

CHINESE BEAUTY SNAKE

(ORTHRIOPHIS TAENIURA TAENIURA)

ANIMAL FACTS

WILD LOCALITY:

China, & Surrounding Areas in Asia

HABITAT:

Rainforests, Mountain Forests, & other Wooded Areas.

LIFESTYLE:

Semi-Arboreal (may be found on the ground or in trees)

DIET:

Mammals, Birds, Occasional Reptiles, Amphibians, & Eggs (carnivore)

LIFE EXPECTANCY:

~ 15-25 years in the care of humans (less in the wild)

ADULT SIZE: ~ 4-6 ft & 1,200-1,500g

ACTIVITY: Cathemeral (active in the day or night)

CONSERVATION STATUS: Least Concern

THREATS:

Habitat Loss, Human Influence, & Importation

FUN FACTS:

The Chinese Beauty Snake is only one of the several types of Asian Rat Snakes, known as the "Beauty Snakes." They are called this because of their striking patterns and colors, as well as their smooth glossy scales. They are a type of Rat Snake, and completely harmless to humans. Instead of using any venom to subdue their prey, they simply overpower whatever animal they need to consume with use of their quick bites and muscular bodies. Not only do they have very beautiful patterns and colors, but also a dark marking on their face connected to their eye known as a "false eye spot." This comes in handy to confuse prey as to where the actual eye is located while the snake is grabbing them, hopefully keeping their eyes safe.