



Plains Hog-Nosed Snake

Heterodon nasicus

Description: The Plains Hog-Nose is 15–25 inches long. They usually have gray or sandy coloration on their back and black on their belly. It gets its name from its upturned nose. Scales on a hognose are keeled, giving it a rough appearance.



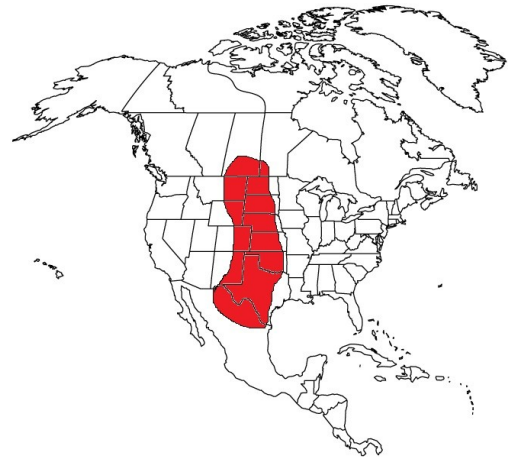
Range: Southern Canada throughout the Midwestern states and into Mexico.

Habitat: Sandy, short grass prairies are perfect to blend in and hide away from predators and even prey.

Life Span: 15–20 years old in captivity.

Natural Diet: Small mammals and other reptiles.

Zoo diet: Mice once a week.



Behavior: Primarily diurnal, so they are most active at sunrise and sunset. Will feign death by turning itself over, emitting a foul musk and letting their tongue hang out of their mouth. If rolled upright in this state, they will often roll back as if insisting they really are dead.

Reproduction: Females lay a clutch of 5–25 white eggs in mid summer. They hatch approximately 2 months later.

Conservation: Least concern.