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14-17. Hatching of Beauty snake *Psammophis sibilans* at University of Ibadan Zoo takes place through a neat slit in the egg shell (14). This sequence of photographs shows the hatching of one snakeling out of a clutch of 23 eggs, the entire clutch hatching over a period of four days. The specimen shown stayed with its head outside the egg but otherwise resting inside the shell for 12 hours before emerging completely. The average length of the young on hatching was 236 mm. About seven days later they all shed their skin and subsequently fed on small frogs and new-born mice. *Robert R. Golding* 

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