Short Notes

County Records of Snakes from Southcentral Kansas

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In the course of a study of the ecology and distribution of reptiles in southcentral Kansas, specimens of snakes have been obtained that represent new records for three counties. These specimens have been placed in the zoological collections of the Department of Biology at Bethel College in North Newton, Kansas.

Arizona elegans.—One specimen of the glossy snake (BC 36) was collected in a sand prairie pasture 13 1/2 miles west of North Newton in Harvey County. Twenty-five other individuals of this snake have been taken in live traps in the sand prairie area of western Harvey County during the last four summers. This locality is on the eastern edge of the sand prairies in southcentral Kansas and therefore undoubtedly is at the eastern limit of the range of the glossy snake.

Elaphe obsoleta.—An adult pilot black snake (BC 37) was collected after being killed by a dog on October 8, 1962 in Buhler in Reno County. A juvenile was collected on October 7, 1962 from a stock tank in which it was swimming on a farm two miles north and two miles west of Moundridge in McPherson County. This species is uncommon in Harvey County but is common in eastern Marion County and Chase County. These localities in Reno and McPherson Counties are probably near the western edge of the range of the pilot black snake.

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