

New Record of the Aesculapian Snake, *Zamenis longissimus* (Reptilia, Colubridae), in Ternopil' Region (Ukraine) [Новая находка лесного полоза, *Zamenis longissimus* (Reptilia, Colubridae), на Тернопольщине (Украина)]. — *Zamenis longissimus* (Laurenti, 1768) is one of the rarest snakes of Ukrainian herpetofauna. This species was included to all editions of Red Data Book of Ukraine (it has the status of “endangered species” in the last, third, Red Data Book..., 2009 edition). The Middle Dniester basin is the region where the Aesculapian snake has been registered in recent decades. For example, it was found on the territory of modern Zhalishchyky district (Ternopil' Region) in the 20th century (Bayger, 1937; Kuntze, Noskiewicz, 1938; Pylyavsky, 1983; Hrynchyshyn, 2008). For the last time the Aesculapian snake was found here in the mid-1990s (Hrynchyshyn, 2008). But this species was not found here later and it has been considered regionally extinct (Sobolenko, 2010). In this regard, the new find of the Aesculapian snake in the region is of the particular interest. One dead specimen was found by O. K. Vikyrchak at a roadside of the road T-2018 in the tract “Kryve” between villages Berdykivtsi and Kasperivtsi (Zhalishchyky District) on 25.09.2012. Total body length with a tail (L. + L.cd.) was 125 cm, the snake had a typical features of *olidosis*, color and drawing. Thus, this finding strongly suggests, that the population of the Aesculapian snake inhabits the region. The authors are sincerely grateful to I. B. Dotsenko and O. I. Zinenko for consultation. — **O. K. Vikyrchak** (National Natural Park “Dnister Canyon”; e-mail: oleksandr_vik@mail.ru), **N. A. Smirnov** (Chernivtsi Regional Museum; e-mail: nazarsm@rambler.ru).