

Table A1: Estimates of species and regional means for female body and tail vertebral counts in *Thamnophis* and *Nerodia*.

Species	Subspecies or population	Body	Tail	<i>n</i>	Reference
<i>T. melanogaster</i>	<i>chihuahuensis</i>	145.20	72.50	10	Tanner 1959
<i>T. melanogaster</i>	<i>canescens</i>	143.70	60.50	37	Conant 1963
<i>T. validus</i>	<i>celaeno</i>	141.10	71.00	64	Conant 1969
<i>T. validus</i>	<i>thamnophisoides</i>	133.60	68.70	63	Conant 1969
<i>T. errans</i>	Chihuahua & Durango	158.73	73.30	11	Smith 1942, Tanner 1959
<i>T. exsul</i>	Coahuila & Nuevo Leon	145.00	53.40	8	Rossman et al. 1989
<i>T. godmani</i>	range-wide	141.75	65.56	12	Smith 1942
<i>T. mendax</i>	range-wide	141.50	58.00	7*	Rossman et al. 1996
<i>T. sumichrasti</i>	range-wide	152.50	62.50	-	Rossman et al. 1996
<i>T. scalaris</i>	range-wide	140.00	59.79	15	Smith 1942
<i>T. nigronuchalis</i>	range-wide	156.53	66.57	15	Tanner 1985
<i>T. rufipunctatus</i>	range-wide	164.68	70.21	25	Tanner 1985
<i>T. atratus</i>	San Francisco Peninsula	147.00	71.00	57*	Fox 1951
<i>T. elegans</i>	Lassen Co., CA	167.52	80.59	708	Arnold and Phillips 1999
<i>T. elegans</i>	Humboldt Co., CA	151.73	71.25	481	Arnold and Phillips 1999
<i>T. couchii</i>	Feather River, CA	174.00	82.00	16	Fitch 1940
<i>T. gigas</i>	San Joaquin Valley, CA	161.00	73.00	13	Fitch 1940
<i>T. ordinoides</i>	Del Norte Co., CA	144.93	63.63	128	Fox 1948
<i>T. hammondii</i>	San Diego Co., CA & Baja Calif. Norte	162.60	73.00	62*	Fitch 1940, McGuire and Grismer 1993
<i>T. brachystoma</i>	Pennsylvania	136.60	59.30	34	Barton 1956
<i>T. butleri</i>	Ohio	137.50	56.60	19*	Conant 1938
<i>T. radix</i>	<i>radix</i>	151.00	65.00	400	Smith 1949
<i>T. radix</i>	<i>haydeni</i>	157.20	67.00	233	Smith 1949
<i>T. eques</i>	<i>virgatenuis</i>	157.26	71.97	57	Conant 1963
<i>T. eques</i>	<i>megalops</i>	157.50	71.13	48	Conant 1963
<i>T. marcianus</i>	<i>nigrolateris</i>	156.80	68.20	60	Mittelman 1949
<i>T. marcianus</i>	<i>marcianus</i>	149.10	68.60	79	Mittelman 1949
<i>T. cyrtopsis</i>	<i>collaris</i>	153.40	88.70	61*	Webb 1966
<i>T. pulchrilatus</i>	range-wide	162.70	76.10	15*	Webb 1966
<i>T. cyrtopsis</i>	<i>cyrtopsis</i>	167.90	78.30	196*	Milstead 1953
<i>T. chrysocephalus</i>	range-wide	145.00	73.00	-	Rossman et al. 1996
<i>T. fulvus</i>	range-wide	140.69	62.73	40	UMMZ, UTA

<i>T. proximus</i>	range-wide	163.89	100.86	782	Rossman 1963
<i>T. sauritus</i>	range-wide	156.75	112.08	549	Rossman 1963
<i>T. sirtalis</i>	Lassen Co., CA	160.12	78.73	199	OSCMNH
<i>T. sirtalis</i>	Humboldt Co., CA	151.70	79.95	268	OSCMNH
<i>N. erythrogaster</i>	<i>neglecta</i>	152.60	65.00	7	Conant 1949
<i>N. erythrogaster</i>	<i>flavigaster</i>	150.00	66.60	8	Conant 1949
<i>N. fasciata</i>	North Carolina & Virginia	129.57	69.50	213	Osgood 1978

Notes: Sample sizes (*n*) are numbers of female specimens. Midpoints of ranges are reported for *T. chrysocephalus*, *T. mendax* and *T. sumichrastic*, rather than means. Data for *T. fulvus* and *T. sirtalis* were taken from museum specimens (UMMZ, University of Michigan; UTA; University of Texas, Arlington; OSCMNU, Oregon State University).

* In these cases, in which only the total number of both sexes was reported, the number of female specimens was estimated by dividing the total sample size in half.