A NESTING RECORD FOR COERANOSCINCUS RETICULATUS (GÜNTHER). Memoirs of the Queensland Museum 32(1): 60. 1992.- On 5 March, 1992, a Coeranoscincus reticulatus nest containing 8 eggs was found in moist soil beneath a rotten forest log in the Mistake Mountains, SEQ (27°58'S, 152°22'E). The log measured 107 × 20 cm (length × width) and was in broad contact with the ground surface and situated in full sunlight (12:25pm). The eggs, just visible below the ground surface, were buried in loose soil in a 2.5 cm deep depression. The substrate consisted of a soft, loamy, basaltic soil with a pH of 6.37. Surface air temperature was 27.6°C and the soil temperature within the nest was a cooler 20.0°C.

The eggs varied in length from 23.71-28.94 mm (mean 27.22 mm) and width from 14.0-18.55 mm (mean 16.59 mm). The size of the eggs seemed surprisingly large for a species with a maximum snout-vent length (SVL) of 195 mm. Only one egg was accurately weighed. It measured 26.05 × 16.88 mm and weighed 3.85 g. Six of the eggs were regular, oval shaped; one was slightly irregular oval; and one was distinctly bean shaped. Seven of the eggs appeared to be predominantly cream with black crossbands; the back and tail had an obscure, chequered effect of cream, black and brown; the pale ventral scales were strongly marked with black edges producing a series of dark longitudinal lines running along the flanks, belly and under-surface of the tail.

Greer & Cogger (1985) examined shell thickness of oviducal eggs in C. reticulatus and suggested the species was oviparous. Our record confirms their hypothesis and the C. reticulatus eggs from Mistake Mountains represent the first nesting record for the species.

However, it is not possible to determine whether or not the 8 eggs found were a single clutch. From preservest museum specimens of C. reticulatus, McDonald (1977) recorded 3-6 oviducal eggs (N=4) in the months October-December. Thus, 8 eggs might be a single clutch but it is also possible that the nesting site was shared by more than one female. Communal nesting is well known in scincid lizards and is summarised by Greer (1989).

The fieldwork on which this paper was based is part of a study on the rainforests of SE Queensland funded by the National Rainforest Conservation Programme.

![Coeranoscincus reticulatus egg (QM J54649) and hatchling (QM J54647).](image)

**FIG. 1.** Coeranoscincus reticulatus egg (QM J54649) and hatchling (QM J54647).

**Literature Cited**


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