



# ROUGH-SCALED PYTHON

## Description

This python is dark brown with pale brown blotches. It has a triangular head and skinny neck. Each scale has a ridge along its middle which gives it a rough, sandpaper-like feel and its common name of the Rough-scaled Python.

## Diet

Rough-scaled Pythons are **carnivores** and eat small mammals and birds. Like other pythons, this non-venomous snake kills its prey by constriction.

## In the wild

The Rough-scaled Python is one of the rarest snakes in Australia. Very little is known about their habits in the wild. We know it is important for their eggs to be kept at a constant 30°C and in 100% humidity.

## At Perth Zoo

Rough-scaled Pythons are on display in the Nocturnal House. In January 2008, Perth Zoo successfully hatched seven Rough-scaled Pythons, a first in Western Australia. Perth Zoo is part of a national population management and research program for this species.

## Scientific Name

*Morelia carinata*

## Conservation Status

Extinct

Extinct in the Wild

Critically Endangered

Endangered

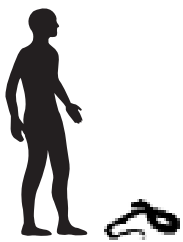
Vulnerable

Near-Threatened

Least Concern

Data Deficient

Not Evaluated



**Body Length:** Up to 2 meters

**Weight:** About 700 g

**Incubation:** About 70 days

**Number of eggs:** 8–12



**Distribution:** North-west Kimberley region

**Habitat:** Restricted to sandstone caves and crevices in small patches of monsoonal rainforest

## Did you know?

The Rough-Scaled Python has exceptionally long teeth in relation to its body size. It is thought this adaptation allows the snake to have a better grip of its furred or feathered prey until it has been immobilised in the python's coils.

