

The adductor mandibulae in *Elaphe* and related genera (Serpentes: Colubridae)

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M. Vences, J. Köhler, T. Ziegler, W. Böhme (eds): Herpetologia Bonnensis II.
Proceedings of the 13th Congress of the Societas Europaea Herpetologica. pp. 19-22 (2006)

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Abstract

In this paper I describe the jaw adductor musculature in colubrid snakes that formerly belonged to the genus *Elaphe* Fitzinger. The group studied shows a high level of homoplasy, and particular lineages exhibit a mixture of advanced and primitive characters. The presence of the levator anguli oris in this group is questioned.

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