

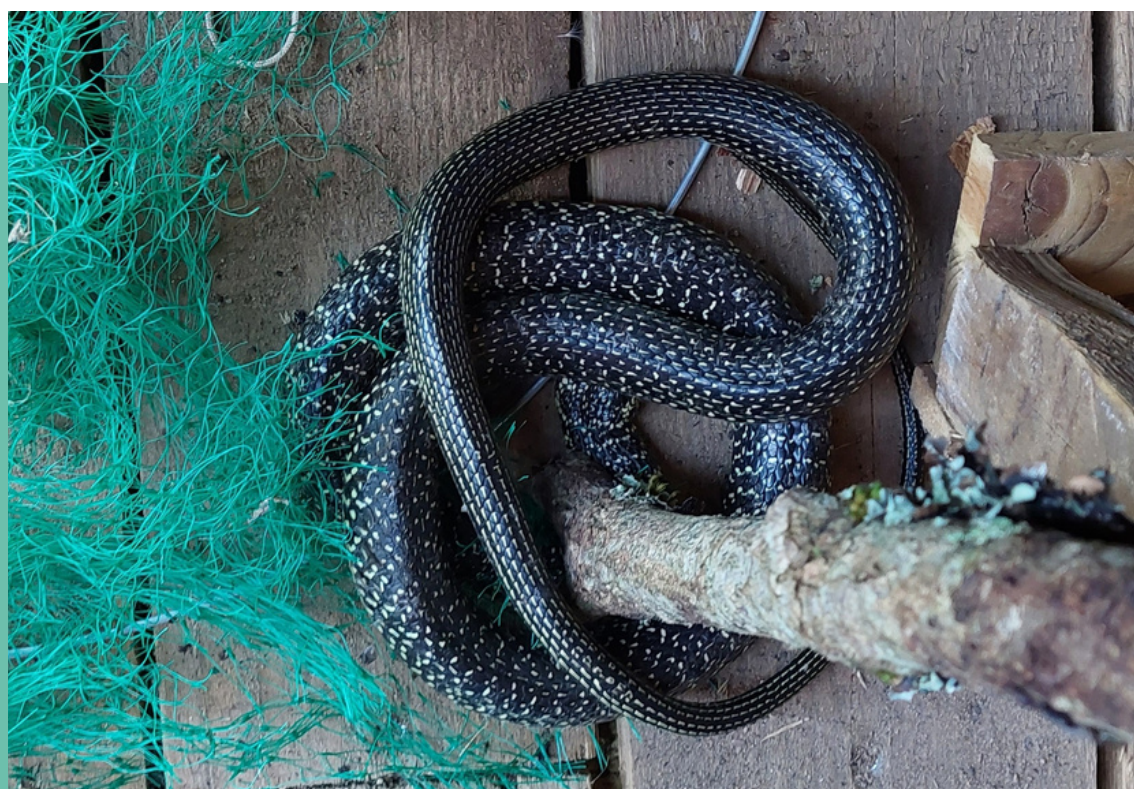
Green and black racer snake

Latin name : *Hierophis viridiflavu*

Size : up to 1.5m

Lifespan : up to 12 years

Green-and-yellow racer snakes are actually black and yellow, but they look green when you see them in the grass. However, it is not on the ground that you are most likely to see them, as this snake has the particularity of easily climbing vertically and is often found in shrubs. It is a protected species.



Garter snakes have a remarkable sense of chemoreception thanks to their bifid tongue. This captures chemical information suspended in the air. Each strand of the tongue collects odorous particles in different concentrations, enabling the snake to locate the direction and type of prey detected.

The odorous molecules are trapped in the mucus of the tongue and carried back into the animal's mouth. There, they are transmitted to a specialised organ called the Jacobson's organ. Located under the nasal cavity, it analyses the odour data and sends it to the snake's brain to create a 3D olfactory image, even in total darkness. In snakes, chemoreception predominates over all the other senses, making their bifid tongue an essential tool for stalking and capturing their prey with extraordinary precision.