

## Olive python

*Liasis olivaceus*

### Description

The olive python looks similar to the water python and is a large non-venomous snake that can grow up to 4.5m. It is a pale to dark olive to yellowish brown snake with scales that have a pearly sheen. Its underbelly is white to cream. This species kill their prey via constriction. The olive python is predominantly nocturnal and is often mistaken for the venomous king brown snake.

### Distribution

The olive python inhabits arid to sub-humid areas of northern Australia with one of its sub-species restricted to rocky gorges and escarpments in the Pilbara and Gascoyne regions of Western Australia. The species is terrestrial although often lives near a water source and is rock-inhabiting.

### Regional Abundance

Darwin - Common, Katherine - Common, Alice Springs - Not found.

### Diet and Reproduction

The olive python's diet consists of reptiles, mammals and birds and it is known to have eaten animals as large as rock wallabies. Females produce up to 28 eggs in a clutch.

NON-VENOMOUS



Chris Peberdy