

**Cover image:** Vasculature of the paired defensive glands located in the neck of the Asian snake *Rhabdophis tigrinus*, showing dense capillary beds. These nuchal glands contain cardiotoxic steroid toxins (bufadienolides) sequestered from dietary toads, and the toxins may be delivered to the glands by this dense vasculature. The snakes use these glands and toxins in defensive behaviors against predators. See the article by Hutchinson *et al.* on pages 2265–2270. Image courtesy of Alan H. Savitzky.

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