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THE ECOLOGY OF THE REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS IN THE
Burkea africana - Eragrostis pallens SAVANNA OF
THE NYLSVLEY NATURE RESERVE

by

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Submitted in partial fulfilment of the
requirements for the degree of

M Sc (Zoology)

in the
Faculty of Science
University of Pretoria
Pretoria

December 1982



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ABSTRACT

The ecology of reptiles and amphibians in the Burkea africana - Eragrostis pallens savanna is discussed in relation to population size and biomass. Aspects of reptile and amphibian life style with regard to food, feeding, reproduction, growth and movement are discussed.

Population densities and biomass fluctuate both during and between years. Snakes average 3,08/ha with a biomass of 93,36 g/ha, lizards 62,27/ha with a biomass of 64,36 g/ha and amphibians 58,79/ha with a biomass of 593,4 g/ha.

On the Nylsvley Nature Reserve, snake, lizard and amphibian diversity is greatest in the Study Area. The combination of the three groups are termed a herpetofaunal assemblage. This assemblage is then discussed in the light of other similar studies including those concerned with origins and relations.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First and foremost, my gratitude is extended to Prof. J.D. Skinner for his support and guidance. I wish also to thank Dr. C.K. Brain for constructively reviewing the manuscript. The study was undertaken through the auspices of the Director of Nature Conservation and especially Dr. S.M. Hirst who was so involved in the initial outline of the Ecosystem Project. To them I extend my sincere thanks.

During fieldwork, I was ably assisted by several assistants, namely Messrs. P. Makola, D. Ledwaba, J. Makola and J. Kgaladi, who bore the brunt of their idiosyncratic Officer in Charge as well as without complaint the often (for them) horrific task of capturing and handling reptiles and amphibians. I thank them wholeheartedly. Thanks are also due to Mr. & Mrs. K. Hoffman, the Officer in Charge of the Reserve, for their helpfulness and hospitality.

I would also like to thank my various colleagues and the Co-ordinators of the Ecosystem Project: Messrs B.J. Huntley, J. Watson, T. Harrison, I. Temby, R. Munro, I. Zimmerman, B. Coetzee, R.D. Carr, W. Tarboton and Mr. & Mrs. E. Grei; Dr. C. Scholtz for help with the laborious identification of invertebrates from stomach contents; Messrs. R. Newbery, W. Petersen, Mss. L. Stanton and L. Dempers for a number of the illustrations and for their friendship and support; and Mrs. E. du Plessis who assisted in many ways.

Finally, extensive gratitude is expressed to my always willing and able parents for their support and who initiated my interest in all things living and in fact assisted me in the capture of my first snake.



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