

Distributional Records of Amphibians and Reptiles in Kansas.

JOHN M. LEGLER

This paper deals with certain noteworthy specimens of amphibians and reptiles that were acquired by the University of Kansas Museum of Natural History (KU) in 1955 to 1959, when the author had curatorial responsibility for the herpetological collections at that institution. Specimens were obtained by various persons, some of whom are mentioned at appropriate places in the text. Special thanks are extended to Wendell L. Minckley and Dale Hoyt who contributed a large collection of specimens from the Blue River drainage in northeastern Kansas.

Scaphiopus bombifrons Cope.—In the northern half of the state there are definite records of this species for Phillips and Ellis Counties and for Douglas County but no specimens have been reported in the intervening area (although populations surely occur there, at least near tributaries of the Kansas River). A collection of 48 adult and 101 larval specimens from northeastern Kansas extends the known range of this species northeastward and provides records of occurrence for four counties as follows: Washington Co.—KU 49145–7, 2.8 mi. S. and $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. E., 5.7 mi. S. and $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. E., and 8.5 mi. W. Hanover, respectively; Marshall Co.—KU 49154–8 (larvae), 4.7 mi. S. and 5 mi. E. Irving; Riley Co.—KU 49153, 2.5 mi. S. Randolph, KU 49160 (56 larvae), 10.2 mi. N. Stockdale, KU 49107–36, $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. N. Kansas State College, Manhattan; Pottawatomie Co.—KU 49137–44, 49148–52, 8.5 mi. S. Olsburg, KU 49106, 13 mi. S. and 2.5 mi. E. Olsburg, KU 49180 (40 larvae), 2 mi. N.W. Garrison. All of these specimens were obtained along tributaries of the Big Blue and Little Blue Rivers. Similar distribution of this species along tributaries of the Kansas River in northeastern Kansas is to be expected.

Bufo cognatus Say.—The following specimens from Cowley County provide records at the southeastern extremity of the range of the species in Kansas: KU 50964–51006, 5 mi. S. and 4 mi. E. Dexter, and KU 51007–19, $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. S. and 1.5 mi. W. Hooser.

Hyla v. versicolor LeConte.—Five specimens from Marshall County (KU 49181–5, 4.7 mi. S. and 5 mi. E. Irving) were obtained farther north and west than any other known specimens from Kansas and are the first to be obtained in that county.

Macroclémys temminckii (Troost).—A single specimen (KU

46902), consisting of skull and carapace, is from Timber Creek, between Burden and Atlanta, Cowley County; the locality is near the northwestern periphery of the known geographic range of the species. The KU specimen constitutes the only record of the alligator snapper in Kansas that is supported by a specimen. The occurrence of the species at other localities in southeastern Kansas is, however, convincingly documented by Hall and Smith (1947, Trans. Kansas Acad. Sci., 49(4):449-450). The carapace of the KU specimen is 22 inches long; it was donated to the Museum by Mr. Ray W. Lewis, Augusta, Kansas.

Terrapene carolina triunguis (Agassiz).—Two specimens (KU 1918, Little Salt Marsh, 1 mi. N. and 8 mi. W. Hudson, Stafford Co. and, KU 46761, near Wichita, Sedgewick Co.) are from localities that are, respectively, some 130 and 50 miles west of the known range of the subspecies in Kansas. The specimen from Little Salt Marsh, a skeleton, was previously identified as *T. ornata* and for this reason, has escaped notice until recently.

A large female of *T. c. triunguis* was captured at the University of Kansas Natural History Reservation (5.5 mi. NNE Lawrence, Douglas Co.) by Donna Hardy on May 27, 1958. The living specimen constituted the first definite record of this subspecies for Douglas County. The turtle was marked and released soon after its capture.

Three-toed box turtles (as well as other kinds of box turtles), because of their attractiveness as pets, are often picked up by vacationers in southeastern Kansas and released far from the point of original capture—sometimes outside the known geographic range of the subspecies. Records of occurrence of this subspecies, outside its known range, must therefore be interpreted with extreme caution. Inasmuch as three-toed box turtles characteristically inhabit wooded areas, their occurrence along wooded stream-courses in areas of prairie in the eastern half of Kansas would not be unusual. The KU specimens mentioned above were obtained in or near such wooded habitat along the Arkansas River. I think it probable that these specimens represent natural rather than introduced populations. Further collecting along major streams that flow into wooded areas of Kansas (for example, the Arkansas, Cottonwood, and Kansas Rivers) will probably demonstrate that sparse or isolated populations of the subspecies exist near these streams.

Sceloporus undulatus garmani Boulenger.—A single specimen (KU 45346) was obtained on May 16, 1957, 6 mi. N. of Havana, Montgomery County, by Henry S. Fitch. When first observed, the specimen was in a tree. The locality mentioned above is in typical Chautauqua Hills woodland habitat (Blackjack Oak, Post Oak, and sparse under-

brush) and lies approximately in the center of a hiatus between the recognized geographic ranges of *S. undulatus garmani* and *S. u. hyacinthinus*. This hiatus extends from northeastern Kansas to northeastern Oklahoma. Further collecting will be necessary to determine whether the population of *garmani* in the Chautauqua Hills is isolated or is continuous to the west or south with the main stock of *garmani*. Arboreal habits are regarded as unusual for *garmani* since this subspecies is characteristically a ground-dweller.

Sceloporus undulatus hyacinthinus (Green).—A specimen (KU 51443) was obtained in a recently cleared area 5 mi. W. of Lawrence, Douglas County, by Harold D. Murray on May 17, 1958. The specimen is a typical example of *hyacinthinus*, having dark dorsal markings (each in the shape of an inverted W) extending across the dorsum and across the obscure, pale, dorsolateral lines. The dark blue blotches of the throat are separated medially by a pale line that is one scale-row wide. The present specimen is the first of *hyacinthinus* to be obtained in Douglas County and extends the known range of this subspecies some 30 miles westward from a point 3 mi. W. of Mission in Johnson County.

Scattered records of this subspecies between Lawrence and the Missouri-Kansas border (Smith, Univ. Kansas Mus. Nat. Hist., Misc. Publ. no. 9, 1956:176-7) suggest that populations now surviving in that area are remnants of a once more extensive distribution. Verbal reports of tree-dwelling scaly lizards in an area of virgin woodland in Douglas County (2 mi. N. Baldwin) probably are based on *S. u. hyacinthinus*.

Typical specimens of *S. u. garmani* (KU 17427-39, 32523) have been obtained on the Kansas River 3 mi. N. and $1\frac{3}{4}$ mi. W. of Lawrence. Populations of *garmani* have probably spread eastward to Lawrence in sandy habitats (to which the subspecies is now restricted in Douglas County) along the Kansas River or, as Smith (*op. cit.*: 176) suggested, small populations have resulted from floods carrying individuals far east of the normal geographic range. As yet, no intergradation between *garmani* and *hyacinthinus* has been demonstrated in Kansas.

Phrynosoma cornutum (Harlan).—A single specimen (KU 49329) was obtained 2.5 mi. S.E. of Stockdale, Riley County, slightly north of the known range of the species in Kansas. The species has previously been reported from Manhattan, Riley County.

Eumeces laticeps.—A single specimen of this skink (KU 51445) was found in the stomach of an adult coachwhip (*Mastocophis f. flagellum*) (KU 51444) obtained at a point just east of Five Mile Creek, approximately 3 mi. S. and 1 mi. E. Galena, Cherokee County. As nearly as can be ascertained, the snake was caught on the Missouri-Kansas

boundary or within a yard or two of that boundary. The skink consists of tail and posterior half of body; the specimen was identified as *E. laticeps* chiefly on the basis of its large size (length of tail 135 mm., estimated snout-vent length 95 mm.) and the presence of a conspicuous row of enlarged subcaudal scales.

Although the presence of *E. laticeps* in extreme southeastern Kansas has been anticipated, the KU specimen from Cherokee County constitutes the first actual record from that part of Kansas; heretofore the species was known, in Kansas, from a few specimens obtained in Miami and Linn Counties.

Tropidoclonion lineatum annectans Ramsey.—Two juveniles (KU 43607–8) from 5 mi. N. and 1.5 mi. E. of Sharon, Barber County, are the first known examples of this species to be found south or west of the Arkansas River in Kansas. Counts of ventral and subcaudal scales for the two specimens are 140, 31 and 144, 30, respectively.

Agistrodon contortrix mokeson (Daudin).—Three specimens from Marshall County (KU 49377, 5 mi. S. Marysville, KU 49379, 5.5 mi. S. Marysville, and KU 49380, 1.5 mi. S. Schrover) were obtained near the edge of the anticipated range of this subspecies but slightly farther north and west than any records supported by specimens. Two other specimens from Pottawatomie County (KU 49378, 1 mi. W. Garrison, and KU 49381, 2 mi. N. and 3.5 mi. W. Olsburg) provide definite records of the subspecies in the eastern part of that county.

—Department of Zoology and Entomology, University of Utah, Salt Lake City