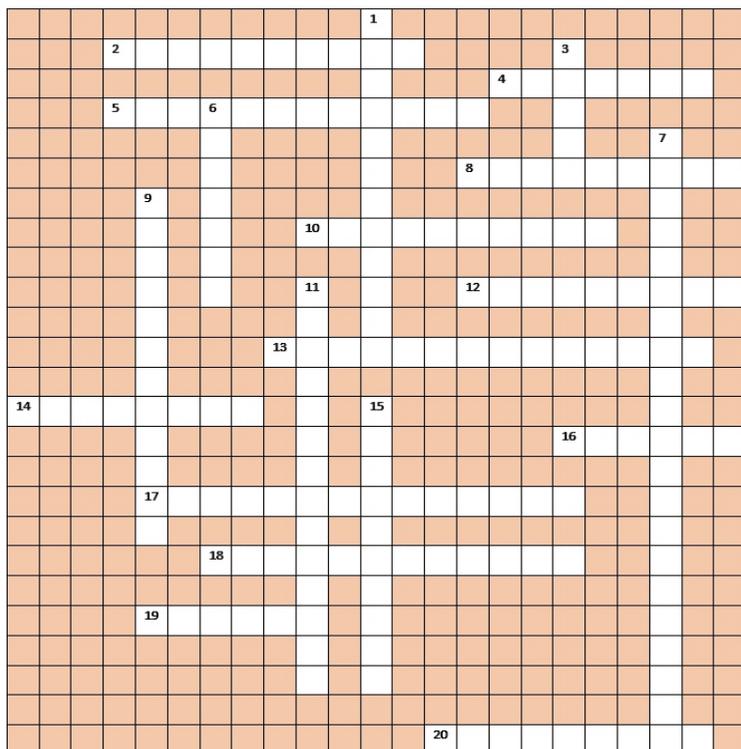


Crossword



The crossword in this issue relates to toxic/venomous animals!

Who Am I ?



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CLUES

ACROSS

2. My name comes from a beautiful flower! But hold on, I carry venom-loaded tentacles that appear as numerous fine needle-like bristles on my body. When provoked, I can sting victims with a paralyzing neurotoxin! I am the ————. (3, 7)

4. I am documented as a poisonous bird from New Guinea, however, apparently, I do not produce the toxin myself and obtain it from my diet. My skin and feathers are the most toxic and I can be poisonous to touch or eat. For this reason, natives call me the 'trash bird'! Who am I? (7)

5. I am the largest living lizard species! I use my tongue to sample the air and I can eat anything from birds to water buffalos to humans. I am known to even dig up bodies from shallow graves! Who am I? (6, 6)

8. I am a marine gastropod mollusc and my sting can have fatal consequences, with one drop of venom enough to kill 20 humans. I am sometimes called the 'cigarette snail,' beware, there is no antivenom! I am a ————. (4, 5)

10. I am venomous snake, endemic to sub-Saharan Africa. I am actually brown in colour; I get my name from the blue-black of the inside of my mouth which I display when I am threatened. I am one of the world's deadliest snakes! Who am I? (5, 5)

12. I am an extremely smart, fast, and eusocial insect, known for my remarkable nest construction skill using silk from the larvae of my colony. As a defence strategy, I release formic acid, and my strong mandibles can bite to rip off skin! I am the ————. (6, 3)

13. I am a huge insect and can grow up to 30 cm long, with my body divided into 23 sections, each possessing a pair of legs! My sharp claws can enter a victim's tissue to inject venom and I use my size and speed to knock down even small snakes and lizards, insects, tarantulas and bats! Who am I? (5, 9)



14. I am a venomous mammal native to Australia. I have a spur as a weapon hidden on my hindfeet connected to my venom-producing gland! I use my toxin to strike predators or for competition with other males during the mating season. I am a _____
—. (8)

16. I am a highly venomous invertebrate and live in the tropical regions of Central and Southern America! I get my name from the fact that I roam the jungle floor at night. I am the Brazilian Wandering _____! (6)

17. Although small in size, my aggressive nature and lethal venom make me one of the most dangerous snakes in the world. I am known for my characteristic defensive alarm of rubbing my scales together to produce a ‘sizzling’ warning sound! I am the _____
-. (3-6, 5)

18. I am a highly venomous scorpion, responsible for over 75% of scorpion-related deaths every year. My poison is a mixture of neurotoxins and cardiotoxins! I even have a deadly name! Who am I? (12)

19. I am considered one of the most poisonous vertebrates in the world with the ability to paralyze your diaphragm. However, I am a delicacy in Japan. I am the _____ fish! (6)

20. I inject 5 times more venom during a single bite than other venomous snakes. Raising my head and spreading my hood, I have a long reach. I am also the only species of snakes to build nests using leaves. I am the longest venomous snake in the world and my scientific name comes from my habit of eating other snakes! I am the _____. (4, 5)

DOWN

1. Venom from my single bite can kill 100 human adults or 2,50,000 mice. My venom is more toxic than that of a common cobra, thus making me the world’s most venomous snake! I am the _____. (6, 6)



3. I usually remain camouflaged on ocean floors, calmly waiting for other fish to swim by before I open my jaws with lightning speed to devour up. I am known as the world's most venomous fish, I am the —— fish! (5)

6. I am a mollusc, the size of a golf ball, but don't be fooled by my small stature. I hold enough venom to kill 26 human beings at a time. To make matters worse, there is no available antivenom, making me one of the deadliest reef inhabitants in the ocean. I am the Blue Ringed ——! (7)

7. I am known to be one of the most poisonous amphibians! When attacked, I use my toxin-coated ribs to push through the victim's skin and inject toxins. I am the———. (11, 10)

9. I am a cnidarian invertebrate, distinguished by a cube-like body structure. A few species from my genus are the world's most venomous creatures. The venom specifically leads to rapid leakage of potassium from body cells leading to cardiovascular collapse and death within few minutes! Who am I? (3, 9)

11. I am a beautiful, colorful amphibian from South America, but my poison can kill an army of 20,000 mice. You can't even think of touching me as my poison is actually located on the surface of my skin! Who am I? (4, 6, 4)

15. I am considered among the most dangerous snakes in Australia. My aggressive defence includes flattening my neck and hissing loudly, followed by releasing venom through my bite. I get my name from my dark body color with yellow stripes! Who am I? (5, 5)

Did you get them right? Watch out for the answers in the next issue!

