacent Northern Territory.

J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov. is from the central Australian

ranges, generally within 150 km of Alice Springs, Northern Territory.

J. lachlandundasi sp. nov. occurs south of the Amadeus basin in association with the elevated areas of the Petermann Ranges, in the far south-west of the Northern Territory, Australia.

The eleven preceding species are separated from one another by the following relevant unique character combinations:

Jackyhosertyphlops nigroterminatus is a greyish purple coloured snake on top. Each scale on the dorsum has a pale cream etching, while the centre is coloured, giving the snake a very faint lined patterning of lighter and darker purplish lines. There is no obvious lightening at the tip of the snout, (except in young specimens where the snout may appear whitish in colour).

Top of head and neck behind the eyes is a dark chocolate brown as is the tail. There is faint brown, yellow or grey etching on the anterior scales of the head in front of the eyes in most specimens, or no etching at all in some. The brown of the head continues from 1 to 2 times the distance of the snout to between the eyes and fades indistinctly and gradually to the dorsal colour, which is the same for the entire length of the snake save for the chocolate brown tail tip.

Venter is a lighter colour than the dorsum, but of similar colour.

Eye spot is slightly anterior of centre in the ocular scale.

Jackyhosertyphlops leverorum sp. nov. is a reddish coloured snake with purple tinge on top. Each scale of the dorsum is dark etched and paler at the centre. This means there is no impression of longitudinal lines running along the body. The front of the snout, including all or most of the rostral is yellow in colour. The rostral itself is extremely oversized and more strongly beaked than in most other species in this complex. From anterior to the eyes to the back of the head and nearby neck the colour is blackish on top. The black extending 2.5 to 3.5 times the distance of snout to between the eyes. Etching of scales on the anterior snout is either non-existent or extremely faint. The tail only is black in colour, the transition in the pelvic area being abrupt. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The lower scales are immaculately whitish as opposed to having dark centres.

Eye spot is either dead centre or slightly posterior in the ocular scale.

J. mariolisi sp. nov. is a reddish orange coloured snake on top. Each scale of the dorsum has a whitish patch at the anterior edge. The latter half of the body has a slight purple or brown tinge to it.

The front of snout and adjacent scales are whitish in colour, this not extending as far as the eyes. Rostral is bluntly beaked. Tail only is dark brownish black, the transition from the anterior upper body colour being ill-defined over 2-3 scale rows. The dark brown of the back of the head commences anterior to the eyes and extends 2 times the distance from snout to eyes back, from where it transitions gradually to the normal dorsal colouration. The transition occurs over 6-7 scale rows. There is no etching of scales on the snout. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light (as in white) lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The lower scales are immaculately whitish as opposed to having dark centres.

J. gambellae sp. nov. is a pinkish coloured snake on top. Snout is whitish in colour extending to between the eyes, where the colour transitions to a dull yellowish brown colour before transitioning again to the pink of the rest of the dorsum. The area of dull yellow brown extends back slightly more than the distance from snout to eyes. The pink of the dorsum is the same along the length of the snake until about the last 15 percent of the body where there is a transition to a strong yellowish-brown tinge. The tail only is ivory black. The transition at the tail area from dull yellow brown to black is across three scales wide. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The venter itself is pinkish white rather than white.

J. adelynhoserae (Hoser, 2013) is a yellowish brown coloured snake on top, with the latter third of the snake being a noticeably different colour to the anterior two thirds.

Snout is bluntly beaked. Rostral and nasal scales wholly off white. Other dorsal anterior scales of the snout are dark brown, extending 1.5 to 2 times the distance of snout to eyes behind the eyes. Transition from dark to lighter body colour occurs across about 5 rows of scales, the transition being affected by reducing amount of dark pigment on the scales. That is the scales have either dark (brown) pigment or the yellowish brown of the dorsum, but not any intermediate or other colour pigment. The flanks are noticeable in that the transition to white of the venter is higher up the flank than in the preceding species making the white demarcation line easily visible when the snake is viewed from the side. It is also jagged edged caused by the interplay of the row of dark scales meeting the row of immaculate white scales of the venter. The tail is extremely dark brown to black in colour, the transition occurring at the vent or anterior to the vent. Eye spot is slightly below and anterior to centre of the ocular scale.

J. ohno sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. adelynhoserae* (Hoser, 2013) as detailed above. It is separated from that species by being reddish orange, brown in colour on top, blackish on top of the head and near neck rather than dark brown and by having an eye spot at the centre of the ocular scale.

J. toriswedoshae sp. nov. is a very light whitish pink coloured snake on top, enabling one to see materials inside the snake. Tip of snout is brown, behind that (on top) is yellowish-white and behind that, commencing anterior to the eyes is brownish black. This extends about 1.5 times the distance of the snout to the eyes back behind the eyes to the upper neck, where the usual dorsal colour takes over. The dark blackish scales between the eyes are strongly (thickly) yellow etched. The entire dorsum is of the same very light whitish pink colour, except at the tail, where there is a sudden transition to black (as in entire black scales). The transition from dorsal colour to lighter venter is poorly defined and the venter is pinkish rather than white. Rostral is slightly ovoid in shape. Eye spot is slightly below the centre of the ocular scale.

J. timbukthree sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. toriswedoshae* sp. nov. as just detailed above but separated from that species by having a white tip of snout and slightly posterior of it, distinct thin yellow etching of the dark blackish scales between the eyes and a rostral that is square sided (as opposed to ovoid).

J. gregswedoshi sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. toriswedoshae* sp. nov. and *J. timbukthree* sp. nov. as just detailed above but separated from those species by having a strong reddish-brown tinge to the pink on top, becoming more brownish posteriorly and only semidistinct and thin etching of the dark blackish scales between the eyes. The rostral is square sided (as opposed to ovoid).

J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov. is a brick red coloured snake on top. The head and upper neck are dark chocolate brown. The snout tip is barely lighter, but otherwise essentially the same colour. The beak is blunt. Tail tip only is dark brown in colour. The transition to the dark of the tail is somewhat jagged edged when viewed from above. The transition from dark upper body to light lower body on the flanks is poorly defined. There are no etchings of scales on the anterior snout, between the eyes or elsewhere on the head and neck. The dorsum is the same colour throughout, excluding the dark brown tail tip. Eye spot is at the centre of the ocular scale.

J. lachlandundasi sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. haydnmcphiei* sp. nov. as detailed above. It is separated from that species by having a rostral that is oversized and bulbous at the top, (versus not so in *J. haydnmcphiei* sp. nov.), tip of snout and adjacent (anterior to eyes) is yellow in colour, dark brown to black of tail commences well anterior to the vent and the eye spot is below the centre of the ocular scale.

All the fourteen preceding west and central Australian species are separated from all other Australian Blind Snakes by the following character combination:

A moderately large, very slender, blackish-tailed blind snake with snout beaked in profile, 18 midbody scale rows, nasal cleft usually proceeding from the second labial and 535 to 680 ventrals, 13-36 subcaudals, with males far higher than females.

The preceding species are all also characterized as follows:

Rostral (from above) is much longer than wide, about three-quarters as wide as the head and extending back to the level of the eyes or nearly so. Nasals are usually narrowly separated behind rostral. Frontal is smaller than the prefrontal. Snout angular from above, weakly to strongly beaked in profile and generally species specific. Nostrils inferior, very slightly or not swollen and much nearer to rostral than the preocular. Nasal cleft proceeds from the second labial most of the time and usually proceeds for varying distances obliquely upwards and forwards towards the rostral reaching it about half the time or getting very close the other half.

Snout may be white or whitish tipped. Rest of head and neck may be very dark brown to blackish. Tail is very dark brown to blackish towards the tip. Venter is usually white, pinkish white or light greyish white in colour. Ventral scales may or may not have darker centres, this usually being species specific.

The phylogenies of Martin *et al.* (2012 and 2013) showed Pliocene divergences of each of *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* sp. nov., *J. leavemalone* sp. nov. and *J. taylortritti* sp. nov. from one another and more from other species. *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* sp. nov., *J. leavemalone* sp. nov. diverged from each other about 2.7 MYA. *J. taylortritti* sp. nov. diverged nearly 5 MYA from the other two species.

According to the phylogenies of Martin *et al.* (2012 and 2013) of the other eleven species, eight diverged from nearest relatives in either the Pliocene or Miocene periods, meaning a minimum of 2.5 MYA for each species from nearest relative.

The three more-or-less Centralian taxa have not been genetically sampled, but similar divergences can be inferred from other species groups in the region that have been sampled and are constrained by the exact same biogeographical barriers, or from the geological timelines of relevance, as detailed in Hoser (2025a) and sources cited therein.

J. nigroterminatus is depicted in life online at:

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<https://www.flickr.com/photos/128365570@N04/32749827663/>
 from Yulara, Northern Territory, Australia photographed by Max Jackson.

Distribution: *J. toriswedoshae* sp. nov. is a species from the Paterson Range area on the south-west edge of the Great Sandy Desert in Western Australia.

Etymology: *J. toriswedoshae* sp. nov. is named in honor of Tori Swedosh of Warrandyte, Victoria, Australia in recognition of her services to the arts. See details at: <https://toriswedosh.com/chapters>
JACKYHOSERTYPHLOPS TIMBUKTHREE SP. NOV.

LSIDDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:73CC9480-F0A0-4AE9-BBE1-300D32B66CA9

Holotype: A preserved specimen at the Western Australian Museum Herpetology Collection (WAM), Perth, Western Australia, Australia, specimen number R4073 collected from near Well 39 at the Canning Stock Route, Western Australia, Australia, Latitude -21.766667 S., Longitude 125.65 E.

This government-owned facility allows access to its holdings.

Paratype: A preserved specimen at the Western Australian Museum Herpetology Collection (WAM), Perth, Western Australia, Australia, specimen number R64185 collected from 1 km south of Well 40 (Waddawalla) on the Canning Stock Route, Western Australia, Australia, Latitude -21.683333 S., Longitude 125.766667 E.

Diagnosis: Until now, eleven relevant species detailed in this description have been treated as populations of putative "*Typhlops grypus* Waite, 1918" with a holotype (NMV D12351, formerly R7102 at the National Museum of Victoria), type locality of Gregory Downs, North-west Queensland, Australia.

West and central Australia specimens of the putative species "*Typhlops grypus* Waite, 1918" are not closely related to the type form and associated species.

West and central Australia specimens remain in the genus *Jackyhosertyphlops* Hoser, 2013 as explained in the description of *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* sp. nov. published in this paper and relied upon as part of this description.

"*Typhlops grypus* Waite, 1918" and associated species are placed in the genus *Zzzzz* gen. nov. being an east Australian assemblage.

The three species *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb*

sp. nov., *J. leavemalone sp. nov.* and *J. tylertritti sp. nov.* all occur on the south and south-east rim of the main Pilbara district in Western Australia in adjoining elevated areas such as the north Gascoyne and hills south-east of the Pilbara.

As a trio of species the three preceding species share a lot of traits with the so-called "*Ramphotyphlops leptosoma* Robb, 1972" group, to which they are also most closely related to. This separates them from all the other west and central Australian species formerly treated as *J. grypus*.

They are separated from other species previously treated as West and Central Australian *J. grypus* by their thinner more elongate body and higher average ventral counts (over 640, versus less than 640) as well as a lighter head and/or neck than body colour, versus very much darker head and/or neck than body colour in all the other species in the complex including the following ten.

Not included in the preceding statement was a lightening of the snout tip seen in many specimens, as opposed to the general colour of the top of the head from the eyes back, which is darker in the other eleven species.

The remaining and relevant eleven species are all from the Pilbara region and arid areas west to central Australia.

They all have distributions in line with constraints caused by biogeographical barriers that affect other reptile species groups, including for example the Fortescue and Ashburton River basins, as well as inland claypan and flood zones. Whether the long-term species isolation is caused by habitat, microclimate, competing species, other factors, or combinations of them is not known.

These relevant eleven species are as follows:

The type form of the species *Jackyhosertyphlops nigroterminatus* (Parker, 1931) occurs from the southern edge of the Great Sandy Desert, north of the De Grey River to Broome and Derby in the south-west Kimberley district of Western Australia.

Jackyhosertyphlops leverorum sp. nov. is confined to the Wittenoom and Tom Price area of the central Hamersley Ranges district.

J. mariolisi sp. nov. is a taxon from the Rhodes Ridge and Newman area in the Ophthalmia Range.

J. gambellae sp. nov. is a taxon from the west Hamersley district of Western Australia.

J. adelynhoserae (Hoser, 2013) is herein confined to the region generally north of the Fortescue River and south of the De Grey River in the northern Pilbara of Western Australia.

J. ohno sp. nov. is a taxon from the hilly area between the Robe River in the north and the Cane River in the South, in the west Pilbara of western Australia.

J. toriswedoshae sp. nov. is a species from the Paterson Range area on the south-west edge of the Great Sandy Desert in Western Australia.

J. timbukthree sp. nov. is a species from the vicinity of Reeves Knoll in the border zone between the Gibson and Great Sandy Deserts.

J. gregswedoshi sp. nov. is a species from the elevated western parts of the Tanami Desert in association with the Gardiner Range on the Western Australia and Northern Territory border in far east Western Australia and adjacent Northern Territory.

J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov. is from the central Australian ranges, generally within 150 km of Alice Springs, Northern Territory.

J. lachlandundasi sp. nov. occurs south of the Amadeus basin in association with the elevated areas of the Petermann Ranges, in the far south-west of the Northern Territory, Australia.

The eleven preceding species are separated from one another by the following relevant unique character combinations:

Jackyhosertyphlops nigroterminatus is a greyish purple coloured snake on top. Each scale on the dorsum has a pale cream etching, while the centre is coloured, giving the snake a very faint lined patterning of lighter and darker purplish lines. There is no obvious lightening at the tip of the snout, (except in young specimens where the snout may appear whitish in colour).

Top of head and neck behind the eyes is a dark chocolate brown as is the tail. There is faint brown, yellow or grey etching on the anterior scales of the head in front of the eyes in most specimens, or no etching at all in some. The brown of the head continues from 1 to 2 times the distance of the snout to between the eyes and fades indistinctly and gradually to the dorsal colour, which is the same for the entire length of the snake save for the chocolate brown tail tip.

Venter is a lighter colour than the dorsum, but of similar colour.

Eye spot is slightly anterior of centre in the ocular scale.

Jackyhosertyphlops leverorum sp. nov. is a reddish coloured snake with purple tinge on top. Each scale of the dorsum is dark etched and paler at the centre. This means there is no impression of longitudinal lines running along the body. The front of the snout, including all or most of the rostral is yellow in colour. The rostral itself is extremely oversized and more strongly beaked than in most other species in this complex. From anterior to the eyes to the back of the head and nearby neck the colour is blackish on top. The black extending 2.5 to 3.5 times the distance of snout to between the eyes. Etching of scales on the anterior snout is either non-existent or extremely faint. The tail only is black in colour, the transition in the pelvic area being abrupt. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual

scales being either all one colour or other. The lower scales are immaculately whitish as opposed to having dark centres.

Eye spot is either dead centre or slightly posterior in the ocular scale.

J. mariolisi sp. nov. is a reddish orange coloured snake on top. Each scale of the dorsum has a whitish patch at the anterior edge. The latter half of the body has a slight purple or brown tinge to it. The front of snout and adjacent scales are whitish in colour, this not extending as far as the eyes. Rostral is bluntly beaked. Tail only is dark brownish black, the transition from the anterior upper body colour being ill-defined over 2-3 scale rows. The dark brown of the back of the head commences anterior to the eyes and extends 2 times the distance from snout to eyes back, from where it transitions gradually to the normal dorsal colouration. The transition occurs over 6-7 scale rows. There is no etching of scales on the snout. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light (as in white) lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The lower scales are immaculately whitish as opposed to having dark centres.

J. gambellae sp. nov. is a pinkish coloured snake on top. Snout is whitish in colour extending to between the eyes, where the colour transitions to a dull yellowish brown colour before transitioning again to the pink of the rest of the dorsum. The area of dull yellow brown extends back slightly more than the distance from snout to eyes. The pink of the dorsum is the same along the length of the snake until about the last 15 percent of the body where there is a transition to a strong yellowish-brown tinge. The tail only is ivory black. The transition at the tail area from dull yellow brown to black is across three scales wide. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The venter itself is pinkish white rather than white.

J. adelynhoserae (Hoser, 2013) is a yellowish brown coloured snake on top, with the latter third of the snake being a noticeably different colour to the anterior two thirds.

Snout is bluntly beaked. Rostral and nasal scales wholly off white. Other dorsal anterior scales of the snout are dark brown, extending 1.5 to 2 times the distance of snout to eyes behind the eyes. Transition from dark to lighter body colour occurs across about 5 rows of scales, the transition being affected by reducing amount of dark pigment on the scales.

That is the scales have either dark (brown) pigment or the yellowish brown of the dorsum, but not any intermediate or other colour pigment. The flanks are noticeable in that the transition to white of the venter

is higher up the flank than in the preceding species making the white demarcation line easily visible when the snake is viewed from the side. It is also jagged edged caused by the interplay of the row of dark scales meeting the row of immaculate white scales of the venter. The tail is extremely dark brown to black in colour, the transition occurring at the vent or anterior to the vent. Eye spot is slightly below and anterior to centre of the ocular scale.

J. ohno sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. adelynhoserae* (Hoser, 2013) as detailed above. It is separated from that species by being reddish orange, brown in colour on top, blackish on top of the head and near neck rather than dark brown and by having an eye spot at the centre of the ocular scale.

J. toriswedoshae sp. nov. is a very light whitish pink coloured snake on top, enabling one to see materials inside the snake. Tip of snout is brown, behind that (on top) is yellowish-white and behind that, commencing anterior to the eyes is brownish black. This extends about 1.5 times the distance of the snout to the eyes back behind the eyes to the upper neck, where the usual dorsal colour takes over. The dark blackish scales between the eyes are strongly (thickly) yellow etched. The entire dorsum is of the same very light whitish pink colour, except at the tail, where there is a sudden transition to black (as in entire black scales). The transition from dorsal colour to lighter venter is poorly defined and the venter is pinkish rather than white. Rostral is slightly ovoid in shape. Eye spot is slightly below the centre of the ocular scale.

J. timbukthree sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. toriswedoshae* sp. nov. as just detailed above but separated from that species by having a white tip of snout and slightly posterior of it, distinct thin yellow etching of the dark blackish scales between the eyes and a rostral that is square sided (as opposed to ovoid).

J. gregswedoshi sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. toriswedoshae* sp. nov. and *J. timbukthree* sp. nov. as just detailed above but separated from those species by having a strong reddish-brown tinge to the pink on top, becoming more brownish posteriorly and only semidistinct and thin etching of the dark blackish scales between the eyes. The rostral is square sided (as opposed to ovoid).

J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov. is a brick red coloured snake on top. The head and upper neck are dark chocolate brown. The snout tip is barely lighter, but otherwise essentially the same colour. The beak is blunt. Tail tip only is dark brown in colour. The transition to the dark of the tail is somewhat jagged edged when viewed from above. The transition from dark upper body to light lower body on the flanks is poorly defined. There are no etchings of scales on the anterior snout, between the eyes or elsewhere on the head and neck. The dorsum is the same colour throughout, excluding the dark brown tail tip. Eye spot is at the centre of the ocular scale.

J. lachlandundasi sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. haydnmcphiei* sp. nov. as detailed above. It is separated from that species by having a rostral that is oversized and bulbous at the top, (versus not so in *J. haydnmcphiei* sp. nov.), tip of snout and adjacent (anterior to eyes) is yellow in colour, dark brown to black of tail commences well anterior to the vent and the eye spot is below the centre of the ocular scale.

All the fourteen preceding west and central Australian species are separated from all other Australian Blind Snakes by the following character combination:

A moderately large, very slender, blackish-tailed blind snake with snout beaked in profile, 18 midbody scale rows, nasal cleft usually proceeding from the second labial and 535 to 680 ventrals, 13-36 subcaudals, with males far higher than females.

The preceding species are all also characterized as follows:

Rostral (from above) is much longer than wide, about three-quarters as wide as the head and extending back to the level of the eyes or nearly so. Nasals are usually narrowly separated behind rostral. Frontal is smaller than the prefrontal. Snout angular from above, weakly to strongly beaked in profile and generally species specific. Nostrils inferior, very slightly or not swollen and much nearer to rostral than the preocular. Nasal cleft proceeds from the second labial most of the time and usually proceeds for varying distances obliquely upwards and forwards towards the rostral reaching it about half the time or getting very close the other half.

Snout may be white or whitish tipped. Rest of head and neck may be very dark brown to blackish. Tail is very dark brown to blackish towards the tip. Venter is usually white, pinkish white or light greyish white in colour. Ventral scales may or may not have darker centres, this usually being species specific.

The phylogenies of Martin *et al.* (2012 and 2013) showed Pliocene divergences of each of *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* sp. nov., *J. leavemalone* sp. nov. and *J. tylertritti* sp. nov. from one another and more from other species. *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* sp. nov., *J. leavemalone* sp. nov. diverged from each other about 2.7 MYA. *J. tylertritti* sp. nov. diverged nearly 5 MYA from the other two species.

According to the phylogenies of Martin *et al.* (2012 and 2013) of the other eleven species, eight diverged from nearest relatives in either the Pliocene or Miocene periods, meaning a minimum of 2.5 MYA for each species from nearest relative.

The three more-or-less Centralian taxa have not been genetically sampled, but similar divergences can be inferred from other species groups in the region that have been sampled and are constrained by the exact same biogeographical barriers, or from the geological timelines of relevance, as detailed in Hoser (2025a) and sources cited therein.

J. nigroterminatus is depicted in life online at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/euprepiosaur/52516235654/>

from Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Stephen Zozaya, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/171250498@N08/52496618323/>

from Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Wes Read, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/32222989>

from Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Mikael Poquet, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/172833617>

from Lagrange, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Alistair Harry, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/moloch05/32456966158/>

and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/moloch05/46278719252/>

both from 80-mile beach near Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by David "Moloch".

J. leverorum sp. nov. is depicted in life online at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/reptileshots/52790199041/>

from Karijini region, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Brendan Schembri, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/241282627> from Karijini National Park, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by "Curious chase".

J. mariolisi sp. nov. is depicted in life online at:

https://www.flickr.com/photos/zimny_anders/52444811953/

from the Ophthalmia Range, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Anders Zimny, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/265672969> from Newman, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Lee Cornish.

J. adelynhoserae is depicted in life online at:

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/189459838> from Marble Bar, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by "Pam Town", and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/euprepiosaur/46447971914/>

from Port Hedland, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Stephen Zozoya, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/reptileshots/12262823534/>

and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/reptileshots/12262971246/>

both from the Indee Region, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Brendan Schembri, and https://www.flickr.com/photos/brian_busho/49354092742/

from the Indee Region, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Brian Bush.

J. toriswedoshae sp. nov. is depicted in life online at: <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/248720254> from the Parnngurr Community, Telfer, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Stephen G. Hamilton.

J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov. is depicted in life online at: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/128497936@N03/39784647853/>

from the West MacDonnell Ranges of the Northern Territory, Australia, photographed by Shawn Scott.

J. lachlandundasi sp. nov. is depicted in life online at: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/mattsummerville/49036981323/>

from Kata Tjuta, Northern Territory, Australia, photographed by Matt Summerville, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/128365570@N04/32749827663/>

from Yulara, Northern Territory, Australia photographed by Max Jackson.

Distribution: *J. timbukthree* sp. nov. is a species from the vicinity of Reeves Knoll in the border zone between the Gibson and Great Sandy Deserts.

Etymology: *J. timbukthree* sp. nov. is a species from a very remote part of Australia and the world at large. For many years in England and Australia, people would describe a remote place as being “beyond Timbuktu”. Timbuktu is a very famous and remote place in Mali, Africa, that is remote to pretty much everyone, except those who live there.

Timbukthree is Australian slang for a very distant place, as befits the location this snake is found. The “ensis” part of the name, as would normally be added to a location-based scientific name is deliberately omitted in order to shorten the species name and therefore should not be added by way of unjustified emendation later on.

JACKYHOSERTYPHLOPS GREGSWEDOSHI SP. NOV.

LSID:urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:B6D3CC9B-937F-4C2E-80A4-2AE937F79E11

Holotype: A preserved adult specimen at the Western Australian Museum Herpetology Collection (WAM), Perth, Western Australia, Australia, specimen number R157403 collected from the Tanami Desert in east Western Australia, Australia, Latitude -19.593333 S., Longitude 128.861111 E.

This government-owned facility allows access to its holdings.

Paratypes: Two juvenile specimens at the Western Australian Museum Herpetology Collection (WAM), Perth, Western Australia, Australia, specimen numbers R157381 and R157399 both collected from the Tanami Desert in east Western Australia, Australia.

Diagnosis: Until now, eleven relevant species

detailed in this description have been treated as populations of putative “*Typhlops grypus* Waite, 1918” with a holotype (NMV D12351, formerly R7102 at the National Museum of Victoria), type locality of Gregory Downs, North-west Queensland, Australia.

West and central Australia specimens of the putative species “*Typhlops grypus* Waite, 1918” are not closely related to the type form and associated species.

West and central Australia specimens remain in the genus *Jackyhosertyphlops* Hoser, 2013 as explained in the description of *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* sp. nov. published in this paper and relied upon as part of this description.

“*Typhlops grypus* Waite, 1918” and associated species are placed in the genus *Zzzzz gen. nov.* being an east Australian assemblage.

The three species *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* sp. nov., *J. leavemalone* sp. nov. and *J. tylertritti* sp. nov. all occur on the south and south-east rim of the main Pilbara district in Western Australia in adjoining elevated areas such as the north Gascoyne and hills south-east of the Pilbara.

As a trio of species the three preceding species share a lot of traits with the so-called “*Ramphotyphlops leptosoma* Robb, 1972” group, to which they are also most closely related to. This separates them from all the other west and central Australian species formerly treated as *J. grypus*.

They are separated from other species previously treated as West and Central Australian *J. grypus* by their thinner more elongate body and higher average ventral counts (over 640, versus less than 640) as well as a lighter head and/or neck than body colour, versus very much darker head and/or neck than body colour in all the other species in the complex including the following ten.

Not included in the preceding statement was a lightening of the snout tip seen in many specimens, as opposed to the general colour of the top of the head from the eyes back, which is darker in the other eleven species.

The remaining and relevant eleven species are all from the Pilbara region and arid areas west to central Australia.

They all have distributions in line with constraints caused by biogeographical barriers that affect other reptile species groups, including for example the Fortescue and Ashburton River basins, as well as inland claypan and flood zones. Whether the long-term species isolation is caused by habitat, microclimate, competing species, other factors, or combinations of them is not known.

These relevant eleven species are as follows:

The type form of the species *Jackyhosertyphlops nigroterminatus* (Parker, 1931) occurs from the southern edge of the Great Sandy Desert, north of the De Grey River to Broome and Derby in the south-west Kimberley district of Western Australia.

Jackyhosertyphlops leverorum sp. nov. is confined to the Wittenoom and Tom Price area of the central Hamersley Ranges district.

J. mariolisi sp. nov. is a taxon from the Rhodes Ridge and Newman area in the Ophthalmia Range.

J. gambellae sp. nov. is a taxon from the west Hamersley district of Western Australia.

J. adelynhoserae (Hoser, 2013) is herein confined to the region generally north of the Fortescue River and south of the De Grey River in the northern Pilbara of Western Australia.

J. ohno sp. nov. is a taxon from the hilly area between the Robe River in the north and the Cane River in the South, in the west Pilbara of western Australia.

J. toriswedoshae sp. nov. is a species from the Paterson Range area on the south-west edge of the Great Sandy Desert in Western Australia.

J. timbukthree sp. nov. is a species from the vicinity of Reeves Knoll in the border zone between the Gibson and Great Sandy Deserts of north-east Western Australia.

J. gregswedoshi sp. nov. is a species from the elevated western parts of the Tanami Desert in association with the Gardiner Range on the Western Australia and Northern Territory border in far east Western Australia and adjacent Northern Territory.

J. haydnmcphieii sp. nov. is from the central Australian ranges, generally within 150 km of Alice Springs, Northern Territory.

J. lachlandundasi sp. nov. occurs south of the Amadeus basin in association with the elevated areas of the Petermann Ranges, in the far south-west of the Northern Territory, Australia.

The eleven preceding species are separated from one another by the following relevant unique character combinations:

Jackyhosertyphlops nigroterminatus is a greyish purple coloured snake on top. Each scale on the dorsum has a pale cream etching, while the centre is coloured, giving the snake a very faint lined patterning of lighter and darker purplish lines. There is no obvious lightening at the tip of the snout, (except in young specimens where the snout may appear whitish in colour).

Top of head and neck behind the eyes is a dark chocolate brown as is the tail. There is faint brown, yellow or grey etching on the anterior scales of the head in front of the eyes in most specimens, or no etching at all in some. The brown of the head continues from 1 to 2 times the distance of the snout to between the eyes and fades indistinctly and gradually to the dorsal colour, which is the same for the entire length of the snake save for the chocolate brown tail tip.

Venter is a lighter colour than the dorsum, but of similar colour.

Eye spot is slightly anterior of centre in the ocular

scale.

Jackyhosertyphlops leverorum sp. nov. is a reddish coloured snake with purple tinge on top. Each scale of the dorsum is dark etched and paler at the centre. This means there is no impression of longitudinal lines running along the body. The front of the snout, including all or most of the rostral is yellow in colour. The rostral itself is extremely oversized and more strongly beaked than in most other species in this complex. From anterior to the eyes to the back of the head and nearby neck the colour is blackish on top. The black extending 2.5 to 3.5 times the distance of snout to between the eyes. Etching of scales on the anterior snout is either non-existent or extremely faint. The tail only is black in colour, the transition in the pelvic area being abrupt. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The lower scales are immaculately whitish as opposed to having dark centres.

Eye spot is either dead centre or slightly posterior in the ocular scale.

J. mariolisi sp. nov. is a reddish orange coloured snake on top. Each scale of the dorsum has a whitish patch at the anterior edge. The latter half of the body has a slight purple or brown tinge to it. The front of snout and adjacent scales are whitish in colour, this not extending as far as the eyes. Rostral is bluntly beaked. Tail only is dark brownish black, the transition from the anterior upper body colour being ill-defined over 2-3 scale rows. The dark brown of the back of the head commences anterior to the eyes and extends 2 times the distance from snout to eyes back, from where it transitions gradually to the normal dorsal colouration. The transition occurs over 6-7 scale rows. There is no etching of scales on the snout. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light (as in white) lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The lower scales are immaculately whitish as opposed to having dark centres.

J. gambellae sp. nov. is a pinkish coloured snake on top. Snout is whitish in colour extending to between the eyes, where the colour transitions to a dull yellowish brown colour before transitioning again to the pink of the rest of the dorsum. The area of dull yellow brown extends back slightly more than the distance from snout to eyes. The pink of the dorsum is the same along the length of the snake until about the last 15 percent of the body where there is a transition to a strong yellowish-brown tinge. The tail only is ivory black. The transition at the tail area from dull yellow brown to black is across three scales wide. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light lower body on the lower flank,

caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The venter itself is pinkish white rather than white.

J. adelynhoserae (Hoser, 2013) is a yellowish brown coloured snake on top, with the latter third of the snake being a noticeably different colour to the anterior two thirds.

Snout is bluntly beaked. Rostral and nasal scales wholly off white. Other dorsal anterior scales of the snout are dark brown, extending 1.5 to 2 times the distance of snout to eyes behind the eyes. Transition from dark to lighter body colour occurs across about 5 rows of scales, the transition being affected by reducing amount of dark pigment on the scales. That is the scales have either dark (brown) pigment or the yellowish brown of the dorsum, but not any intermediate or other colour pigment. The flanks are noticeable in that the transition to white of the venter is higher up the flank than in the preceding species making the white demarcation line easily visible when the snake is viewed from the side. It is also jagged edged caused by the interplay of the row of dark scales meeting the row of immaculate white scales of the venter. The tail is extremely dark brown to black in colour, the transition occurring at the vent or anterior to the vent. Eye spot is slightly below and anterior to centre of the ocular scale.

J. ohno sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. adelynhoserae* (Hoser, 2013) as detailed above. It is separated from that species by being reddish orange, brown in colour on top, blackish on top of the head and near neck rather than dark brown and by having an eye spot at the centre of the ocular scale.

J. toriswedoshae sp. nov. is a very light whitish pink coloured snake on top, enabling one to see materials inside the snake. Tip of snout is brown, behind that (on top) is yellowish-white and behind that, commencing anterior to the eyes is brownish black. This extends about 1.5 times the distance of the snout to the eyes back behind the eyes to the upper neck, where the usual dorsal colour takes over. The dark blackish scales between the eyes are strongly (thickly) yellow etched. The entire dorsum is of the same very light whitish pink colour, except at the tail, where there is a sudden transition to black (as in entire black scales). The transition from dorsal colour to lighter venter is poorly defined and the venter is pinkish rather than white. Rostral is slightly ovoid in shape. Eye spot is slightly below the centre of the ocular scale.

J. timbukthree sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. toriswedoshae sp. nov.* as just detailed above but separated from that species by having a white tip of snout and slightly posterior of it, distinct thin yellow etching of the dark blackish scales between the eyes and a rostral that is square sided (as opposed to ovoid).

J. gregswedoshi sp. nov. is similar in most respects

to *J. toriswedoshae sp. nov.* and *J. timbukthree sp. nov.* as just detailed above but separated from those species by having a strong reddish-brown tinge to the pink on top, becoming more brownish posteriorly and only semidistinct and thin etching of the dark blackish scales between the eyes. The rostral is square sided (as opposed to ovoid).

J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov. is a brick red coloured snake on top. The head and upper neck are dark chocolate brown. The snout tip is barely lighter, but otherwise essentially the same colour. The beak is blunt. Tail tip only is dark brown in colour. The transition to the dark of the tail is somewhat jagged edged when viewed from above. The transition from dark upper body to light lower body on the flanks is poorly defined. There are no etchings of scales on the anterior snout, between the eyes or elsewhere on the head and neck. The dorsum is the same colour throughout, excluding the dark brown tail tip. Eye spot is at the centre of the ocular scale.

J. lachlandundasi sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov.* as detailed above. It is separated from that species by having a rostral that is oversized and bulbous at the top, (versus not so in *J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov.*), tip of snout and adjacent (anterior to eyes) is yellow in colour, dark brown to black of tail commences well anterior to the vent and the eye spot is below the centre of the ocular scale.

All the fourteen preceding west and central Australian species are separated from all other Australian Blind Snakes by the following character combination:

A moderately large, very slender, blackish-tailed blind snake with snout beaked in profile, 18 midbody scale rows, nasal cleft usually proceeding from the second labial and 535 to 680 ventrals, 13-36 subcaudals, with males far higher than females.

The preceding species are all also characterized as follows:

Rostral (from above) is much longer than wide, about three-quarters as wide as the head and extending back to the level of the eyes or nearly so. Nasals are usually narrowly separated behind rostral. Frontal is smaller than the prefrontal. Snout angular from above, weakly to strongly beaked in profile and generally species specific. Nostrils inferior, very slightly or not swollen and much nearer to rostral than the preocular. Nasal cleft proceeds from the second labial most of the time and usually proceeds for varying distances obliquely upwards and forwards towards the rostral reaching it about half the time or getting very close the other half.

Snout may be white or whitish tipped. Rest of head and neck may be very dark brown to blackish. Tail is very dark brown to blackish towards the tip. Venter is usually white, pinkish white or light greyish white in colour. Ventral scales may or may not have darker centres, this usually being species specific.

The phylogenies of Martin *et al.* (2012 and

2013) showed Pliocene divergences of each of *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* sp. nov., *J. leavemalone* sp. nov. and *J. tylertritti* sp. nov. from one another and more from other species. *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* sp. nov., *J. leavemalone* sp. nov. diverged from each other about 2.7 MYA. *J. tylertritti* sp. nov. diverged nearly 5 MYA from the other two species.

According to the phylogenies of Martin *et al.* (2012 and 2013) of the other eleven species, eight diverged from nearest relatives in either the Pliocene or Miocene periods, meaning a minimum of 2.5 MYA for each species from nearest relative.

The three more-or-less Centralian taxa have not been genetically sampled, but similar divergences can be inferred from other species groups in the region that have been sampled and are constrained by the exact same biogeographical barriers, or from the geological timelines of relevance, as detailed in Hoser (2025a) and sources cited therein.

J. nigroterminatus is depicted in life online at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/euprepiosaur/52516235654/>

from Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Stephen Zozaya, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/171250498@N08/52496618323/>

from Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Wes Read, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/32222989>

from Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Mikael Poquet, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/172833617>

from Lagrange, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Alistair Harry, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/moloch05/32456966158/>

and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/moloch05/46278719252/>

both from 80-mile beach near Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by David "Moloch".

J. leverorum sp. nov. is depicted in life online at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/reptileshots/52790199041/>

from Karijini region, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Brendan Schembri, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/241282627> from Karijini National Park, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by "Curious chase".

J. mariolisi sp. nov. is depicted in life online at:

https://www.flickr.com/photos/zimny_anders/52444811953/

from the Ophthalmia Range, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Anders Zimny, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/265672969>

from Newman, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Lee Cornish.

J. adelynhoserae is depicted in life online at:

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/189459838> from Marble Bar, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by "Pam Town", and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/euprepiosaur/46447971914/>

from Port Hedland, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Stephen Zozoya, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/reptileshots/12262823534/>

and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/reptileshots/12262971246/>

both from the Indee Region, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Brendan Schembri, and https://www.flickr.com/photos/brian_busho/49354092742/

from the Indee Region, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Brian Bush.

J. toriswedoshae sp. nov. is depicted in life online at:

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/248720254> from the Parnngurr Community, Telfer, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Stephen G. Hamilton.

J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov. is depicted in life online at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/128497936@N03/39784647853/>

from the West MacDonnell Ranges of the Northern Territory, Australia, photographed by Shawn Scott.

J. lachlandundasi sp. nov. is depicted in life online at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/mattsummerville/49036981323/>

from Kata Tjuta, Northern Territory, Australia, photographed by Matt Summerville, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/128365570@N04/32749827663/>

from Yulara, Northern Territory, Australia photographed by Max Jackson.

Distribution: *J. gregswedoshi* sp. nov. is a species from the elevated western parts of the Tanami Desert in association with the Gardiner Range on the Western Australia and Northern Territory border in far east Western Australia and adjacent Northern Territory.

Etymology: *J. gregswedoshi* sp. nov. is named in honor of Greg Swedosh of Warrandyte, Victoria, Australia in recognition of his services to the arts and sciences over some decades.

JACKYHOSERTYPHLOPS HAYDNMCPHIEI SP. NOV.

LSIDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:771CDC1B-370E-425C-B582-BF15EBAF647D

Holotype: A preserved specimen at the Australian Museum Herpetology Collection, Sydney, New South

Wales, Australia, specimen number R.65228 collected from Utopia Station at Standover, Northern Territory, Australia, Latitude -22.233 S., Longitude 134.566 E. This government-owned facility allows access to its holdings.

Paratype: A preserved specimen at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory Reptile Collection, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia, specimen number R34499 collected from east of Queens Bore, east Tanami Desert, Northern Territory, Australia, Latitude -23.017 S., Longitude 132.7 E.

Diagnosis: Until now, eleven relevant species detailed in this description have been treated as populations of putative "*Typhlops grypus* Waite, 1918" with a holotype (NMV D12351, formerly R7102 at the National Museum of Victoria), type locality of Gregory Downs, North-west Queensland, Australia.

West and central Australia specimens of the putative species "*Typhlops grypus* Waite, 1918" are not closely related to the type form and associated species.

West and central Australia specimens remain in the genus *Jackyhosertyphlops* Hoser, 2013 as explained in the description of *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* sp. nov. published in this paper and relied upon as part of this description.

"*Typhlops grypus* Waite, 1918" and associated species are placed in the genus *Zzzzz* gen. nov. being an east Australian assemblage.

The three species *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* sp. nov., *J. leavemalone* sp. nov. and *J. tylertritti* sp. nov. all occur on the south and south-east rim of the main Pilbara district in Western Australia in adjoining elevated areas such as the north Gascoyne and hills south-east of the Pilbara.

As a trio of species the three preceding species share a lot of traits with the so-called "*Ramphotyphlops leptosoma* Robb, 1972" group, to which they are also most closely related to. This separates them from all the other west and central Australian species formerly treated as *J. grypus*.

They are separated from other species previously treated as West and Central Australian *J. grypus* by their thinner more elongate body and higher average ventral counts (over 640, versus less than 640) as well as a lighter head and/or neck than body colour, versus very much darker head and/or neck than body colour in all the other species in the complex including the following ten.

Not included in the preceding statement was a lightening of the snout tip seen in many specimens, as opposed to the general colour of the top of the head from the eyes back, which is darker in the other eleven species.

The remaining and relevant eleven species are all from the Pilbara region and arid areas west to central Australia.

They all have distributions in line with constraints caused by biogeographical barriers that affect other

reptile species groups, including for example the Fortescue and Ashburton River basins, as well as inland claypan and flood zones. Whether the long-term species isolation is caused by habitat, microclimate, competing species, other factors, or combinations of them is not known.

These relevant eleven species are as follows:

The type form of the species *Jackyhosertyphlops nigroterminatus* (Parker, 1931) occurs from the southern edge of the Great Sandy Desert, north of the De Grey River to Broome and Derby in the south-west Kimberley district of Western Australia.

Jackyhosertyphlops leverorum sp. nov. is confined to the Wittenoom and Tom Price area of the central Hamersley Ranges district.

J. mariolisi sp. nov. is a taxon from the Rhodes Ridge and Newman area in the Ophthalmia Range.

J. gambellae sp. nov. is a taxon from the west Hamersley district of Western Australia.

J. adelynhoserae (Hoser, 2013) is herein confined to the region generally north of the Fortescue River and south of the De Grey River in the northern Pilbara of Western Australia.

J. ohno sp. nov. is a taxon from the hilly area between the Robe River in the north and the Cane River in the South, in the west Pilbara of western Australia.

J. toriswedoshiae sp. nov. is a species from the Paterson Range area on the south-west edge of the Great Sandy Desert in Western Australia.

J. timbukthree sp. nov. is a species from the vicinity of Reeves Knoll in the border zone between the Gibson and Great Sandy Deserts of north-east Western Australia.

J. gregswedoshi sp. nov. is a species from the elevated western parts of the Tanami Desert in association with the Gardiner Range on the Western Australia and Northern Territory border in far east Western Australia and adjacent Northern Territory.

J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov. is from the central Australian ranges, generally within 150 km of Alice Springs, Northern Territory.

J. lachlandundasi sp. nov. occurs south of the Amadeus basin in association with the elevated areas of the Petermann Ranges, in the far south-west of the Northern Territory, Australia.

The eleven preceding species are separated from one another by the following relevant unique character combinations:

Jackyhosertyphlops nigroterminatus is a greyish purple coloured snake on top. Each scale on the dorsum has a pale cream etching, while the centre is coloured, giving the snake a very faint lined patterning of lighter and darker purplish lines. There is no obvious lightening at the tip of the snout, (except in young specimens where the snout may appear whitish in colour).

Top of head and neck behind the eyes is a dark

chocolate brown as is the tail. There is faint brown, yellow or grey etching on the anterior scales of the head in front of the eyes in most specimens, or no etching at all in some. The brown of the head continues from 1 to 2 times the distance of the snout to between the eyes and fades indistinctly and gradually to the dorsal colour, which is the same for the entire length of the snake save for the chocolate brown tail tip.

Venter is a lighter colour than the dorsum, but of similar colour.

Eye spot is slightly anterior of centre in the ocular scale.

Jackyhosertyphlops leverorum sp. nov. is a reddish coloured snake with purple tinge on top. Each scale of the dorsum is dark etched and paler at the centre. This means there is no impression of longitudinal lines running along the body. The front of the snout, including all or most of the rostral is yellow in colour. The rostral itself is extremely oversized and more strongly beaked than in most other species in this complex. From anterior to the eyes to the back of the head and nearby neck the colour is blackish on top. The black extending 2.5 to 3.5 times the distance of snout to between the eyes. Etching of scales on the anterior snout is either non-existent or extremely faint. The tail only is black in colour, the transition in the pelvic area being abrupt. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The lower scales are immaculately whitish as opposed to having dark centres.

Eye spot is either dead centre or slightly posterior in the ocular scale.

J. mariolisi sp. nov. is a reddish orange coloured snake on top. Each scale of the dorsum has a whitish patch at the anterior edge. The latter half of the body has a slight purple or brown tinge to it. The front of snout and adjacent scales are whitish in colour, this not extending as far as the eyes. Rostral is bluntly beaked. Tail only is dark brownish black, the transition from the anterior upper body colour being ill-defined over 2-3 scale rows. The dark brown of the back of the head commences anterior to the eyes and extends 2 times the distance from snout to eyes back, from where it transitions gradually to the normal dorsal colouration. The transition occurs over 6-7 scale rows. There is no etching of scales on the snout. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light (as in white) lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The lower scales are immaculately whitish as opposed to having dark centres.

J. gambellae sp. nov. is a pinkish coloured snake on

top. Snout is whitish in colour extending to between the eyes, where the colour transitions to a dull yellowish brown colour before transitioning again to the pink of the rest of the dorsum. The area of dull yellow brown extends back slightly more than the distance from snout to eyes. The pink of the dorsum is the same along the length of the snake until about the last 15 percent of the body where there is a transition to a strong yellowish-brown tinge. The tail only is ivory black. The transition at the tail area from dull yellow brown to black is across three scales wide. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The venter itself is pinkish white rather than white.

J. adelynhoserae (Hoser, 2013) is a yellowish brown coloured snake on top, with the latter third of the snake being a noticeably different colour to the anterior two thirds.

Snout is bluntly beaked. Rostral and nasal scales wholly off white. Other dorsal anterior scales of the snout are dark brown, extending 1.5 to 2 times the distance of snout to eyes behind the eyes. Transition from dark to lighter body colour occurs across about 5 rows of scales, the transition being affected by reducing amount of dark pigment on the scales. That is the scales have either dark (brown) pigment or the yellowish brown of the dorsum, but not any intermediate or other colour pigment. The flanks are noticeable in that the transition to white of the venter is higher up the flank than in the preceding species making the white demarcation line easily visible when the snake is viewed from the side. It is also jagged edged caused by the interplay of the row of dark scales meeting the row of immaculate white scales of the venter. The tail is extremely dark brown to black in colour, the transition occurring at the vent or anterior to the vent. Eye spot is slightly below and anterior to centre of the ocular scale.

J. ohno sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. adelynhoserae* (Hoser, 2013) as detailed above. It is separated from that species by being reddish orange, brown in colour on top, blackish on top of the head and near neck rather than dark brown and by having an eye spot at the centre of the ocular scale.

J. toriswedoshae sp. nov. is a very light whitish pink coloured snake on top, enabling one to see materials inside the snake. Tip of snout is brown, behind that (on top) is yellowish-white and behind that, commencing anterior to the eyes is brownish black. This extends about 1.5 times the distance of the snout to the eyes back behind the eyes to the upper neck, where the usual dorsal colour takes over. The dark blackish scales between the eyes are strongly (thickly) yellow etched. The entire dorsum is of the same very light whitish pink colour, except at the tail, where there is a sudden transition to black (as in entire black scales).

The transition from dorsal colour to lighter venter is poorly defined and the venter is pinkish rather than white. Rostral is slightly ovoid in shape. Eye spot is slightly below the centre of the ocular scale.

J. timbukthree sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. toriswedoshae sp. nov.* as just detailed above but separated from that species by having a white tip of snout and slightly posterior of it, distinct thin yellow etching of the dark blackish scales between the eyes and a rostral that is square sided (as opposed to ovoid).

J. gregswedoshi sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. toriswedoshae sp. nov.* and *J. timbukthree sp. nov.* as just detailed above but separated from those species by having a strong reddish-brown tinge to the pink on top, becoming more brownish posteriorly and only semidistinct and thin etching of the dark blackish scales between the eyes. The rostral is square sided (as opposed to ovoid).

J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov. is a brick red coloured snake on top. The head and upper neck are dark chocolate brown. The snout tip is barely lighter, but otherwise essentially the same colour. The beak is blunt. Tail tip only is dark brown in colour. The transition to the dark of the tail is somewhat jagged edged when viewed from above. The transition from dark upper body to light lower body on the flanks is poorly defined. There are no etchings of scales on the anterior snout, between the eyes or elsewhere on the head and neck. The dorsum is the same colour throughout, excluding the dark brown tail tip. Eye spot is at the centre of the ocular scale.

J. lachlandundasi sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov.* as detailed above. It is separated from that species by having a rostral that is oversized and bulbous at the top, (versus not so in *J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov.*), tip of snout and adjacent (anterior to eyes) is yellow in colour, dark brown to black of tail commences well anterior to the vent and the eye spot is below the centre of the ocular scale.

All the fourteen preceding west and central Australian species are separated from all other Australian Blind Snakes by the following character combination:

A moderately large, very slender, blackish-tailed blind snake with snout beaked in profile, 18 midbody scale rows, nasal cleft usually proceeding from the second labial and 535 to 680 ventrals, 13-36 subcaudals, with males far higher than females.

The preceding species are all also characterized as follows:

Rostral (from above) is much longer than wide, about three-quarters as wide as the head and extending back to the level of the eyes or nearly so. Nasals are usually narrowly separated behind rostral. Frontal is smaller than the prefrontal. Snout angular from above, weakly to strongly beaked in profile and generally species specific. Nostrils inferior, very slightly or not swollen and much nearer to rostral than the preocular.

Nasal cleft proceeds from the second labial most of the time and usually proceeds for varying distances obliquely upwards and forwards towards the rostral reaching it about half the time or getting very close the other half.

Snout may be white or whitish tipped. Rest of head and neck may be very dark brown to blackish. Tail is very dark brown to blackish towards the tip. Venter is usually white, pinkish white or light greyish white in colour. Ventral scales may or may not have darker centres, this usually being species specific.

The phylogenies of Martin *et al.* (2012 and 2013) showed Pliocene divergences of each of *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb sp. nov.*, *J. leavemalone sp. nov.* and *J. tylertritti sp. nov.* from one another and more from other species. *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb sp. nov.*, *J. leavemalone sp. nov.* diverged from each other about 2.7 MYA. *J. tylertritti sp. nov.* diverged nearly 5 MYA from the other two species.

According to the phylogenies of Martin *et al.* (2012 and 2013) of the other eleven species, eight diverged from nearest relatives in either the Pliocene or Miocene periods, meaning a minimum of 2.5 MYA for each species from nearest relative.

The three more-or-less Centralian taxa have not been genetically sampled, but similar divergences can be inferred from other species groups in the region that have been sampled and are constrained by the exact same biogeographical barriers, or from the geological timelines of relevance, as detailed in Hoser (2025a) and sources cited therein.

J. nigroterminatus is depicted in life online at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/euprepiosaur/52516235654/>

from Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Stephen Zozaya, and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/171250498@N08/52496618323/>

from Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Wes Read, and

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/32222989>

from Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Mikael Poquet, and

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/172833617>

from Lagrange, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Alistair Harry, and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/moloch05/32456966158/>

and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/moloch05/46278719252/>

both from 80-mile beach near Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by David "Moloch".

J. leverorum sp. nov. is depicted in life online at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/reptileshots/52790199041/>

from Karijini region, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Brendan Schembri, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/241282627>

from Karijini National Park, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by "Curious chase".

J. mariolisi sp. nov. is depicted in life online at: https://www.flickr.com/photos/zimny_anders/52444811953/

from the Ophthalmia Range, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Anders Zimny, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/265672969>

from Newman, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Lee Cornish.

J. adelynhoserae is depicted in life online at: <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/189459838>

from Marble Bar, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by "Pam Town", and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/euprepiosaur/46447971914/>

from Port Hedland, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Stephen Zozoya, and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/reptileshots/12262823534/>

and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/reptileshots/12262971246/>

both from the Indee Region, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Brendan Schembri, and

https://www.flickr.com/photos/brian_busho/49354092742/

from the Indee Region, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Brian Bush.

J. toriswedoshae sp. nov. is depicted in life online at: <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/248720254>

from the Parngurr Community, Telfer, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Stephen G. Hamilton.

J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov. is depicted in life online at: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/128497936@N03/39784647853/>

from the West MacDonnell Ranges of the Northern Territory, Australia, photographed by Shawn Scott.

J. lachlandundasi sp. nov. is depicted in life online at: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/mattsummerville/49036981323/>

from Kata Tjuta, Northern Territory, Australia, photographed by Matt Summerville, and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/128365570@N04/32749827663/>

from Yulara, Northern Territory, Australia, photographed by Max Jackson.

Distribution: *J. haydnmcphiei* sp. nov. is from the central Australian ranges, generally within 150 km of Alice Springs, Northern Territory, including the south-east edge of the Tanami Desert.

Etymology: *J. haydnmcphiei* sp. nov. is named in honor of Haydn McPhie of Mirboo North, Victoria, Australia in recognition of his services to herpetology spanning some decades.

JACKYHOSERTYPHLOPS LACHLANDUNDASI SP. NOV.

LSIDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:AD1F8F87-C099-490D-9D70-0B7ADC867BD9

Holotype: A preserved specimen at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory Reptile Collection, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia, specimen number R34093 collected from the Ayers Rock (AKA Uluru) area, Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park, Central Australia, Northern Territory, Australia, Latitude -25.35 S., Longitude 131.033 E.

This government-owned facility allows access to its holdings.

Paratypes: Four preserved specimens at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory Reptile Collection, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia, specimen numbers R17515, R34094, R34095 and R34096 all collected from the Ayers Rock (AKA Uluru) area, Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park, Central Australia, Northern Territory, Australia, Latitude -25.35 S., Longitude 131.033 E.

Diagnosis: Until now, eleven relevant species detailed in this description have been treated as populations of putative "*Typhlops grypus* Waite, 1918" with a holotype (NMV D12351, formerly R7102 at the National Museum of Victoria), type locality of Gregory Downs, North-west Queensland, Australia.

West and central Australia specimens of the putative species "*Typhlops grypus* Waite, 1918" are not closely related to the type form and associated species.

West and central Australia specimens remain in the genus *Jackyhosertyphlops* Hoser, 2013 as explained in the description of *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* sp. nov. published in this paper and relied upon as part of this description.

"*Typhlops grypus* Waite, 1918" and associated species are placed in the genus *Zzzzz* gen. nov. being an east Australian assemblage.

The three species *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb* sp. nov., *J. leavemalone* sp. nov. and *J. tylertritti* sp. nov. all occur on the south and south-east rim of the main Pilbara district in Western Australia in adjoining elevated areas such as the north Gascoyne and hills south-east of the Pilbara.

As a trio of species the three preceding species share a lot of traits with the so-called "*Ramphotyphlops leptosoma* Robb, 1972" group, to which they are also most closely related to. This separates them from all the other west and central Australian species formerly treated as *J. grypus*.

They are separated from other species previously treated as West and Central Australian *J. grypus* by their thinner more elongate body and higher average ventral counts (over 640, versus less than 640) as

well as a lighter head and/or neck than body colour, versus very much darker head and/or neck than body colour in all the other species in the complex including the following ten.

Not included in the preceding statement was a lightening of the snout tip seen in many specimens, as opposed to the general colour of the top of the head from the eyes back, which is darker in the other eleven species.

The remaining and relevant eleven species are all from the Pilbara region and arid areas west to central Australia.

They all have distributions in line with constraints caused by biogeographical barriers that affect other reptile species groups, including for example the Fortescue and Ashburton River basins, as well as inland claypan and flood zones. Whether the long-term species isolation is caused by habitat, microclimate, competing species, other factors, or combinations of them is not known.

These relevant eleven species are as follows:

The type form of the species *Jackyhosertyphlops nigroterminatus* (Parker, 1931) occurs from the southern edge of the Great Sandy Desert, north of the De Grey River to Broome and Derby in the south-west Kimberley district of Western Australia.

Jackyhosertyphlops leverorum sp. nov. is confined to the Wittenoom and Tom Price area of the central Hamersley Ranges district.

J. mariolisi sp. nov. is a taxon from the Rhodes Ridge and Newman area in the Ophthalmia Range.

J. gambellae sp. nov. is a taxon from the west Hamersley district of Western Australia.

J. adelynhoserae (Hoser, 2013) is herein confined to the region generally north of the Fortescue River and south of the De Grey River in the northern Pilbara of Western Australia.

J. ohno sp. nov. is a taxon from the hilly area between the Robe River in the north and the Cane River in the South, in the west Pilbara of western Australia.

J. toriswedoshae sp. nov. is a species from the Paterson Range area on the south-west edge of the Great Sandy Desert in Western Australia.

J. timbukthree sp. nov. is a species from the vicinity of Reeves Knoll in the border zone between the Gibson and Great Sandy Deserts of north-east Western Australia.

J. gregswedoshi sp. nov. is a species from the elevated western parts of the Tanami Desert in association with the Gardiner Range on the Western Australia and Northern Territory border in far east Western Australia and adjacent Northern Territory.

J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov. is from the central Australian ranges, generally within 150 km of Alice Springs, Northern Territory.

J. lachlandundasi sp. nov. occurs south of the Amadeus basin in association with the elevated areas

of the Petermann Ranges, in the far south-west of the Northern Territory, Australia.

The eleven preceding species are separated from one another by the following relevant unique character combinations:

Jackyhosertyphlops nigroterminatus is a greyish purple coloured snake on top. Each scale on the dorsum has a pale cream etching, while the centre is coloured, giving the snake a very faint lined patterning of lighter and darker purplish lines. There is no obvious lightening at the tip of the snout, (except in young specimens where the snout may appear whitish in colour).

Top of head and neck behind the eyes is a dark chocolate brown as is the tail. There is faint brown, yellow or grey etching on the anterior scales of the head in front of the eyes in most specimens, or no etching at all in some. The brown of the head continues from 1 to 2 times the distance of the snout to between the eyes and fades indistinctly and gradually to the dorsal colour, which is the same for the entire length of the snake save for the chocolate brown tail tip.

Venter is a lighter colour than the dorsum, but of similar colour.

Eye spot is slightly anterior of centre in the ocular scale.

Jackyhosertyphlops leverorum sp. nov. is a reddish coloured snake with purple tinge on top. Each scale of the dorsum is dark etched and paler at the centre. This means there is no impression of longitudinal lines running along the body. The front of the snout, including all or most of the rostral is yellow in colour. The rostral itself is extremely oversized and more strongly beaked than in most other species in this complex. From anterior to the eyes to the back of the head and nearby neck the colour is blackish on top. The black extending 2.5 to 3.5 times the distance of snout to between the eyes. Etching of scales on the anterior snout is either non-existent or extremely faint. The tail only is black in colour, the transition in the pelvic area being abrupt. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The lower scales are immaculately whitish as opposed to having dark centres.

Eye spot is either dead centre or slightly posterior in the ocular scale.

J. mariolisi sp. nov. is a reddish orange coloured snake on top. Each scale of the dorsum has a whitish patch at the anterior edge. The latter half of the body has a slight purple or brown tinge to it. The front of snout and adjacent scales are whitish in colour, this not extending as far as the eyes. Rostral is bluntly beaked. Tail only is dark brownish black, the transition from the anterior upper body colour

being ill-defined over 2-3 scale rows. The dark brown of the back of the head commences anterior to the eyes and extends 2 times the distance from snout to eyes back, from where it transitions gradually to the normal dorsal colouration. The transition occurs over 6-7 scale rows. There is no etching of scales on the snout. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light (as in white) lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The lower scales are immaculately whitish as opposed to having dark centres.

J. gambellae sp. nov. is a pinkish coloured snake on top. Snout is whitish in colour extending to between the eyes, where the colour transitions to a dull yellowish brown colour before transitioning again to the pink of the rest of the dorsum. The area of dull yellow brown extends back slightly more than the distance from snout to eyes. The pink of the dorsum is the same along the length of the snake until about the last 15 percent of the body where there is a transition to a strong yellowish-brown tinge. The tail only is ivory black. The transition at the tail area from dull yellow brown to black is across three scales wide. There is a reasonably well-defined border between dark upper and light lower body on the lower flank, caused by the colour change running over the scales, as opposed to individual scales being either all one colour or other. The venter itself is pinkish white rather than white.

J. adelynhoserae (Hoser, 2013) is a yellowish brown coloured snake on top, with the latter third of the snake being a noticeably different colour to the anterior two thirds.

Snout is bluntly beaked. Rostral and nasal scales wholly off white. Other dorsal anterior scales of the snout are dark brown, extending 1.5 to 2 times the distance of snout to eyes behind the eyes. Transition from dark to lighter body colour occurs across about 5 rows of scales, the transition being affected by reducing amount of dark pigment on the scales. That is the scales have either dark (brown) pigment or the yellowish brown of the dorsum, but not any intermediate or other colour pigment. The flanks are noticeable in that the transition to white of the venter is higher up the flank than in the preceding species making the white demarcation line easily visible when the snake is viewed from the side. It is also jagged edged caused by the interplay of the row of dark scales meeting the row of immaculate white scales of the venter. The tail is extremely dark brown to black in colour, the transition occurring at the vent or anterior to the vent. Eye spot is slightly below and anterior to centre of the ocular scale.

J. ohno sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. adelynhoserae* (Hoser, 2013) as detailed above. It is separated from that species by being reddish orange, brown in colour on top, blackish on top of the head

and near neck rather than dark brown and by having an eye spot at the centre of the ocular scale.

J. toriswedoshae sp. nov. is a very light whitish pink coloured snake on top, enabling one to see materials inside the snake. Tip of snout is brown, behind that (on top) is yellowish-white and behind that, commencing anterior to the eyes is brownish black. This extends about 1.5 times the distance of the snout to the eyes back behind the eyes to the upper neck, where the usual dorsal colour takes over. The dark blackish scales between the eyes are strongly (thickly) yellow etched. The entire dorsum is of the same very light whitish pink colour, except at the tail, where there is a sudden transition to black (as in entire black scales). The transition from dorsal colour to lighter venter is poorly defined and the venter is pinkish rather than white. Rostral is slightly ovoid in shape. Eye spot is slightly below the centre of the ocular scale.

J. timbukthree sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. toriswedoshae* sp. nov. as just detailed above but separated from that species by having a white tip of snout and slightly posterior of it, distinct thin yellow etching of the dark blackish scales between the eyes and a rostral that is square sided (as opposed to ovoid).

J. gregswedoshi sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. toriswedoshae* sp. nov. and *J. timbukthree* sp. nov. as just detailed above but separated from those species by having a strong reddish-brown tinge to the pink on top, becoming more brownish posteriorly and only semidistinct and thin etching of the dark blackish scales between the eyes. The rostral is square sided (as opposed to ovoid).

J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov. is a brick red coloured snake on top. The head and upper neck are dark chocolate brown. The snout tip is barely lighter, but otherwise essentially the same colour. The beak is blunt. Tail tip only is dark brown in colour. The transition to the dark of the tail is somewhat jagged edged when viewed from above. The transition from dark upper body to light lower body on the flanks is poorly defined. There are no etchings of scales on the anterior snout, between the eyes or elsewhere on the head and neck. The dorsum is the same colour throughout, excluding the dark brown tail tip. Eye spot is at the centre of the ocular scale.

J. lachlandundasi sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *J. haydnmcphiei* sp. nov. as detailed above. It is separated from that species by having a rostral that is oversized and bulbous at the top, (versus not so in *J. haydnmcphiei* sp. nov.), tip of snout and adjacent (anterior to eyes) is yellow in colour, dark brown to black of tail commences well anterior to the vent and the eye spot is below the centre of the ocular scale. All the fourteen preceding west and central Australian species are separated from all other Australian Blind Snakes by the following character combination:

A moderately large, very slender, blackish-tailed blind

snake with snout beaked in profile, 18 midbody scale rows, nasal cleft usually proceeding from the second labial and 535 to 680 ventrals, 13-36 subcaudals, with males far higher than females.

The preceding species are all also characterized as follows:

Rostral (from above) is much longer than wide, about three-quarters as wide as the head and extending back to the level of the eyes or nearly so. Nasals are usually narrowly separated behind rostral. Frontal is smaller than the prefrontal. Snout angular from above, weakly to strongly beaked in profile and generally species specific. Nostrils inferior, very slightly or not swollen and much nearer to rostral than the preocular. Nasal cleft proceeds from the second labial most of the time and usually proceeds for varying distances obliquely upwards and forwards towards the rostral reaching it about half the time or getting very close the other half.

Snout may be white or whitish tipped. Rest of head and neck may be very dark brown to blackish. Tail is very dark brown to blackish towards the tip. Venter is usually white, pinkish white or light greyish white in colour. Ventral scales may or may not have darker centres, this usually being species specific.

The phylogenies of Martin *et al.* (2012 and 2013) showed Pliocene divergences of each of *Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb sp. nov.*, *J. leavemalone sp. nov.* and *J. taylortritti sp. nov.* from one another and more from other species.

Jackyhosertyphlops shitbomb sp. nov., *J. leavemalone sp. nov.* diverged from each other about 2.7 MYA. *J. taylortritti sp. nov.* diverged nearly 5 MYA from the other two species.

According to the phylogenies of Martin *et al.* (2012 and 2013) of the other eleven species, eight diverged from nearest relatives in either the Pliocene or Miocene periods, meaning a minimum of 2.5 MYA for each species from nearest relative.

The three more-or-less Centralian taxa have not been genetically sampled, but similar divergences can be inferred from other species groups in the region that have been sampled and are constrained by the exact same biogeographical barriers, or from the geological timelines of relevance, as detailed in Hoser (2025a) and sources cited therein.

J. nigroterminatus is depicted in life online at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/euprepiosaur/52516235654/>

from Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Stephen Zozaya, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/171250498@N08/52496618323/>

from Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Wes Read, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/32222989>

from Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Mikael Poquet, and

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/172833617> from Lagrange, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Alistair Harry, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/moloch05/32456966158/>

and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/moloch05/46278719252/>

both from 80-mile beach near Broome, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by David "Moloch".

J. leverorum sp. nov. is depicted in life online at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/reptileshots/52790199041/>

from Karijini region, Western Australia, Australia,

photographed by Brendan Schembri, and

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/241282627>

from Karijini National Park, Western Australia,

Australia, photographed by "Curious chase".

J. mariolisi sp. nov. is depicted in life online at:

https://www.flickr.com/photos/zimny_anders/52444811953/

from the Ophthalmia Range, Western Australia,

Australia, photographed by Anders Zimny, and

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/265672969>

from Newman, Western Australia, Australia,

photographed by Lee Cornish.

J. adelynhoserae is depicted in life online at:

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/189459838>

from Marble Bar, Western Australia, Australia,

photographed by "Pam Town", and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/euprepiosaur/46447971914/>

from Port Hedland, Western Australia, Australia,

photographed by Stephen Zozoya, and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/reptileshots/12262823534/>

and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/reptileshots/12262971246/>

both from the Indee Region, Western Australia,

Australia, photographed by Brendan Schembri, and

https://www.flickr.com/photos/brian_busho/49354092742/

from the Indee Region, Western Australia, Australia,

photographed by Brian Bush.

J. toriswedoshae sp. nov. is depicted in life online at:

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/248720254>

from the Parnngurr Community, Telfer, Western

Australia, Australia, photographed by Stephen G. Hamilton.

J. haydnmcphiei sp. nov. is depicted in life online at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/128497936@N03/39784647853/>

from the West MacDonnell Ranges of the Northern

Territory, Australia, photographed by Shawn Scott.

J. lachlandundasi sp. nov. is depicted in life online at: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/mattsummerville/49036981323/>

from Kata Tjuta, Northern Territory, Australia, photographed by Matt Summerville, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/128365570@N04/32749827663/>

from Yulara, Northern Territory, Australia photographed by Max Jackson.

Distribution: *J. lachlandundasi* sp. nov. occurs south of the Amadeus basin in association with the elevated areas of the Petermann Ranges, in the far south-west of the Northern Territory, Australia.

Etymology: *J. lachlandundasi* sp. nov. is named in honor of Lachlan Dundas of Frankston, Victoria, Australia in recognition of his services to underprivileged and disadvantaged people in Australia.

BENNETTYPHLOPS

DONOTHANDLEWITHTONGS SP. NOV.

LSIDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:3FF544D9-FA00-43FC-BEA1-18114C0B3FF6

Holotype: A preserved specimen at the Western Australian Museum (WAM), Perth, Western Australia, Australia, specimen number R172519 collected by Brian Bush from near Forrestania, Western Australia, Australia, Latitude -32.65 S., Longitude 119.766667 E.

This government-owned facility allows access to its holdings.

Paratype: A preserved adult female specimen at the Western Australian Museum (WAM), Perth, Western Australia, Australia, specimen number R173032 (adult female) collected from 28 km south of Lake Cronin, Western Australia, Australia, Latitude -32.639444 S., Longitude 119.755278 E.

Diagnosis: Until now, *Bennetttyphlops donothandlewithtongs* sp. nov. has been treated as a divergent eastern population of "*Typhlops pinguis* Waite, 1897.", being the type species for the genus *Bennetttyphlops* Hoser, 2013, being a south and south-west Australian group of species.

B. donothandlewithtongs sp. nov. is readily separated from *B. pinguis* by being a dark grey brown in colour as opposed to chocolate brown (in *B. pinguis*), the rostral well borders the prefrontal, as opposed to just touches it or not quite touching it (in *B. pinguis*), the rostral turns inwards sharply on the mid to lower part of the snout, versus only a slight curve inwards in *B. pinguis*, and there are two to three smallish scales above the nasal, versus one or none only in *B. pinguis*.

The species *Typhlops opisthopachys* Werner, 1917 being a synonym of *B. pinguis* according to Cogger *et al.* (1983) as described by Werner, 1917 does not match *Bennetttyphlops donothandlewithtongs* sp. nov.. This includes because the dorsal body

colour of Werner's specimen is described as being a brassy brown colour, which is contrary to that of *B. donothandlewithtongs* sp. nov..

Both *B. donothandlewithtongs* sp. nov. and *B. pinguis* are separated from all other Australian Blind Snakes as follows: They are large, very stout, moderately dark blind-snakes with 20 midbody scale rows, snout slightly angular in profile and nasal cleft proceeding from second labial. Rostral is more-or-less urn-shaped, this shape separating these two species from the others in the genus *Bennetttyphlops* Hoser, 2013, also being much longer than wide, about half as wide as the head and not extending back to the level of the eyes. Nasals are narrowly separated behind rostral, much narrower at the top than midway or bottom. Frontal is usually much smaller than prefrontal which is large and triangular in shape, the base being anterior. Snout is very slightly angular in profile, but otherwise roundish in shape. Nostrils are inferior, slightly swollen, roughly equidistant from rostral and preocular. Nasal cleft proceeds from the second labial to the nostril, thence curving upwards and forwards for one-fifth to one half of the distance to the rostral. 20 midbody scale rows, 277-331 ventrals and 12-19 subcaudals.

Dorsal and upper lateral surfaces are dark brown or dark brownish grey, either merging gradually with or fairly sharply demarcated from whitish lower surfaces, this trait often varying in a single specimen at different parts along the body.

The species "*Anilius splendidus* (Aplin, 1998)", has been suggested as a synonym of *A. pinguis* (Waite, 1897). It is retained as valid until molecular evidence confirms the matter one way or other. This is done so noting that to date many putative taxa within the Cape Range area are locally endemic species.

Furthermore this northern taxon is morphologically divergent from the more southern distributed *A. pinguis*.

A. splendidus a Cape Range endemic is readily separated from the two preceding species by having over 340 ventrals (usually around 377), a strongly contrasting white lower and greyish-brown upper body, the demarcation being bold and jagged caused by infusions up or down of dark or light and eyes that are also significantly reduced in size as compared to the previous two species.

The only other species in the genus *Bennetttyphlops* Hoser, 2013 are *B. bicolor* (Jan, 1864), the related *B. preissi* (Jan, 1864), treated by Marin *et al.* (2013) as the same species and the slightly less closely related *B. bennetti* sp. nov. identified by Marin *et al.* (2013) as a separate and unnamed species.

These three species are separated from the other preceding species by having a well-defined black tail that strongly contrasts with the body and 22 midbody rows (instead of 20).

Bennetttyphlops Hoser, 2013 species are separated

from all other Australian Blind Snakes by the following suite of characters: Large, very stout build and dark in colour, usually purplish-grey, dark brown, brownish-grey or blackish, attaining up to 50 cm total length. The snout is very slightly angular in profile. There are 20-22 midbody scale rows and the nasal cleft proceeds from the second labial. The snout is subrectangular when viewed from above, weakly trilobed in appearance due to the slight swelling above the nostrils and it is short roundish and slightly angular in profile, sometimes with a distinct hook at the end. From above the rostral is slightly to much longer than wide (species dependent) and about half as wide as the head. The nostril is inferior, slightly swollen and about midway between the rostral and preocular. Attains up to 50 cm in total length and the tail is 2.6-5.7 per cent of the total length. 278-377 ventrals, 10-19 subcaudals.

B. donotheadlewithtongs sp. nov. is depicted in life online at:

https://www.flickr.com/photos/brian_busho/49354166387/

and

https://www.flickr.com/photos/brian_busho/49349902141/

and

https://www.flickr.com/photos/brian_busho/49353442558/

all from near Forrestania, Western Australia, Australia, and all photographed by Brian Bush.

B. pinguis of the type form is depicted in life in Storr, Smith and Johnstone (2002) on page 103 middle left, in Wilson and Swan (2021) on page 537 bottom right, from Canning Dam, Western Australia and online at:

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/254570386>

from the Helena National Park, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Jack Llewelyn, and

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/259436213>

from Ashendon, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Andy Tuckey.

B. splendidus is depicted in life in Storr, Smith and Johnstone (2002) on page 103 middle right, in Wilson and Swan (2021) on page 539 bottom left and Cogger (2014) on page 811 at top left.

Distribution: At the moment *B. donotheadlewithtongs* sp. nov. is only known from near Forrestania, Western Australia, Australia, Latitude -32.65 S., Longitude 119.766667 E., with the distribution limits for the taxon largely unknown. It may be a range-restricted endemic confined to an elevated region between two strings of lakes and low lying areas, to the east and west, each of these running in a north-south direction.

Etymology: The holotype was collected and photographed by Brian Bush, a well-known snake fancier of Western Australia who has made positive and negative contributions to herpetology in Australia. On the negative side, Brian Bush actively aided in

supporting and promoting an animal abuser named Bruce George.

George, unknown in herpetology was unlawfully using the Snakebusters trademark in the early 2000's as an act of envy, after I, Raymond Hoser had discovered and named the Pilbara Death Adder, *Acanthophis wellsei* Hoser, 1998 in Hoser (1998) giving me a status with these iconic snakes that he (Brian Bush) in hindsight coveted.

The promotion of Bruce George who enjoyed a sizeable chunk of a \$3 million hand out from the government to promote himself on TV using the Hoser registered Snakebusters trademark was particularly egregious as he always used barbaric metal tongs to catch and handle snakes.

These devices break snake's bones and internal organs, generally resulting in a slow and painful death for the animal.

This makes the use of tongs in handling snakes one of the most disgraceful acts of animal abuse and cruelty possible.

I therefore have absolutely no hesitation in giving an innocuous snake species, and one that poses zero risk to human safety, an etymology that when read and scrutinized by others carries a blatant and strong animal welfare aspect to it.

BENNETTYPHLOPS BENNETTI SP. NOV.

LSIDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:A7247F04-2F38-47CB-B35B-1E4F5417EBB7

Holotype: A preserved specimen at the Australian Museum in Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, specimen number R.156528 collected from the Yathong Nature Reserve, New South Wales, Australia, Latitude -32.58694 S., Longitude 145.49638 E.

This government-owned facility allows access to its holdings.

Paratypes: Two preserved specimens at the Australian Museum in Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, being specimen number R.135436 collected 13 miles north northwest of Barellan, New South Wales, Australia, Latitude -34.05752 S., Longitude 146.39729 E. and specimen number R.153475 collected from Budgeree Station, New South Wales, Australia, Latitude -32.88388 S., Longitude 141.17082 E.

Diagnosis: Until now, *Bennetttyphlops bennetti* sp. nov. has been treated as an eastern population of "*Onychocephalus bicolor* Peters, 1858", herein placed into the genus *Bennetttyphlops* Hoser, 2013, with a type species of *Typhlops pinguis* Waite, 1897.

The molecular phylogenies of Marin *et al.* (2012 and 2013) identified *B. bennetti* sp. nov. as defined herein as a separate species to *B. bicolor* (Peters, 1858).

The results of Marin *et al.* (2014) in terms of west Australian putative *B. bicolor* were ambiguous in terms of whether or not it was a separate species.

Therefore, the putative species *B. preissi* (Jan, 1864),

with a west Australian type locality is tentatively recognized as a taxon distinct from the nominate form of *B. bicolor*, which has a type locality of Adelaide, South Australia.

B. bicolor as identified herein and by the molecular results of Marin *et al.* (2012 and 2013) occupies an area commencing from about Adelaide in South Australia, along the west side of the Adelaide Hills, expanding over them to the north and generally most locations to the north and west including most parts of the southern half of South Australia, to the West Australian border. Assuming West Australian *B. preissi* to be a valid taxon, the Great Victoria Desert and Nullarbor Plain are presumed to separate the two taxa.

B. bennetti sp. nov. occurs east of the Adelaide Hills from near Tailem Bend, South Australia, east into far western Victoria, and including south-western New South Wales away from the Great Dividing Range.

B. bennetti sp. nov. is separated from *B. bicolor* and *B. preissi* by having thick yellow etching around the scales of the anterior of the head, versus thin in *B. bicolor* and *B. preissi* and by having a rostral that is roughly as wide as it is long and expanding outwards on the lower part of the snout, versus a rostral that is obviously longer than wide and runs straight down the snout on the lower sides in *B. bicolor* and *B. preissi*. The white tips on the posterior part of the dorsal scales is minute in *B. bennetti* sp. nov. versus larger and obvious in both *B. bicolor* and *B. preissi*. Adult *B. preissi* and *B. bicolor* have a preponderance of white patches on the mid or upper flanks that as a rule is not seen in *B. bennetti* sp. nov.. Both *B. preissi* and *B. bicolor* have a more well-defined boundary between dark upper scales and white lower ones than is seen in *B. bennetti* sp. nov..

These three preceding species are separated from the other species in the genus *Bennetttyphlops* Hoser, 2013 by having a well-defined black tail that strongly contrasts with the body and 22 midbody rows (instead of 20 in the others).

The other species in the genus are *Bennetttyphlops pinguis* (Waite, 1897) (type species), *B. donothandlewithtongs* sp. nov. (this paper) and *B. splendidus* (Aplin, 1998).

Bennetttyphlops Hoser, 2013 species are separated from all other Australian Blind Snakes by the following suite of characters: Large, very stout build and dark in colour, usually purplish-grey, dark brown, brownish-grey or blackish, attaining up to 50 cm total length. The snout is very slightly angular in profile. There are 20-22 midbody scale rows and the nasal cleft proceeds from the second labial. The snout is subrectangular when viewed from above, weakly trilobed in appearance due to the slight swelling above the nostrils and it is short roundish and slightly angular in profile, sometimes with a distinct hook at the end. From above the rostral is slightly to much

longer than wide (species dependent) and about half as wide as the head. The nostril is inferior, slightly swollen and about midway between the rostral and preocular. Attains up to 50 cm in total length and the tail is 2.6-5.7 per cent of the total length. 278-377 ventrals, 10-19 subcaudals.

B. bennetti sp. nov. is depicted in life in Cogger (2014) on page 796 at top right, from Round Hill Fauna Reserve in New South Wales, in Wilson and Swan (2021) on page 527, second from bottom, from Hattah, Victoria and online at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/88708273@N03/10681549143/>

from Big Desert, Victoria, photographed by Matt Clancy, and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/127392361@N04/29716503658/>

from the Victorian Mallee, photographed by Nick Gale.

B. bicolor is depicted in life online at:

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/247433857>

from the Middleback Ranges, South Australia, Australia, photographed by Connor Margetts, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/61850954> from Secret Rocks, South Australia, Australia, photographed by Darcy Whittaker, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/38419815> from Mount Rearkable Conservation Park, photographed by Asimakis Patitsas.

B. preissi is depicted in life online at:

https://www.flickr.com/photos/brian_busho/14432863582/

and

https://www.flickr.com/photos/brian_busho/14247553810/

and

https://www.flickr.com/photos/brian_busho/14434148195/

all from Ilkurlka, Western Australia, Australia, photographed by Brian Bush.

The molecular evidence of Marin *et al.* (2012, 2013) indicated a divergence of about 3 MYA between *B. bennetti* sp. nov. and *B. bicolor*, supporting the contention of them being recognized as separate species.

Distribution: *B. bennetti* sp. nov. occurs east of the Adelaide Hills from near Tailem Bend, South Australia, east into far western Victoria, and including south-western NSW away from the Great Dividing Range.

Etymology: *B. bennetti* sp. nov. is named in honor of Steve Bennett of Narre Warren South, Victoria, Australia, formerly of Newcastle, New South Wales (NSW) and Rowville, Victoria, in recognition for his valuable work and contributions to the hands-on conservation of reptiles in Australia and globally in the period spanning the late 1980's to the present (year 2025). Refer to Hoser (2013a) for more details.

BUCKLEYTYPHLOPS SINCERUS SP. NOV.

LSIDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:63EB9F96-C787-494A-A047-FEB5BE2A76A2

Holotype: A preserved specimen at the Queensland Museum, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, specimen number J91822 collected 12 km south of Julia Creek, Queensland, Australia, Latitude -20.768056 S., Longitude 141.741667 E.

This government-owned facility allows access to its holdings.

Diagnosis: This species, known from a single specimen (the holotype) has until now been treated as a north-western population of the recently described species "*Ramphotyphlops aspina* Couper, Covacevich and Wilson, 1998".

At the time the paper of Couper, Covacevich and Wilson (1998) was published, the authors wrote:

"*Ramphotyphlops aspina* sp. nov." is known from the holotype and one paratype from the Barcardine area, central Queensland. This species is very distinct, lacking the caudal spine which appears to be present in all other Australian *Ramphotyphlops* spp."

On the basis of this significant morphological divergence, Hoser (2013a) created the monotypic genus *Buckleytyphlops* Hoser, 2013.

Upon discovery of the single specimen of *B. sincerus* sp. nov. on 8 July 2012, Eric Vanderduys published a paper the following year Vanderduys (2013) in which he assigned the specimen to the species *B. aspina* on the basis of the absence of a caudal spine.

However, it is sufficiently morphologically divergent to be flagged as a different species.

As it is also separated from the other two specimens of *B. aspina* by one or more known biogeographical barriers, effectively closing likelihood of clinal variation, I have no hesitation in describing the Julia Creek specimen as a new species.

B. sincerus sp. nov. is readily separated from *B. aspina* by having a higher ventral count, 437 (versus 403-428 in *B. aspina*) and a larger prefrontal, being much larger than the frontal, as opposed to either the same size or only slightly larger and dark speckling on the dorsum is relatively evenly spread, as opposed to unevenly spread.

Both *B. sincerus* sp. nov. and *B. aspina* are separated from all other Australian Blind Snakes by the absence of a tail spine.

They are further distinguished from other Australian Blind Snakes by the following characters combined: 18 midbody scale rows; 403-437 ventrals; the snout is bluntly-rounded from above, rounded and flattened laterally; rostral elongate from above; nasal not completely divided by nasal cleft, clearly visible from above and joining second supralabial below.

Further details about *B. aspina* can be found in the paper of Couper, Covacevich and Wilson (1998).

Further details about *B. sincerus* sp. nov. can be found in the paper of Vanderduys (2013), reported as a specimen of "*Ramphotyphlops. aspina* sp. nov."

Taitragul *et al.* (2014) published a phylogeny that showed that a sample of putative *B. aspina* diverged from nearest relatives over 20 MYA, confirming the genus placement in *Buckleytyphlops* Hoser, 2013. Vanderduys (2013) asserted that *B. aspina* as defined by himself was a taxon of the Mitchell Grass Downs. However, this may not strictly be the case.

Both collection localities are relatively elevated and separated from one another by low-lying flood plains. Barcardine is red dirt rather than black (the black soil being west) and the collection location near Julia Creek is relatively elevated and with surface rocks. The intervening area has been heavily collected and so far, no further specimens found.

This implies the two taxa are in fact inhabitants of somewhat elevated areas rather than the lower lying floodplain or black soil type habitats as asserted by Vanderduys (2013).

This is confirmed by the fact that the low-lying Mitchell Grass Downs are inhabited by large numbers of *Z. cliffrosswellingtoni* (Hoser, 2013) and *Z. zzzzz* sp. nov., verified by the large number of specimens of these taxa held at the Queensland Museum from intervening places like Longreach to the west of the collection location of the holotype of *B. aspina* on the black soil plains proper.

On the black soil plains of the Cooper's Creek drainage system, one finds *Z. zzzzz* sp. nov., and over the intervening higher ground one finds more black soil plains as part of the Diamantina River system where *Z. cliffrosswellingtoni* (Hoser, 2013) occurs.

The collection of large numbers of these species in these areas and yet no putative *B. aspina* implies that they are not there, rather than being merely overlooked.

There is also the inference of competitive exclusion between species of morphologically similar reptiles. Alternatively, if Vanderduys (2013) is correct about the habits of *B. sincerus* sp. nov. and *B. aspina* being an inhabitant of the Mitchell Grass Downs (unlikely based on the above), then the populations of two taxa will be still be biogeographically separated and of separate species.

This fact is not outlined or indicated in the broad brush map in Fig. 3. of Vanderduys (2013).

B. aspina has been caught in the Barcoo River / Cooper's Creek / Lake Eyre Basin, whereas *B. sincerus* sp. nov. occupies the Flinders River / Gulf of Carpentaria Basin.

These are biogeographically very well separated places!

If one notes the species pair of *Strophurus krisalys* Sadler, Omeally and Shea, 2005 from the Flinders River system and *Strophurus gedyei* Hoser, 2017 of

the Diamantina River system, the molecular results of Sadler, Omeally and Shea (2005), shows species level divergence for the two taxa.

The ranges of these species broadly parallel those of *B. sincerus* sp. nov. and *B. aspina* as is known to date, or alternatively those of *Z. cliffrosswellingtoni* (Hoser, 2013), *Z. zzzzz* sp. nov., and *Z. grypus* (Waite, 1918).

The holotype of *B. sincerus* sp. nov. is depicted in life in Wilson (2022) on page 242 bottom left.

The holotype of *B. aspina* is depicted in Couper, Covacevich and Wilson (1998).

Distribution: *B. sincerus* sp. nov. is only known from the holotype collected 12 km south of Julia Creek, Queensland, Australia, Latitude -20.768056 S., Longitude 141.741667 E.

Etymology: *B. sincerus* sp. nov. is named in reflection of the fact that unlike most Australian Blind Snakes, the holotype did not defecate on the handler after being caught and handled.

The word “*sincerus*” in Latin is an adjective that means clean, pure, uninjured, or whole.

SIVADICTUS GREATSTINKOFAUSTRALIA SP. NOV.

LSIDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:DF463619-B295-4CC4-AB47-40552E6038CF

Holotype: A preserved specimen at the South Australian Museum Herpetology Collection, Adelaide, South Australia, Australia, specimen number R40954 collected from 5 km south of Euroa on the road to Mansfield, Victoria, Australia, Latitude -36.82 S., Longitude 145.58 E.

This government-owned facility allows access to its holdings.

Paratype: A preserved specimen at the Australian Museum, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, specimen number R.157200 collected from Butler Road in the Torrington State Recreation Area, New South Wales, Australia, Latitude -29.29444 S., Longitude 151.67721 E.

Diagnosis: Without exception, all publishing authors within the last 100 years have treated the species “*Anilius nigrescens* Gray, 1845” as a single wide-ranging taxon, occurring from the east coast of Queensland and hilly hinterland, south along the nearby coast and ranges to central and western inland Victoria.

The phylogenies of Marin *et al.* (2012, 2013) indicated five or six species, with a conservative total of five recognized herein. The type form for “*Anilius nigrescens* Gray, 1845”, being the type species for the genus *Sivadictus* Wells and Wellington, 1985, has a type locality of Parramatta (Sydney) and includes populations from the coast and near ranges of New South Wales, south of the Hunter Valley to the New South Wales south coast, just north of the Victorian border.

S. reginae (Boulenger, 1889) is the form from

Brisbane and most areas north in Queensland, extending south to the far north coast of New South Wales, and adjacent ranges and nearby slopes to about Tenterfield in far northern New South Wales.

The species *S. greatstinkofaustralia* sp. nov. is found generally west of the Great Dividing Range in a zone including the slopes and nearby plains from north and central Victoria, extending along the west of the Great Dividing Range to far north New South Wales to Tenterfield, where it appears to be sympatric with *S. reginae*.

S. graysoni sp. nov. is a taxon restricted to the upper New England Tableland Region of north New South Wales, generally around Glen Innes in New South Wales.

S. altmani sp. nov. is a taxon from the lower New England region of New South Wales, found in the Guyra to Walcha area and presumably further afield within the lower New England region of New South Wales.

The five species are separated from one another as follows:

S. nigrescens is a pinkish to purple coloured snake on top with a white venter. On the lower flanks the demarcation from dark to light is not boldly defined, but rather is formed by scales on the lower flank being dark centred rather than dark all over like above.

The rostral is horse-shoe shaped and the top well touches the extremely large prefrontal. Frontal is either tiny, or not different in size and shape to the rows of scales posterior.

S. altmani sp. nov., which is the closest relative of *S. nigrescens* is readily separated from that species by the demarcation of dark and light on the lower flank.

This is well-defined in that the scales are either dark or light, generally running along the demarcation edge. There are some infusions up or down of light or dark scales, but again these scales are either dark or light. There are no light scales with dark centres on the lower flank as seen in *S. nigrescens*. The nasal scale of *S. altmani* sp. nov. is almost rectangular in shape, versus obviously triangular in *S. nigrescens*. The eye spot is placed slightly above centre and slightly posterior to centre in the ocular scale.

S. greatstinkofaustralia sp. nov. is most similar in colour, including that of the flanks, to *S. nigrescens*, but the change from dark above to light below is more sudden in that there is only one row of light scales with dark centres, below the final row of dark scales.

The rostral is tending to be more rectangular than horse-shoe shaped and the nasal scale is more-or-less triangular in shape, but curved in and narrow at the top and bulbous towards the nasal and lip. The black eye spot is slightly higher than centre of the ocular scale, but otherwise placed centrally.

S. reginae is starkly different to the preceding species in that it is an obviously brownish coloured snake on top and the scales of the snout have heavy yellow



Top: *Sivadictus greatstinkofaustalia* sp. nov. from 2.5 km west of Beechworth, Victoria, Australia.

Bottom: Habitat 2.5 km west of Beechworth, Victoria, Australia, where the above specimen was located.



or cream etching, versus thin white or pale etching on the snout in the three preceding species. The eye spot is set slightly back of centre in the ocular scale. The demarcation on the lower flank of the top upper body and light under side is well-defined by a jagged line caused by the interface of dark and light scales. The light scales below do have dark centres that are pale in colour. There are no dark or light infusions above or below this line.

The rostral, while curved at the top, is otherwise rectangular in shape and much longer than wide.

S. graysoni sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *S. reginae*, (as compared to the three quite different species, *S. nigrescens*, *S. altmani* sp. nov. and *S. greatstinkofaustralia* sp. nov.) but is readily separated from that species by the fact that the heavily yellow etched scales of the snout extend back to include the scales well behind the eye spots, and on the flanks of the body there are numerous white infusions upwards from the venter. The lower scales of the flanks and venter are ivory white and without any dark centres. The eye spot is set in the centre of the ocular scale. The rostral, is barely curved at the top, is very wide and while rectangular in shape is roughly as wide as long.

Noting how different the five preceding species are from one another, I find it astounding that no one had considered the prospect of them being different taxa until now.

The five preceding species, being *S. nigrescens*, *S. reginae*, *S. altmani* sp. nov., *S. graysoni* sp. nov. and *S. greatstinkofaustralia* sp. nov., comprise the entirety of the genus *Sivadictus* Wells and Wellington, 1985. *Sivadictus* as a genus is separated from all other Blind Snakes by the following suite of characters: Purplish pink-brown to nearly black above, cream, yellow or pinkish below. Snout is rounded from above and in profile. Nasal cleft is long, joining the second supralabial or the suture between the first and second labials, projecting forward and upwards to partially divide the nasal, visible from above. Rostral is large, oval or elliptical, sometimes horseshoe shaped, sometimes almost rectangular and if so, with a curved upper edge, usually much longer than broad. 22 mid body scale rows. Body diameter is 35-60 times in its length; the tail terminates in a spine.

The genus *Sivadictus* is separated from the genus *Acktyphlops* Hoser, 2013 by the fact that the nasal cleft does not completely divide the nasal scale, extending from near the rostral scale to the first upper labial scale; as opposed to the second upper labial scale or suture between the first and second in genus *Acktyphlops* Hoser, 2013. Adults of the genus *Sivadictus* are pinkish, pinkish-purple, or purplish brown as opposed to greyish brown in *Acktyphlops* Hoser, 2013. In the genus *Sivadictus* the ventral surfaces are pinkish white with a weak ragged junction between the upper and lower colours or

otherwise defined by lighter scales with dark centres as opposed to an evenly merging darker upper and lighter lower colouration in *Acktyphlops* Hoser, 2013.

S. nigrescens in life is depicted in Hoser (1989) on page 123 at top right, specimen from Cottage Point, New South Wales, Australia, Cogger (2014) on page 807, top right, specimen from Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, Swan *et al.* (2022) on page 231 at top from Helensburgh, New South Wales and online at:

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/103229876> from near Hornsby, New South Wales, Australia, photographed by Liz Noble, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/159249812@N05/32543351238/>

from Top Hill, New South Wales, Australia, photographed by Adam Parsons, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/267037826> from West Head, New South Wales, Australia, photographed by "George EV" and, <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/186523959> from north Turrumurra, New South Wales, Australia, photographed by Liz Noble.

S. reginae is depicted in life in Wilson and Swan at page 537 middle left, specimen from Canungra, Queensland and online at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/ryanfrancis/9795599835/>

from Boondall Wetlands, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, photographed by Ryan Francis, and https://www.flickr.com/photos/zimny_anders/37045369970/

from the D'Aguilar Range National Park, Queensland, Australia, photographed by Anders Zimny, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/julesfarquhar/25044930835/>

from the Lamington Plateau, Queensland, Australia, photographed by taxonomic vandal Jules Farquhar, and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/euprepiosaur/8479622707/>

from D'Aguilar Range, Queensland, Australia, photographed by Stephen Zozaya, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/194274402@N06/> from Mount Glorious, Queensland, Australia, photographed by Melissa Bruton.

S. graysoni sp. nov. is depicted in life online at: <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/105549334> from Glen Elgin, New South Wales, Australia, photographed by Darren Fielder.

S. altmani sp. nov. is depicted in life online at: <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/129790702> from Rocky River, New South Wales, Australia, photographed by Max Tibby, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/260241580> from near Armidale, New South Wales, Australia,

photographed by "Sockrosma", and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/253363355> from near Armidale, New South Wales, Australia, photographed by "Casey".

S. greatstinkofaustralia sp. nov. is depicted in life on the front covers of issues 76 and 78 of this journal (*Australasian Journal of Herpetology*), the specimen being found under a slab of Granite, about 2.5 km west of Beechworth, Victoria, about 40 metres north of Flat Rock Road as shown in the image on the back cover of issue 76.

The snake was located at about 7 AM under the rock in December of 2023 at about 7.30 AM.

S. greatstinkofaustralia sp. nov. is depicted in life online at:

<https://x.com/therealsnakeman/status/1913243800065151250>

from Beechworth, Victoria, photographed by Raymond Hoser.

The phylogenies of Marin *et al.* (2012, 2013) indicated that *S. greatstinkofaustralia* sp. nov. diverged from nearest relatives *S. nigrescens* and *S. altmani* sp. nov. over 3 MYA and from *S. reginae* and *S. graysoni* sp. nov. about 5 MYA supporting the concept of the five relevant morphologically diagnosable species.

Distribution: The species *S. greatstinkofaustralia* sp. nov. is found generally west of the Great Dividing Range in a zone including the slopes and nearby plains from north and central Victoria, extending along the west of the Great Dividing Range to far north New South Wales to Tenterfield, where it appears to be sympatric with *S. reginae*.

S. greatstinkofaustralia sp. nov. may also be sympatric with *S. graysoni* sp. nov. and *S. altmani* sp. nov. where the ranges of the species abut in northern New South Wales.

Etymology: The species *S. greatstinkofaustralia* sp. nov. is named in recognition of the completely corrupt and dysfunctional Australian legal system. In this system compliance with or enforcement of the law are optional, depending on who is being looked at.

Roughly a third of the population are wholly immune from ever being charged for any criminal offences no matter what crimes they commit. These are usually police, public servants, drug traffickers, paedophiles, the latter of whom are usually green-lighted by the former and other similarly protected persons.

Most of the rest of the population are merely subjects in a fascist state and do their best to comply with an ever-increasing raft of laws, subject to a never ending variety of interpretations. A small percentage, myself included are hounded and harassed as targeted individuals, who are regularly charged with contrived offences and prosecuted using the most insane and creative interpretations of laws. New laws may even be made up, just to effect a prosecution.

The tyranny is enforced by judges and magistrates who as a cohort are wholly corrupt and most are

compromised by police as drug addicts (cocaine, heroin and "Ice" are the drugs of choice). They in turn make "findings" and rulings at variance with evidence, the facts and readily peddle false narratives against innocent people who have either been in the wrong place at the wrong time, or foolishly tried to expose corruption and wrongdoing in government at some time in their past and must now pay for the rest of their life as a result.

The system is not so much corrupt as a result of failure, but rather by design.

Australia's legal system is internationally known as "*The Great Stink Of Australia*" as a so was a large wall built in China as also called "The Great Wall of China".

This species of Blind Snake has a notorious habit of defecating on people after being picked up and handled. This causes a great stink. So the etymology also fits the habit of the snake.

SIVADICTUS ALTMANI SP. NOV.

LSIDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:BB39046E-04FA-40B5-BC4E-C03A6E3D46B0

Holotype: A preserved specimen at the Australian Museum, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, specimen number R.157050 collected on the Langothlin to Ben Lomand Road, New South Wales, Australia, Latitude -30.07582 S., Longitude 151.67471 E.

This government-owned facility allows access to its holdings.

Paratypes: Two preserved specimens at the South Australian Museum Herpetology Collection, Adelaide, South Australia, Australia, specimen numbers R31020 and R31025 both collected from the Bendemeer to Walcha Road at 8 km west of Woolbrook, New South Wales, Australia, Latitude -30.92 S., Longitude 151.3 E.

Diagnosis: Without exception, all publishing authors within the last 100 years have treated the species "*Anilius nigrescens* Gray, 1845" as a single wide-ranging taxon, occurring from the east coast of Queensland and hilly hinterland, south along the nearby coast and ranges to central and western inland Victoria.

The phylogenies of Marin *et al.* (2012, 2013) indicated five or six species, with a conservative total of five recognized herein. The type form for "*Anilius nigrescens* Gray, 1845", being the type species for the genus *Sivadictus* Wells and Wellington, 1985, has a type locality of Parramatta (Sydney) and includes populations from the coast and near ranges of New South Wales, south of the Hunter Valley to the New South Wales south coast, just north of the Victorian border.

S. reginae (Boulenger, 1889) is the form from Brisbane and most areas north in Queensland, extending south to the far north coast of New South Wales, and adjacent ranges and nearby slopes to

about Tenterfield in far northern New South Wales. The species *S. greatstinkofaustralia* sp. nov. is found generally west of the Great Dividing Range in a zone including the slopes and nearby plains from north and central Victoria, extending along the west of the Great Dividing Range to far north New South Wales to Tenterfield, where it appears to be sympatric with *S. reginae*.

S. graysoni sp. nov. is a taxon restricted to the upper New England Tableland Region of north New South Wales, generally around Glen Innes in New South Wales.

S. altmani sp. nov. is a taxon from the lower New England region of New South Wales, found in the Guyra to Walcha area and presumably further afield within the lower New England region of New South Wales.

The five species are separated from one another as follows:

S. nigrescens is a pinkish to purple coloured snake on top with a white venter. On the lower flanks the demarcation from dark to light is not boldly defined but rather is formed by scales on the lower flank being dark centred rather than dark all over like above.

The rostral is horseshoe shaped and the top well touches the extremely large prefrontal. Frontal is either tiny, or not different in size and shape to the rows of scales posterior.

S. altmani sp. nov., which is the closest relative of *S. nigrescens* is readily separated from that species by the demarcation of dark and light on the lower flank.

This is well-defined in that the scales are either dark or light, generally running along the demarcation edge. There are some infusions up or down of light or dark scales, but again these scales are either dark or light. There are no light scales with dark centres on the lower flank as seen in *S. nigrescens*. The nasal scale of *S. altmani* sp. nov. is almost rectangular in shape, versus obviously triangular in *S. nigrescens*. The eye spot is placed slightly above centre and slightly posterior to centre in the ocular scale.

S. greatstinkofaustralia sp. nov. is most similar in colour, including that of the flanks, to *S. nigrescens*, but the change from dark above to light below is more sudden in that there is only one row of light scales with dark centres, below the final row of dark scales.

The rostral is tending to be more rectangular than horseshoe shaped and the nasal scale is more-or-less triangular in shape, but curved in and narrow at the top and bulbous towards the labials and lip. The black eye spot is slightly higher than centre of the ocular scale but otherwise placed centrally.

S. reginae is starkly different to the preceding species in that it is an obviously brownish coloured snake on top and the scales of the snout have heavy yellow or cream etching, versus thin white or pale etching on the snout in the three preceding species. The eye spot is set slightly back of centre in the ocular scale.

The demarcation on the lower flank of the top upper body and light under side is well-defined by a jagged line caused by the interface of dark and light scales. The light scales below do have dark centres that are pale in colour. There are no dark or light infusions above or below this line.

The rostral, while curved at the top, is otherwise rectangular in shape and much longer than wide.

S. graysoni sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *S. reginae*, (as compared to the three quite different species, *S. nigrescens*, *S. altmani* sp. nov. and *S. greatstinkofaustralia* sp. nov.) but is readily separated from that species by the fact that the heavily yellow etched scales of the snout extend back to include the scales well behind the eye spots, and on the flanks of the body there are numerous white infusions upwards from the venter. The lower scales of the flanks and venter are ivory white and without any dark centres. The eye spot is set in the centre of the ocular scale.

The rostral, is barely curved at the top, is very wide and while rectangular in shape is roughly as wide as long.

Noting how different the five preceding species are from one another, I find it astounding that no one had considered the prospect of them being different taxa until now.

The five preceding species, being *S. nigrescens*, *S. reginae*, *S. altmani* sp. nov., *S. graysoni* sp. nov. and *S. greatstinkofaustralia* sp. nov., comprise the entirety of the genus *Sivadictus* Wells and Wellington, 1985.

Sivadictus as a genus is separated from all other Blind Snakes by the following suite of characters: Purplish pink-brown to nearly black above, cream, yellow or pinkish below. Snout is rounded from above and in profile. Nasal cleft is long, joining the second supralabial or the suture between the first and second labials, projecting forward and upwards to partially divide the nasal, visible from above. Rostral is large, oval or elliptical, sometimes horse-shoe shaped, sometimes almost rectangular and if so, with a curved upper edge, usually much longer than broad. 22 mid body scale rows. Body diameter is 35-60 times in its length; the tail terminates in a spine.

The genus *Sivadictus* is separated from the genus *Acktytyphlops* Hoser, 2013 by the fact that the nasal cleft does not completely divide the nasal scale, extending from near the rostral scale to the first upper labial scale; as opposed to the second upper labial scale or suture between the first and second in genus *Acktytyphlops* Hoser, 2013. Adults of the genus *Sivadictus* are pinkish, pinkish-purple, or purplish brown as opposed to greyish brown in *Acktytyphlops* Hoser, 2013. In the genus *Sivadictus* the ventral surfaces are pinkish white with a weak ragged junction between the upper and lower colours or otherwise defined by lighter scales with dark centres as opposed to an evenly merging darker upper and lighter lower colouration in *Acktytyphlops* Hoser, 2013.

S. nigrescens in life is depicted in Hoser (1989) on page 123 at top right, specimen from Cottage Point, New South Wales, Australia, Cogger (2014) on page 807, top right, specimen from Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, Swan *et al.* (2022) on page 231 at top from Helensburgh, New South Wales and online at:

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/103229876> from near Hornsby, New South Wales, Australia, photographed by Liz Noble, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/159249812@N05/32543351238/>

from Top Hill, New South Wales, Australia, photographed by Adam Parsons, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/267037826> from West Head, New South Wales, Australia, photographed by "George EV" and, <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/186523959> from north Turramurra, New South Wales, Australia, photographed by Liz Noble.

S. reginae is depicted in life in Wilson and Swan at page 537 middle left, specimen from Canungra, Queensland and online at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/ryanfrancis/9795599835/>

from Boondall Wetlands, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, photographed by Ryan Francis, and https://www.flickr.com/photos/zimny_anders/37045369970/

from the D'Aguilar Range National Park, Queensland, Australia, photographed by Anders Zimny, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/julesfarquhar/25044930835/>

from the Lamington Plateau, Queensland, Australia, photographed by taxonomic vandal Jules Farquhar, and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/euprepiosaur/8479622707/>

from D'Aguilar Range, Queensland, Australia, photographed by Stephen Zozaya, and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/194274402@N06/>

from Mount Glorious, Queensland, Australia, photographed by Melissa Bruton.

S. graysoni sp. nov. is depicted in life online at: <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/105549334> from Glen Elgin, New South Wales, Australia, photographed by Darren Fielder.

S. altmani sp. nov. is depicted in life online at: <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/129790702> from Rocky River, New South Wales, Australia, photographed by Max Tibby, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/260241580> from near Armidale, New South Wales, Australia, photographed by "Sockrosma", and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/253363355> from near Armidale, New South Wales, Australia,

photographed by "Casey".

S. greatstinkofaustralia sp. nov. is depicted in life on the front covers of issues 76 and 78 of this journal (*Australasian Journal of Herpetology*).

S. greatstinkofaustralia sp. nov. is depicted in life online at:

<https://x.com/therealsnakeman/status/1913243800065151250>

from 2.5 km west of Beechworth, Victoria, photographed by Raymond Hoser.

The phylogenies of Marin *et al.* (2012, 2013) indicated that *S. greatstinkofaustralia* sp. nov. diverged from nearest relatives *S. nigrescens* and *S. altmani* sp. nov. over 3 MYA and from *S. reginae* and *S. graysoni* sp. nov. about 5 MYA supporting the concept of the five relevant morphologically diagnosable species.

Distribution: *S. altmani* sp. nov. is a taxon from the lower New England region of New South Wales, found in the Guyra to Walcha area and presumably further afield within the lower New England region of New South Wales.

Etymology: The species *S. altmani* sp. nov. is named in honour of David Altman, originally of Scotland, but having spent time in Bondi and St. Ives, New South Wales, Australia, also in Israel and more recently Chirnside Park, Victoria for his services to herpetology. As a teen, he was famous for belching putrid clouds of wind in his sleep, earning him the nicknames "earthquake Altman", so it is also fitting he be honoured by a species of snake known to pass stink at times.

See also the etymology for *Altmantiphlops* Hoser, 2012 in Hoser (2012d) for further details.

SIVADICTUS GRAYSONI SP. NOV.

LSIDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:1AFF5DF0-DF4F-458C-AB47-E7B7405057C9

Holotype: A preserved specimen at the Australian Museum Herpetology Collection, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, specimen number R.157114 collected from Kingsgate Road, Red Range, (east of Glen Innes), New South Wales, Australia, Latitude -29.80166 S., Longitude 151.98249 E.

This government-owned facility allows access to its holdings.

Paratypes: Two preserved specimen at the Australian Museum Herpetology Collection, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, specimen numbers R.157265 and R.157267, collected on the Kingsgate Road, Red Range, (east of Glen Innes), New South Wales, Australia, Latitude -29.79916 S., Longitude 151.95611 E.

Diagnosis: Without exception, all publishing authors within the last 100 years have treated the species "*Anilius nigrescens* Gray, 1845" as a single wide-ranging taxon, occurring from the east coast of Queensland and hilly hinterland, south along the nearby coast and ranges to central and western

inland Victoria.

The phylogenies of Marin *et al.* (2012, 2013) indicated five or six species, with a conservative total of five recognized herein. The type form for "*Anilius nigrescens* Gray, 1845", being the type species for the genus *Sivadictus* Wells and Wellington, 1985, has a type locality of Parramatta (Sydney) and includes populations from the coast and near ranges of New South Wales, south of the Hunter Valley to the New South Wales south coast, just north of the Victorian border.

S. reginae (Boulenger, 1889) is the form from Brisbane and most areas north in Queensland, extending south to the far north coast of New South Wales, and adjacent ranges and nearby slopes to about Tenterfield in far northern New South Wales. The species *S. greatstinkofaustralia* sp. nov. is found generally west of the Great Dividing Range in a zone including the slopes and nearby plains from north and central Victoria, extending along the west of the Great Dividing Range to far north New South Wales to Tenterfield, where it appears to be sympatric with *S. reginae*.

S. graysoni sp. nov. is a taxon restricted to the upper New England Tableland Region of north New South Wales, generally around Glen Innes in New South Wales.

S. altmani sp. nov. is a taxon from the lower New England region of New South Wales, found in the Guyra to Walcha area and presumably further afield within the lower New England region of New South Wales.

The five species are separated from one another as follows:

S. nigrescens is a pinkish to purple coloured snake on top with a white venter. On the lower flanks the demarcation from dark to light is not boldly defined but rather is formed by scales on the lower flank being dark centred rather than dark all over like above.

The rostral is horseshoe shaped and the top well touches the extremely large prefrontal. Frontal is either tiny, or not different in size and shape to the rows of scales posterior.

S. altmani sp. nov., which is the closest relative of *S. nigrescens* is readily separated from that species by the demarcation of dark and light on the lower flank. This is well-defined in that the scales are either dark or light, generally running along the demarcation edge. There are some infusions up or down of light or dark scales, but again these scales are either dark or light. There are no light scales with dark centres on the lower flank as seen in *S. nigrescens*. The nasal scale of *S. altmani* sp. nov. is almost rectangular in shape, versus obviously triangular in *S. nigrescens*. The eye spot is placed slightly above centre and slightly posterior to centre in the ocular scale.

S. greatstinkofaustralia sp. nov. is most similar in colour, including that of the flanks, to *S. nigrescens*,

but the change from dark above to light below is more sudden in that there is only one row of light scales with dark centres, below the final row of dark scales.

The rostral is tending to be more rectangular than horseshoe shaped and the nasal scale is more-or-less triangular in shape but curved in and narrow at the top and bulbous towards the labials and lip. The black eye spot is slightly higher than centre of the ocular scale but otherwise placed centrally.

S. reginae is starkly different to the preceding species in that it is an obviously brownish coloured snake on top and the scales of the snout have heavy yellow or cream etching, versus thin white or pale etching on the snout in the three preceding species. The eye spot is set slightly back of centre in the ocular scale. The demarcation on the lower flank of the top upper body and light under side is well-defined by a jagged line caused by the interface of dark and light scales. The light scales below do have dark centres that are pale in colour. There are no dark or light infusions above or below this line.

The rostral, while curved at the top, is otherwise rectangular in shape and much longer than wide.

S. graysoni sp. nov. is similar in most respects to *S. reginae*, (as compared to the three quite different species, *S. nigrescens*, *S. altmani* sp. nov. and *S. greatstinkofaustralia* sp. nov.) but is readily separated from that species by the fact that the heavily yellow etched scales of the snout extend back to include the scales well behind the eye spots, and on the flanks of the body there are numerous white infusions upwards from the venter. The lower scales of the flanks and venter are ivory white and without any dark centres. The eye spot is set in the centre of the ocular scale. The rostral, is barely curved at the top, is very wide and while rectangular in shape is roughly as wide as long.

Noting how different the five preceding species are from one another, I find it astounding that no one had considered the prospect of them being different taxa until now.

The five preceding species, being *S. nigrescens*, *S. reginae*, *S. altmani* sp. nov., *S. graysoni* sp. nov. and *S. greatstinkofaustralia* sp. nov., comprise the entirety of the genus *Sivadictus* Wells and Wellington, 1985. *Sivadictus* as a genus is separated from all other Blind Snakes by the following suite of characters: Purplish pink-brown to nearly black above, cream, yellow or pinkish below. Snout is rounded from above and in profile. Nasal cleft is long, joining the second supralabial or the suture between the first and second labials, projecting forward and upwards to partially divide the nasal, visible from above. Rostral is large, oval or elliptical, sometimes horse-shoe shaped, sometimes almost rectangular and if so, with a curved upper edge, usually much longer than broad. 22 mid body scale rows. Body diameter is 35-60 times in its length; the tail terminates in a spine.

The genus *Sivadictus* is separated from the genus *Acktytyphlops* Hoser, 2013 by the fact that the nasal cleft does not completely divide the nasal scale, extending from near the rostral scale to the first upper labial scale; as opposed to the second upper labial scale or suture between the first and second in genus *Acktytyphlops* Hoser, 2013. Adults of the genus *Sivadictus* are pinkish, pinkish-purple, or purplish brown as opposed to greyish brown in *Acktytyphlops* Hoser, 2013. In the genus *Sivadictus* the ventral surfaces are pinkish white with a weak ragged junction between the upper and lower colours or otherwise defined by lighter scales with dark centres as opposed to an evenly merging darker upper and lighter lower colouration in *Acktytyphlops* Hoser, 2013. *S. nigrescens* in life is depicted in Hoser (1989) on page 123 at top right, specimen from Cottage Point, New South Wales, Australia, Cogger (2014) on page 807, top right, specimen from Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, Swan *et al.* (2022) on page 231 at top from Helensburgh, New South Wales and online at:

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/103229876> from near Hornsby, New South Wales, Australia, photographed by Liz Noble, and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/159249812@N05/32543351238/>

from Top Hill, New South Wales, Australia, photographed by Adam Parsons, and <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/267037826>

from West Head, New South Wales, Australia, photographed by "George EV" and, <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/186523959> from north Turrumurra, New South Wales, Australia, photographed by Liz Noble.

S. reginae is depicted in life in Wilson and Swan at page 537 middle left, specimen from Canungra, Queensland and online at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/ryanfrancis/9795599835/>

from Boondall Wetlands, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, photographed by Ryan Francis, and https://www.flickr.com/photos/zimny_anders/37045369970/

from the D'Aguilar Range National Park, Queensland, Australia, photographed by Anders Zimny, and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/julesfarquhar/25044930835/>

from the Lamington Plateau, Queensland, Australia, photographed by taxonomic vandal Jules Farquhar, and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/euprepiosaur/8479622707/>

from D'Aguilar Range, Queensland, Australia, photographed by Stephen Zozaya, and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/194274402@N06/> from Mount Glorious, Queensland, Australia,

photographed by Melissa Bruton.

S. graysoni sp. nov. is depicted in life online at: <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/105549334> from Glen Elgin, New South Wales, Australia, photographed by Darren Fielder.

S. altmani sp. nov. is depicted in life online at: <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/129790702> from Rocky River, New South Wales, Australia, photographed by Max Tibby, and

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/260241580> from near Armidale, New South Wales, Australia, photographed by "Sockrosma", and

<https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/253363355> from near Armidale, New South Wales, Australia, photographed by "Casey".

S. greatstinkofaustralia sp. nov. is depicted in life online at:

<https://x.com/therealsnakeman/status/1913243800065151250>

from 2.5 km west of Beechworth, Victoria, photographed by Raymond Hoser.

The phylogenies of Marin *et al.* (2012, 2013) indicated that *S. greatstinkofaustralia* sp. nov. diverged from nearest relatives *S. nigrescens* and *S. altmani* sp. nov. over 3 MYA and from *S. reginae* and *S. graysoni* sp. nov. about 5 MYA supporting the concept of the five relevant morphologically diagnosable species.

Distribution: *S. graysoni* sp. nov. is a taxon restricted to the upper New England Tableland Region of north New South Wales, generally near Glen Innes, NSW.

Etymology: The species *S. graysoni* sp. nov. is named in honour of Grayson O'Connor of Box Hill, Victoria, Australia for services to herpetology. He also gets cravings to eat tins of baked beans, which he eats in large quantities when hiking in the bush.

He therefore has a habit of passing extremely pungent smells from his rear, not unlike this species of snake when caught and handled.

GENUS *ANILIOS* GRAY, 1845

Type Species: *Anilios australis* Gray, 1845.

Diagnosis: *Anilios* (identified by Hoser 2013 as *Adelynhosertyphlops* and herein as a subjective junior synonym) are separated from all other *Libertadictus* by the following suite of characters: Brownish-black or reddish-brown above, whitish to cream below. Snout weakly to strongly trilobed from above, although when weakly trilobed this is sometimes only seen on very close inspection, meaning it is sometimes viewed mistakenly as being smoothly rounded. The snout is angular and with a slightly recurved 'beak' when look at in profile. Nasal cleft usually contacting the second labial and extending to the nostril, coming either slightly before it or after it, but not visible from above, sometimes not completely dividing the nasal. Rostral is large, oval and longer than wide, sometimes broader anteriorly. 20-22 Midbody scale rows. Body diameter is 40-80 times its length. Averages about 25

cm as adults and rarely exceeds 40 cm.

Distribution: Most drier parts of continental Australia.

Etymology: The genus name *Anilios* is derived from the Greek words “an” (meaning “not”) and “helios” (meaning “sun”), likely referring to the fossorial or subterranean lifestyle of these snakes, implying they are “without sun”.

Adelynhosertyphlops was named in honour of my daughter Adelyn (Adder-Lyn) Hoser in recognition of over twelve years of valuable work in wildlife conservation, research and education.

That genus name is a subjective junior synonym of the earlier created *Anilios* and should as of now, not be used as correct.

Content: *Anilios australis* (Gray, 1845) (type species); *A. adept* sp. nov. (this paper), *A. bullardi* sp. nov. (this paper), *A. centralis* (Storr, 1984), *A. crypticspecies* sp. nov. (this paper), *A. endoterus* (Waite, 1918), *A. goodcatch* sp. nov. (this paper), *A. greatfind* sp. nov. (this paper), *A. hamatus* (Storr, 1981), *A. judyfergusonae* sp. nov. (this paper), *A. mazing* sp. nov. (this paper), *A. mirlirrtjarra* sp. nov. (this paper), *A. nottobeignored* sp. nov. (this paper), *A. ok* sp. nov. (this paper), *A. pilbarensis* (Aplin and Donnellan, 1993), *A. preissi* (Jan, 1864), *A. waitii* (Boulenger, 1895), *A. ye* sp. nov. (this paper).

GENUS *LIBERTADICTUS* WELLS AND WELLINGTON, 1984

Type species: *Onychocephalus bituberculatus* Peters, 1863.

Diagnosis: The genus *Libertadictus* as defined here is confined to species of Blind Snakes with the following suite of characters: A moderately dark, small, slender long-snouted Blind Snake up to 35 cm long with 20 or rarely 18, mid body scale rows and a nasal cleft proceeding from the second labial; snout strongly or moderately strongly trilobed as seen from above and slightly angular in profile. Tail is 1.5-3.3 percent of the total length, 414-485 ventrals, 11-18 subcaudals. From above the rostral is very much longer than wide and almost two thirds as wide as the head. The nostril is inferior, markedly swollen, much nearer to the rostral than the preocular. The nasal cleft extends obliquely upwards and forwards from the nostril to about midway between the nostril and the rostral. The upper surface is pinkish grey, bluish purple or a dark purplish brown, gradually merging with the whitish lower surface.

Distribution: Dry parts of southern Australia only.

Etymology: See Wells and Wellington, 1984.

Content: *Libertadictus bituberculatus* (Peters, 1863) (Type species), *L. britishbombedhere* sp. nov. (this paper), *L. dishonestpoliceorum* sp. nov. (this paper), *L. fasciststateorum* sp. nov. (this paper), *L. ick* sp. nov. (this paper), *L. margaretae* (Storr, 1981), *L. radiationzone* sp. nov. (this paper), *L. snakebustersorum* sp. nov. (this paper), *L. wellsandwellingtonorum* sp. nov. (this paper).

GENUS *SUEWITTTYPLOPS* HOSER, 2013

LSIDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:CE0616BF-D673-4626-A8A7-56E5B3E08AB6

Type species: *Typhlops ligatus* Peters, 1879.

Diagnosis: *Suewitttyphlops* Hoser, 2013 species are defined by the following suite of characters: The nasal cleft is joining the first or second supralabial or preocular and smoothly rounded from above and in profile. It is visible from above, almost dividing the nasal and contacting the first or second labial below and in some cases completely dividing the nasal. The rostral is narrow and elongate from above, being longer than broad (as in about 2 times), sometimes distinctly broader anteriorly. 22-24 mid-body rows; body diameter 20-70 times in its length and with a maximum length of about 50 cm. The colour is brown above and whitish or creamish white below, with or without slight paling in colour on the snout tip and/or the tail tip.

Distribution: Northern half of continental Australia.

Etymology: Named in honour of Sue Witt breeder of Great Dane dogs from Heathcote, Victoria, Australia. Refer to Hoser (2013a) for details.

Content: *Suewitttyphlops ligatus* (Peters, 1879) (type species), *S. crottyi* sp. nov. (this paper), *S. euanedwardsi* sp. nov. (this paper), *S. ganei* (Aplin, 1998), *S. kimberleyensis* (Storr, 1981), *S. mileii* sp. nov. (this paper), *S. okara* sp. nov. (this paper), *S. outofsight* sp. nov. (this paper), *S. overlookedit* sp. nov. (this paper), *S. oxyi* sp. nov. (this paper), *S. paulwoolfi* sp. nov. (this paper), *S. romani* sp. nov. (this paper), *S. sloppi* Hoser, 2013, *S. troglodytes* (Storr, 1981), *S. vagurima* Ellis, 2019.

GENUS *ROBINWITTTYPHLOPS* HOSER, 2013

LSIDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:BCBD56A3-6C41-4B5A-BA61-89FF338BB640

Type Species: *Typhlops* (*Onychocephalus*) *unguirostris* Peters, 1867

Diagnosis: The genus *Robinwitttyphlops* Hoser, 2013 are readily separated from all other Australian Blind Snakes by the following suite of characters: Brownish above, creamish-white below. The snout is slightly trilobed from above, sharply angular in profile. The nasal cleft is not, or scarcely visible from above, contacting the first labial below and sometimes completely dividing the nasal. Rostral is oval from above and longer than broad (about 1.5 times). Scales are 24 rows at mid body. Body diameter is 40-70 times in its length.

There is more than one species included within the putative species *R. unguirostris* Peters, 1867 as recognized by most herpetologists at the current time. Included in the genus *Robinwitttyphlops* Hoser, 2013 is the species *R. jackyhoserae* Hoser, 2013 and the other species described herein.

Also, the species originally described as *Typhlops yirrikalae* Kinghorn, 1942 was erroneously placed in the genus *Suewitttyphlops* Hoser, 2013 by Hoser

Habitat of *Libertadictus britishbombedhere* sp. nov. that occurs in the area of the Stuart Range, west of Lake Eyre in South Australia.



(2013a) and conforms to the diagnosis for this genus (amended from Hoser 2013) as given herein.

Distribution: Known from scattered locations across Eastern and Northern Australia.

Etymology: Named in honour of Robin Witt breeder of Great Dane dogs from Heathcote, Victoria, Australia. Refer to Hoser (2013a) for details.

Content: *Robinwitttyphlops unguirostris* (Peters, 1867) (type species), *R. anothersp* sp. nov. (this paper), *R. datstink* sp. nov. (this paper), *R. fukdat* sp. nov. (this paper), *R. jackyhoserae* Hoser, 2013 (this paper), *R. stinkey* sp. nov. (this paper), *R. yirrikalae* (Kingham, 1942).

GENUS PATTERSONTYPHLOPS HOSER, 2013

LSIDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:064FCC17-D76E-43F6-AE5D-57138A762FDF

Type Species: *Typhlops wiedii* Peters, 1867.

Diagnosis: *Pattersontyphlops* Hoser, 2013 are separated from all other Australian Blind Snakes by the following unique suite of characters: Blackish-brown or brown dorsally, sometimes with slight lightening at the snout or alternatively a dark streak

on the snout, creamish-white or yellowish cream below, sometimes with a pinkish hue. Dorsally there are sometimes 16-18 narrow dark stripes and occasionally blackening of the tail. The snout is bluntly rounded from above and in profile, or bluntly angular. The nasal cleft does not divide the nasal, which may or not be visible from above and joins the second labial below. The rostral is either broadly oval to nearly circular from above. 18-20 midbody scale rows. Body diameter is 30-80 times in its length and doesn't exceed 30 cm maximum, usually attaining about two thirds this as adults.

Distribution: Northern two thirds of continental Australia, except for the driest parts, including most of the relevant parts of the Western Australia, Northern Territory and South Australia.

Etymology: Named in honour of Sandee Patterson of near Brisbane, Queensland, Australia in recognition of her contributions to herpetology. Refer to Hoser (2013a) for details.

Content: *Pattersontyphlops wiedii* (Peters, 1867) (Type species), *P. fossor* Shea, 2015, *P. kamilaroi* sp. nov. (this paper).

GENUS SLOPTYPHLOPS HOSER, 2013

LSIDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:0EBA3EB0-229B-44D1-9C4C-2D5D37A10A27

Type Species: *Typhlops ammodytes* Montague, 1914.

Diagnosis: The genus *Sloptyphlops* Hoser, 2013 are separated from all other Australian Blind Snakes by the following suite of characters: Light brown, brown or blackish above, whitish below. The dark brown dorsal colour does not form into obvious or semi-distinct longitudinal streaks (in contrast to the related genus *Aa gen. nov.* where such longitudinal streaks are seen in adults). The snout is entirely rounded from above and in profile, ranging from being somewhat blunt to slightly angular. The nasal cleft which may or may not be visible from above (if it is, then only just), joins the preocular, continuing in front of the nostril and often dividing the nasal. The rostral is relatively narrow and constricted from above, versus oval in the genus *Aa gen. nov.* (this paper) being longer than broad and relatively narrow. 20 midbody scale rows. Body diameter 30-70 times in its length. Average adult maximum length is 25 cm and doesn't exceed 35 cm.

Distribution: Northern half of continental Australia, extending further south in the eastern third of Australia.

Etymology: Named in honor of our Great Dane dog, Slop (sometimes spelt Slopp), who for a total of 12 years (before he died in 2012) did a sterling job of protecting the Snakebusters reptile education facility from thieves and other undesirables and also entertaining children as needed.

It is fitting that animals that make up such an important part of the human world, should be a part of our heritage in terms of the nomenclature for our biodiversity.

Content: *Sloptyphlops ammodytes* (Montague, 1914) (type species), *S. antmuncha sp. nov.* (this paper), *S. cashcow sp. nov.* (this paper), *S. datsquirmy sp. nov.* (this paper), *S. dhuae sp. nov.* (this paper), *S. diversus* (Waite, 1894), *S. exy sp. nov.* (this paper), *S. faarkinelle sp. nov.* (this paper), *S. fidesi sp. nov.* (this paper), *S. flyingfoamassacre sp. nov.* (this paper), *S. hawkeswoodi sp. nov.* (this paper), *S. jarrodbinghami sp. nov.* (this paper), *S. johnpati sp. nov.* (this paper), *S. iancooki sp. nov.* (this paper), *S. ivebeenshaton sp. nov.* (this paper), *S. murderingpoliceorum sp. nov.* (this paper), *S. murraybrucei* (Hoser, 2013), *S. richardwellsi* (Hoser, 2013), *S. shittythingie sp. nov.* (this paper), *S. timhudsoni sp. nov.* (this paper).

GENUS MANTYPHLOPS HOSER, 2013

LSIDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:4DC3C2E6-1A31-450F-8BB6-84308DBCFCB84

Type Species: *Typhlops (Onychocephalus) guntheri* Peters, 1865.

Diagnosis: *Mantypophlops* Hoser, 2013 are separated

from all other Australian Blind Snakes by the following suite of characters: Brown to almost black above, merging on the lower flanks with the pale brown to creamish venter. The tail is blackish, as is often the snout or head. The snout is bluntly rounded from above and in profile, sometimes slightly angular or truncate. The nasal cleft isn't visible from above, or if so, only just, contacting the second labial below. Rostral is subcircular from above, scarcely to much longer than broad. 18 midbody rows. Body diameter 40-90 times in its length. Adults average 25 cm and don't exceed 40 cm.

Separated from the morphologically similar genus *But gen. nov.* by having over 500 ventrals (versus usually 450-490 in *But gen. nov.*) and a black spot small eye, versus tiny and barely visible eye spot in *But gen. nov.*.

Distribution: Western Australia and adjoining parts of the Northern Territory, including Arnhem Land.

Etymology: Named in honor of Daniel Man, of Mitcham, Victoria, Australia for services to accounting in Australia as well as unrecognized work in wildlife conservation by doing considerable "back office" work for the leading wildlife conservation business Snakebusters: Australia's best reptiles shows (including as previously known as "Death Adder Services"), for more than 20 years.

Content: *Mantypophlops guentheri* (Peters, 1865) (type species), *M. donoteatit sp. nov.* (this paper), *M. wow sp. nov.* (this paper), *M. yes sp. nov.* (this paper).

GENUS JACKYHOSERTYPHLOPS HOSER, 2013

LSIDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:284D95B9-A369-4314-B397-8A8DF5896C25

Type Species: *Ramphotyphlops longissimus* Aplin, 1998

Diagnosis: *Jackyhosertyphlops* Hoser, 2013 and *Zzzzz gen. nov.* are separated from other Australian Blind Snakes by the following suite of characters: Elongate and slender build. Purplish-brown or pinkish brown above, grey-white below. The head and tail or just tail may have blackening. The snout is rounded and sometimes slightly trilobed from above, bluntly angular in profile, sometimes with a strongly hooked, recurved "beak" in profile. Nasal cleft completely divides the nasal, not visible from above, contacting the preocular, extending slightly beyond the nostril. The rostral is large and subcircular, about as long as wide, slightly longer than wide ranging up to being noticeably longer than broad. 16-18 midbody rows. Body diameter is 70-80 times in its length. Average adult length is about 25-30 cm and not exceeding 45 cm.

Jackyhosertyphlops are separated from *Zzzzz gen. nov.* by having a sharp transverse keel forming a distinct cutting edge to the snout, separating this genus from the morphologically similar genus *Zzzzz gen. nov.* which does not have this character or if so, is reduced. *Zzzzz gen. nov.* have more than 700

Habitat of *Manttyphlops donoteatit* sp. nov. which is a range-restricted endemic found mainly in the hillier parts of the Alligator Rivers drainage basin in the Northern Territory, Australia.



ventrals, versus less than 700 in *Jackyhosertyphlops* Hoser, 2013.

Distribution: Most parts of arid western and central Australia, mainly in the northern half and mainly in the Northern Territory and Western Australia with a preponderance for elevated areas and usually absent from expansive low-lying regions.

Etymology: Named in honour of my daughter Jacky Hoser in recognition of over ten years of valuable work in wildlife conservation, research and education (as of 2013), and now over 20 years as of 2025.

Content: *Jackyhosertyphlops longissimus* (Aplin, 1998) (Type species), *J. adelynhoserae* Hoser, 2013, *J. gambellae* sp. nov. (this paper), *J. gregswedoshi* sp. nov. (this paper), *J. haydnmcphiei* sp. nov. (this paper), *J. lachlandundas* sp. nov. (this paper), *J. leavemealone* sp. nov. (this paper), *J. leptosomus* (Robb, 1972), *J. leverorum* sp. nov. (this paper), *J. mariolisi* sp. nov. (this paper), *J. minimus* (Kinghorn, 1929), *J. nema* (Shea and Horner, 1997), *J. nigroterminatus* (Parker, 1931), *J. obtusifrons* Ellis and Doughty, 2017, *J. ohno* sp. nov. (this paper), *J. shitbomb* sp. nov. (this paper), *J. systemos* Ellis and Doughty, 2017, *J. timbukthree* sp. nov. (this paper), *J. toriswedoshae* sp. nov. (this paper), *J. tylertritti* sp. nov. (this paper), *J. yetanotherone* sp. nov. (this paper).

GENUS *KERRYTPHLOPS* HOSER, 2013

LSIDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:2977DBC4-45A9-494E-B91B-2683F8AB2071

Type Species: *Typhlops proximus* Waite, 1893.

Diagnosis: *Kerrytyphlops* Hoser, 2013 are separated from all other Australian Blind Snakes by the following suite of characters: Rich dark brown above, fading to creamish-white below, sometimes with a small dark patch on either side of the vent. The snout is very bluntly tri-lobed from above, angular in profile. The nasal cleft is visible from above, joining the first labial below. Rostral is subcircular from above, about as long as broad. 20 mid body scale rows, body diameter is 20-40 times its length, with an average adult length of 50 cm, but known to attain nearly 75 cm on some occasions.

Kerrytyphlops Hoser, 2013 was monotypic for the type species until the publication of this paper.

Distribution: Eastern Australia, including north Queensland and Victoria.

Etymology: Named in honour of Robert (Bob) Kerr of Mirboo North, Victoria, Australia for his valuable work in exposing police and judicial corruption. Refer to Hoser (2013a) for details.

Content: *Kerrytyphlops proximus* (Waite, 1893) (type species), *K. corruptpoliceorum* sp. nov. (this paper).

GENUS BENNETTYPHLOPS HOSER, 2013

LSIDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:1EB1B51A-2D2A-4963-B5B6-C46087188F10

Type Species: *Typhlops pinguis* Waite, 1897.

Diagnosis: *Bennetttyphlops* Hoser, 2013 are separated from all other Australian Blind Snakes by the following suite of characters: Large, very stout build and dark in colour, usually purplish-grey, dark brown, brownish-grey or blackish, attaining up to 50 cm total length. The snout is very slightly angular in profile. There are 20-22 midbody scale rows and the nasal cleft proceeds from the second labial. The snout is subrectangular when viewed from above, weakly trilobed in appearance due to the slight swelling above the nostrils and it is short roundish and slightly angular in profile, sometimes with a distinct hook at the end. From above the rostral is slightly to much longer than wide and about half as wide as the head (species dependent). The nostril is inferior, slightly swollen and about midway between the rostral and preocular. Attains up to 50 cm in total length and the tail is 2.6-5.7 per cent of the total length. 278-377 ventrals, 10-19 subcaudals.

Distribution: Drier parts of southern Australia.

Etymology: Named in honour of Steve Bennett of Narre Warren South, Victoria, Australia, formerly of Newcastle, NSW and Rowville, Victoria, in recognition for valuable work and contributions to the hands-on conservation of reptiles in Australia and globally in the period spanning the late 1980's to the present (year 2025). Refer to Hoser (2013a) for more details.

Content: *Bennetttyphlops pinguis* (Waite, 1897) (type species), *B. bennetti* sp. nov. (this paper), *B. bicolor* (Jan, 1864), *B. donothandlewithtongs* sp. nov. (this paper), *B. preissi* (Jan, 1864), *B. splendidus* (Aplin, 1998).

GENUS SILVATYPHLOPS HOSER, 2013

LSIDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:777A957D-0E5B-4261-926E-CC70CA6D1752

Type Species: *Ramphotyphlops silvia* Ingram and Covacevich, 1993.

Diagnosis: *Silvatyphlops* Hoser, 2013 is separated from all other Australian Blind Snakes by the following suite of characters: 20 mid body scale rows; nasal cleft visible from above, the nasal cleft does not completely divide the nasal scale, extending from near the rostral scale to the second upper labial scale; snout is rounded from above and in profile. The snake is of very small size and slender build, being very thread like and perhaps Australia's smallest species, the genus being monotypic for the species taxon *A. (Silvatyphlops) silvia*. Colouration is shiny black above, white below, with jagged, very sharply delineated junction between upper and lower colours. In some specimens the lateral edges of the scales appear pale, creating 11 broad black stripes.

Distribution: Known only from a narrow band of white coastal sands between Fraser Island and

Noosa in south-east Queensland. They are known to inhabit rainforests, woodlands, heaths, sheltering in sand under logs and leaf litter (Wilson, 2005).

Etymology: Named in honour of Tony Silva an expert in aviculture and parrots in particular in recognition for his largely unrecognized work in captive breeding birds and conservation in general. He did a long prison term after blowing the whistle on corruption within the USA government and sections of aviculture in the USA, having faced a series of trumped-up charges.

Content: *Silvatyphlops silvia* (Ingram and Covacevich, 1993) (monotypic).

GENUS BUCKLEYTYPHLOPS HOSER, 2013

LSIDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:E40D2449-1D12-4A08-A252-12809B3798F2

Type species: *Ramphotyphlops aspina* Couper, Covacevich and Wilson, 1998.

Diagnosis: *Buckleytyphlops* Hoser, 2013 is readily separated from all other Australian Blind Snakes by the following suite of characters: Most notably a lack of a caudal spine. It is further distinguished from other Australian Blind Snakes by the following characters combined: 18 midbody scale rows; 403-437 ventrals; the snout is bluntly rounded from above, rounded and flattened laterally; rostral elongate from above; nasal not completely divided by nasal cleft, clearly visible from above and joining second supralabial below.

Distribution: Only three specimens are recorded, two from near Barcaldine in central Queensland, Australia on the boundary of open forest on heavy red soils of desert uplands and treeless grasslands of Mitchell Grass downs (*B. aspina*) and near Julia Creek, north central Queensland on rocky grassland (*B. sincerus* sp. nov.).

Etymology: Named in honour of Robert (Bob) Buckley a well-known herpetologist of Herberton in North Queensland, who was one of the first people in Australia to breed large numbers of Green Pythons (*Chondropython viridis*). Refer to Hoser (2013a) and Hoser (1996) for extensive details.

Content: *Buckleytyphlops aspina* (Couper, Covacevich and Wilson, 1998) (type species); *B. sincerus* sp. nov. (this paper).

GENUS SHEATYPHLOPS HOSER, 2013

LSIDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:655C2AD1-D72D-4482-BC3A-074803C7A7DB

Type species: *Typhlops batillus* Waite, 1894.

Diagnosis: *Sheatyphlops* Hoser, 2013 is separated from all other Australian Blind Snakes by the following suite of characters: 24 midbody scale rows, with a bullet-shaped head, the nasal cleft is contacting the second labial.

The genus is monotypic for the species *Anilius (Sheatyphlops) batillus* Waite, 1894.

Distribution: Known only from the holotype of the type species, ostensibly collected at Wagga Wagga,



Selwyn Ranges district habitat for *Suewitttyphlops romani* sp. nov. and other endemic species in north-west Queensland, Australia.



New South Wales in the 1800's, since registered at the Australian Museum, Sydney, Australia with the specimen number R42756.

Comment: There is a possibility the taxon may be extinct, due to the intense habitat degradation in the area over the past 200 years. There is a possibility that the specimen is not even from Wagga Wagga in New South Wales, Australia.

While I would recommend that the New South Wales National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), do an audit of the region in order to find any specimens, I note that as an entity, this incredibly corrupt and self-serving government department has no interest in wildlife conservation whatsoever and so, the conservation status of the taxon is likely to remain unknown for the foreseeable future!

In fact if the department were abolished, private individuals may take up the search for the species, which is something no one will attempt at present for fear of prosecution or jail for the heinous crime of "interfere with wildlife".

This is a serious and jailable criminal charge only ever laid in Australia on people with a genuine interest in wildlife and who conduct valuable research, rather than being enforced on the ratbag individuals who go out and kill wildlife in cold blood.

Etymology: *Sheatyphlops* Hoser, 2013 is named in honour of Glenn Shea of Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, the final editor of the reptile journal *Herpetofauna* in recognition of his lifelong interest in reptiles, most notably skinks of the genus *Tiliqua*. Refer to Hoser (2013a) for details.

Unfortunately Shea has also engaged in multiple egregious acts of taxonomic vandalism over some decades (details in Hoser 2023, 2024b).

He was also one of the leaders trying to have the names of Wells and Wellington (1984, 1985) formally erased from the scientific record in 1987 (Shea 1987).

That attempt, via an application to the International Commission of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN) (via Shea 1987) failed in 1991 (ICZN 1991).

GENUS *SIVADICTUS* WELLS AND WELLINGTON, 1984

Type species: *Anilius nigrescens* Gray, 1845.

Diagnosis: The five species, being *S. nigrescens*, *S. reginae*, *S. altmani* sp. nov., *S. graysoni* sp. nov. and *S. greatstinkofaustralia* sp. nov., comprise the entirety of the genus *Sivadictus* Wells and Wellington, 1985.

Sivadictus as a genus is separated from all other Blind Snakes by the following suite of characters: Purplish pink brown to nearly black above, cream, yellow or pinkish below. Snout is rounded from above and in profile. Nasal cleft is long, joining the second supralabial or the suture between the first and second labials, projecting forward and upwards to partially divide the nasal, visible from above. Rostral is large, oval or elliptical, sometimes horseshoe shaped, sometimes almost rectangular and if so, with a curved

upper edge, usually much longer than broad. 22 mid body scale rows. Body diameter is 35-60 times in its length; the tail terminates in a spine.

The genus *Sivadictus* is separated from the genus *Acktyphlops* Hoser, 2013 by the fact that the nasal cleft does not completely divide the nasal scale, extending from near the rostral scale to the first upper labial scale; as opposed to the second upper labial scale or suture between the first and second in genus *Acktyphlops* Hoser, 2013. Adults of the genus *Sivadictus* are pinkish, pinkish-purple, or purplish brown as opposed to greyish brown in *Acktyphlops* Hoser, 2013.

In the genus *Sivadictus* the ventral surfaces are pinkish white with a weak ragged junction between the upper and lower colours or otherwise defined by lighter scales with dark centres as opposed to an evenly merging darker upper and lighter lower colouration in *Acktyphlops* Hoser, 2013.

Distribution: Coast, ranges, nearby slopes and adjacent plains of eastern Australia, south of the tropic of Capricorn and not including Tasmania and South Australia.

Etymology: From Wells and Wellington (1984):

"The name *Sivadictus* means devoted to destruction and restoration."

This information was inadvertently omitted from Hoser (2013a).

Content: *Sivadictus nigrescens* (Gray, 1845) (type species), *S. reginae* (Boulenger, 1889), *S. altmani* sp. nov., *S. graysoni* sp. nov. and *S. greatstinkofaustralia* sp. nov..

GENUS *ACKTYPHLOPS* HOSER, 2013

LSIDurn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:CA41F291-BEEE-4549-8C7D-B73D3E029279

Type species: *Typhlops polygrammicus* Schlegel, 1839.

Diagnosis: The five species, being *S. nigrescens*, *S. reginae*, *S. altmani* sp. nov., *S. graysoni* sp. nov. and *S. greatstinkofaustralia* sp. nov., comprise the entirety of the genus *Sivadictus* Wells and Wellington, 1985.

Sivadictus as a genus is separated from all other Blind Snakes by the following suite of characters: Purplish pink-brown to nearly black above, cream, yellow or pinkish below. Snout is rounded from above and in profile. Nasal cleft is long, joining the second supralabial or the suture between the first and second labials, projecting forward and upwards to partially divide the nasal, visible from above. Rostral is large, oval or elliptical, sometimes horseshoe shaped, sometimes almost rectangular and if so, with a curved upper edge, usually much longer than broad. 22 mid body scale rows. Body diameter is 35-60 times in its length; the tail terminates in a spine.

The genus *Sivadictus* is separated from the genus *Acktyphlops* Hoser, 2013 by the fact that the nasal cleft does not completely divide the nasal scale, extending from near the rostral scale to the first

upper labial scale; as opposed to the second upper labial scale or suture between the first and second in genus *Acktytyphlops* Hoser, 2013. Adults of the genus *Sivadictus* are pinkish, pinkish-purple, or purplish brown as opposed to greyish brown in *Acktytyphlops* Hoser, 2013. In the genus *Sivadictus* the ventral surfaces are pinkish white with a weak ragged junction between the upper and lower colours or otherwise defined by lighter scales with dark centres as opposed to an evenly merging darker upper and lighter lower colouration in *Acktytyphlops* Hoser, 2013.

Comment: The name *Pseudotyphlops* Fitzinger, 1843 as a genus name for the taxon *polygrammicus* is not available as it was pre-occupied for another taxon in the family Uropeltidae, namely *Pseudotyphlops philippinus* Müller, 1832, the genus name first proposed by Schlegel in 1839.

The illegally coined name *Sundatyphlops* Hedges *et al.* 2014 is a junior objective synonym for *Acktytyphlops* Hoser, 2013 and therefore should never be used as correct.

Peter Uetz, controlled as a sidekick of Wolfgang Wüster has been aware of this fact since 2013 and 2014 and yet as of 2025 persists in falsely claiming on his website "The Reptile Database" that *Sundatyphlops* Hedges *et al.* 2014 is the first and only available ICZN name for the *Typhlops polygrammicus* Schlegel, 1839, species group.

Peter Uetz is notorious for running false narratives on his website.

He recently deleted over 1,000 names and papers of Russian authors from his "The Reptile Database" in protest over the Ukraine war.

His "The Reptile Database" is explicitly not ICZN Code compliant and he has published material on "The Reptile Database" explicitly calling for the destruction of the ICZN and the governing code of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* (Ride *et al.* 1999).

His "The Reptile Database" has been set up for and is run as, a vehicle to usurp the role and authority of the International Commission of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN).

Etymology: *Acktytyphlops* Hoser, 2013 was named in honour of a family pet dog, an Akita, named *Acanthophis* (in recognition of the elapid snake), whom we called Acky for short. The dog successfully guarded the Snakebusters facility for about two years before an illegal theft by officers of Manningham Council, who unlawfully entered our locked property, where they then kidnapped the dog in 2004. This theft of the dog in revenge for their dog control and bylaws officer, Mike Clark being named as corrupt in the book *Victoria Police Corruption-2*, (Hoser, 2009), in a case where he committed perjury in legal proceedings in 1994, where he made a written statement in the form of a sworn court document, later proven to be false by the Optus Phone company.

It should be noted also, that I had never had prior adverse dealings with this man, Mike Clark and had merely detailed his dishonesty and corruption in the book in the public interest.

At the Manningham Council dog pound and works depot in Blackburn Road North, corrupt council officers, under the direction of the notorious Chief Executive Officer (CEO) John Bennie had the dog tied to a pole and then bashed with another metal pole, resulting in permanent and irreparable head and brain damage as well as injuries on most other parts of the dog's body.

A council officer outraged at the extreme act of cruelty contacted our family and advised us that the dog had been kidnapped by council officers and after a series of denials by the officers that they had illegally taken the dog or even had the dog, the council officers admitted that they had taken the dog and injured it.

The injuries to the dog were so severe that the dog did not recover and so had to be euthanized.

I make no apologies for naming a reptile subgenus in honour of a loyal animal.

See also for the etymology of *Sloppytyphlops iancooki* sp. nov. in this paper.

Content: *Acktytyphlops polygrammicus* (Schlegel, 1839) (type species), *A. brongersmai* (Hahn, 1980), *A. elberti* (Roux, 1911), *A. erycinus* (Werner, 1901), *A. florensis* (Boulenger, 1887), *A. gedyei* sp. nov. (this paper), *A. robertsi* (Couper, Covacevich and Wilson, 1998), *A. torresianus* (Boulenger, 1889), *A. undecimlineatus* (Hahn, 1980).

GENUS MAXHOSERUS HOSER, 2012

Type species: *Eryx braminus* Daudin, 1803 (Known in most contemporary texts as *Ramphotyphlops braminus* or *Typhlops braminus*).

Diagnosis: *Maxhoserus* gen. nov. is separated from all other Blind Snakes by the following suite of characters: Rostral narrow, the upper portion one third the width of the head, not extending quite to the level of the eyes; nostril between two nasals, the anterior (lower) of which extends to the upper surface of the head and is in contact inferiorly with the preocular; prefrontal nearly as large as the ocular, in contact with the second and third labials; eyes distinct; upper head scales are a little larger than the scales on the body; four upper labials; diameter of body is 35-55 times in the total length; tail is as long as or a little longer than broad, ending in a spine. 20 rows of scales around the body. Brown to blackish above, lighter inferiorly; the snout, anal region and the tail is usually whitish.

Distribution: Boulenger 1893, reported the species "*braminus*" as being native to South Asia, the Islands of the Indian Ocean and Africa south of the Equator. However more recent records give the species a global range including Australia. *Maxhoserus braminus* is the only species of snake known to be *pathenogenetic*. The other species in this genus believed to be most closely related to *Maxhoserus*

braminus is *M. pammeces* Günther, 1864 and it is native to India, giving a good indication of the geographical origins of the genus.

Comment: *Indotyphlops* Hedges *et al.*, 2014, with type species: *Typhlops pammeces* Günther 1864 is an illegally coined junior synonym of *Maxhoserus* Hoser, 2012 and should not be used as correct.

Likewise, *Virgotyphlops* Wallach 2020 and 2021 is yet another illegally coined junior objective synonym of *Maxhoserus* Hoser, 2012, so if a dual nomenclature won't screw things up, a three way one will!

Refer to earlier comments about the Wolfgang Wüster / Adam Britton criminal gang and their war against the International Commission of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN) earlier in this paper.

Etymology: Named in honour of my cousin Max Hoser of Liverpool and Campbelltown, New South Wales, Australia for various contributions to herpetology in the 1970's and 1980's.

Content: *Maxhoserus braminus* (Daudin, 1803), *M. conradi* (Peters, 1874), *M. jerdoni* (Boulenger, 1890), *M. khoratensis* (Taylor, 1962), *M. lankaensis* (Taylor, 1947), *M. leucomelas* (Boulenger, 1890), *M. malcolmi* (Taylor, 1947), *M. pammeces* (Günther, 1864), *M. tenebrarum* (Taylor, 1947), *M. veddae* (Taylor, 1947) and *M. violaceus* (Taylor, 1947).

CLARIFICATIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO SPELLINGS OF PREVIOUS BLINDSNAKE NAMES AND ZOOBANK REGISTRATIONS

In the paper Hoser (2012d), the genus name *Crottytyphlops* Hoser, 2012 is spelt correctly 15 times, including in the Abstract keywords and the title for the new genus at the description.

Within the description itself the spelling "*Crottytyphlops*" is used once.

That was a typographical error.

As first reviser (this paper) I confirm that the correct genus name is *Crottytyphlops*.

As of now (end April 2025), the Zoobank listing carries the correct name and spelling of "*Crottytyphlops* Hoser, 2012"

Also in the paper Hoser (2012d), the genus name *Freudtyphlops* Hoser, 2012 is spelt correctly 10 times, including in the Abstract keywords and the title for the new genus at the description.

Within the description itself the spelling *Fredutyphlops*" is used once.

That was a typographical error.

As first reviser (this paper) I confirm that the correct genus name is *Freudtyphlops*.

As of now (end April 2025), the Zoobank listing carries the name and spelling of "*Freudtyphlops* Hoser, 2012".

To make it 100 percent clear, the correct genus names are as follows:

Crottytyphlops Hoser, 2012
and

Freudtyphlops Hoser, 2012.

The tribe Maxhoserini Hoser, 2012, was inadvertently listed in Zoobank as a genus.

That error was also corrected in 2025. In the paper of Hoser (2012d) it was correctly listed as a tribe.

I thank Keith Edkins, an entomologist from the UK, for his drawing these errors to my attention (typographical and Zoobank listings) on 7 March 2025 enabling them to be corrected either prior to the publication of this paper and/or by virtue of the publication of this paper.

Richard Pyle and Thomas Pape at the ICZN (in one capacity or other) are also thanked for confirming the best way to deal with the preceding issue.

ILLEGALLY COINED GENUS BLINDSNAKE NAMES BY WOLFGANG WÜSTER AND HIS GANG OF THIEVES.

A criminal gang, led by the notorious Wolfgang Wüster of Wales, masquerading as scientists have for some decades been in a state of war with the International Commission for Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN).

Their published aim is the destruction of the ICZN via themselves disobeying the rules of science and the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* (Ride *et al.* 1999) a rule book that governs scientific communications and naming of organisms.

They do this by illegally renaming species, genera and families of reptiles and other animals in breach of the code and copyright laws. They then hack and sabotage worldwide databases and the like to get others to use their names as "correct" ICZN names, while the Wüster gang are fully aware that their illegally coined names are not correct.

As of 2025, over 130 entities have had illegally coined synonyms created by the Wüster gang and peddled globally as correct.

Over 400 members of the Wüster gang are listed by name in the Wüster gang terrorism memo, available online in their "paper" Wüster *et al.* (2021).

When not engaging in egregious taxonomic vandalism the Wüster gang are engaged in hard core criminal acts.

The examples are too numerous to publish here and are so outrageous as to be generally described as "unbelievable".

This unbelievability of what they do is one of the reasons why that as a group, they continue to get away with it.

These unbelievable acts include Don Broadley and Bill Branch kidnapping young black boys in Africa for anal sex. As if that is not bad enough, another high-profile member of the Wüster gang is Adam Britton. In 2023 he pled guilty to anally raping people's pet dogs that he kidnapped.

He posted his crimes to others in the Wüster gang on the dark web. Britton is now in jail till at least 2028

and was only arrested and charged after falling foul of a more powerful member of the same Wüster gang whom he operated with as a partner for many years. Another member of the gang in Australia whose name has been suppressed by the courts was found in civil courts to have raped multiple women over 1,000 times, engaged in acts of animal abuse and cruelty and other serious crimes against very young children. As he is an ex-police officer, the police have not followed the instructions of the County Court judge and charged the man, so he remains free and has come to the attention of the courts again for alleged crimes against women, who have successfully got restraining orders against him.

Of course those court orders have been disobeyed! Another serial trademark infringer in the group pled guilty to shooting aboriginals, which is itself unusual in Australia. Usually people who shoot and kill aboriginals get bravery awards.

See for example the etymologies in this paper for *Sloppytyphlops fildesi* sp. nov., *S. dhuae* sp. nov., *S. johnpati* sp. nov. and *S. murderingpoliceorum* sp. nov. in this paper.

Meanwhile another member of the Wüster gang, Jamie Benbow, of Bendigo, Victoria, has done stints in jail after being found guilty in the courts of crimes of violence, stalking, harassment and similar as well as dealing in commercial quantities of illegal drugs.

In case it was missed, Benbow also ran over someone while high on Ice (a toxic illicit drug).

Better known illegally coined synonym names by the Wolfgang Wüster gang are *Malayopython* Reynolds, Niemiller and Revell, 2013 which is an illegal duplicate for *Broghammerus* Hoser, 2004, *Leiopython meridionalis* Schleich, 2014 as an illegal duplicate for *Leiopython hosei* Hoser, 2000 and *Afronaja* Wallach Wüster and Broadley, 2009 which is an illegal duplicate for *Spracklandus* Hoser, 2009.

As this paper is about Blind Snakes, it is relevant that the illegally coined Blindsnake names be presented here for readers so that they know the correct ICZN names for the relevant entities and avoid using the illegally coined ones.

These illegally coined Blind Snake genus names are as follows:

***Amerotyphlops* Hedges et al., 2014 is an illegally coined junior synonym of *Altmantyphlops* Hoser, 2012.**

***Antillotyphlops* Hedges et al., 2014 is an illegally coined junior synonym of *Mosestyphlops* Hoser, 2012.**

***Asiatyphlops* Hedges et al., 2014 is an illegally coined junior synonym of *Argyrophis* Gray, 1845.**

***Indotyphlops* Hedges et al., 2014 is an illegally coined junior synonym of *Maxhoserus* Hoser,**

2012.

***Virgotyphlops* Wallach 2020 and 2021 is yet another illegally coined junior synonym of *Maxhoserus* Hoser, 2012, so if a dual nomenclature won't screw things up, a three way one will!**

***Madatyphlops* Hedges et al., 2014 is an illegally coined junior synonym of *Ronhoserus* Hoser, 2012.**

***Malayotyphlops* Hedges et al., 2014 is an illegally coined junior synonym of *Katrinahosertyphlops* Hoser, 2012.**

***Sundatyphlops* Hedges et al., 2014 is an illegally coined junior synonym of *Acktyphlops* Hoser, 2012.**

***Xerotyphlops* Hedges et al., 2014 is an illegally coined junior synonym of *Lenhosertyphlops* Hoser, 2012.**

The names of Gray and Hoser should be used as the correct ICZN scientific names.

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