

Reptiles in our ecosystem

Reptiles are a very important part of our ecosystem. This is a subject that always comes up when I do demonstrations and educational lectures. Most reptiles are carnivorous or omnivorous. Like all carnivorous animals, they have a very important role to play in our ecosystems. This role is to maintain the equilibrium of nature by controlling the populations of the animals that are lower on the food chain. That is to say that without reptiles do. Also, rodents eat the same cereal grains that humans eat which makes them more prevalent around human populations. Reptiles really help keep the rodents goal of world domination in check! This is why most knowledgeable farmers welcome snakes on their farms. Is a farmer who grows corn going to be worried if he sees a corn snake in his field? Absolutely not! Corn snakes do not even eat corn, they eat rats and mice! This is good news to the farmer because the snakes mind their own business while preventing mice and rats from eating the his profits. Snakes are like the farmer's free inventory control system!