



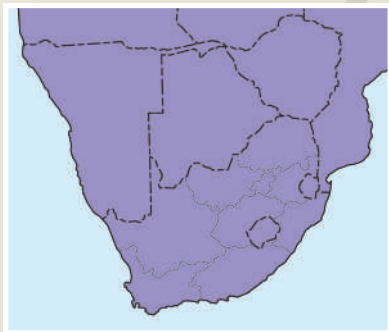
## AFRICAN SNAKEBITE INSTITUTE SNAKE PROFILE



### Brown House Snake (*Boaedon capensis*)

**HARMLESS**

**Other names:**  
Bruin huislang



The Brown House Snake, true to its name, frequents human dwellings where it feeds on rodents or lizards. It is completely harmless and relies on muscle power to constrict its prey. It is widespread in South Africa and very common in suburban gardens.

This snake is active at night and is relatively slow-moving. Most individuals are medium to dark brown with a mother-of-pearl belly and two light lines on either side of the head – one from the nose through the top of the eye to the back of the head and the other from the back of the eye to the angle of the jaw. Like most snakes there is quite a bit of colour variation and very light brown as well as brick red individuals are also encountered.



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