



SNAKEBITE PROFILE

MANY-HORNED ADDER

Bitis cornuta



Risk of Bites

Bites are not common - this is a very cryptic snake, which prefers to avoid humans at all costs. If encountered, it puts up quite a show with a lot of hissing and striking.



Most Bites

Most bites occur to people trying to capture the snake or accidentally standing on one, especially at night.



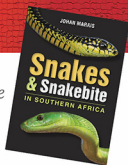
Symptoms & Venom

The venom is predominantly cytotoxic and causes severe pain and swelling. In a few cases necrosis has been recorded.



See pages 38-39

– *Snakes and Snakebite in Southern Africa* (2024).



First Aid

Immobilise and reassure the patient and elevate the affected limb. Remove tight clothing and jewelry. Transport the victim to the nearest hospital or doctor for pain management. Avoid all other first aid remedies including bandages.



Medical Treatment

There is no antivenom and patients may need to be treated for pain management. No fatalities have been recorded by bites from this snake and symptoms usually resolve within a week or two. On rare occasions tissue damage following a bite may be quite severe but local.

