

Indochinese Rat Snake – Non Venomous – Not Dangerous



Extra beautiful after hatching – the Indo-Chinese rat snake juvenile doesn't resemble most of the adults which turn dark brown, grey, or black as they mature.

[Last updated: 10 May 2017]

***Ptyas korros* (Indo-Chinese Rat Snake)**

Thais say: (ngoo sing baan)

Length: Adults are just over 1 meter, but can reach near 2 meters.

Range: All over Thailand and most of Asia including: Burma (Myanmar), Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, India, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Laos, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam, Western Malaysia, and Singapore.

Habitat: Anywhere rats and lizards exist in abundance. They aren't found on hills or in mountains, usually just the low-lying areas and where people and garbage are.

Active Time? Diurnal – active during daylight hours.

Food: Rats and other rodents, frogs and lizards. Much prefer rats. These are primarily rodent eaters and they vary little from their diet because there are usually plenty of rats or other rodents available.

Defensive Behavior: Will flee very quickly if given the chance. If agitated, rat snakes bite quickly. Some of them will calm down enough that they can be free-handled without repetitive bites.

Venom Toxicity: No venom that is harmful to humans.

Offspring: Eggs which hatch in early to middle May in Krabi, Thailand.

Notes: These are very common snakes, and are seen a lot because they prefer to be active during the daylight hours. They have very large eyes, which would make one think they can see well at night as well. These snakes can be held without striking (see video below).

Ptyas korros can be silver, grey, or brown – orange looking in color. Scales on the posterior part of the body and on the tail often yellow and edged with black. Underbelly is light yellow. Juvenile Indochinese rat snakes have a transverse series of round whitish spots or narrow yellow transverse bars.

***Ptyas korros* Scientific classification**

Kingdom: Animalia

Phylum: Chordata

Class: Reptilia

Order: Squamata

Suborder: Serpentes

Family: Colubridae

Genus: *Ptyas*

Species: *P. korros*

Binomial name: *Ptyas korros*

(Classified by Schlegel in year 1837.)



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My Indochinese Rat Snake Photos:



Indochinese rat snakes eat predominantly rats and other rodents.

Another photo, showing same snake but darker exposure. It looks more brown toward the tail:



Indochinese rat snakes are silver, black, grey, brown, or orange in color.

Indo-Chinese Rat Snake Video:

Juvenile Indo-Chinese Rat Snake Video