

A RECORD-SIZED BARRED TIGER SALAMANDER FOR OKLAHOMA

The barred tiger salamander, *Ambystoma tigrinum mavortium*, is essentially the only salamander known on the western plains of Oklahoma. Conant (1975) gives the average size of the subspecies as 150-220 mm with a record size of 311 mm. Bishop (1943) reports the average length of 16 adults of both sexes from Oklahoma and Kansas as 171 mm. Five adult males averaged 162 mm with the largest 211 mm. Collins (1974) reported that in Kansas the barred tiger salamander averages 150 - 200 mm with the largest known terrestrial adult specimen, a female, measuring 290 mm total length. The total length of adults in Colorado ranges from 110-225 mm according to Reese (1973) and one transformed *A. t. mavortium* x. *utahense* intergrade specimen reported by Smith and Reese (1968), reached a length of 346 mm.

The Oklahoma record-sized terrestrial adult reported here is a female collected with 12 other adults in the laundry room of a dormitory on Vance Air Force Base, Enid, Garfield Co., Oklahoma, on 13 October 1974. All had apparently crawled out of a drain on the floor. This female contained eggs as did other females in the group.

Following Peters (1964), the female had the following measurements:

Total Length	287.0 mm
Tail length (1)	126.8 mm
Head-body length (1)	160.2 mm
Axilla-groin length	78.0 mm
Head length	33.2 mm

The largest other female in the same group had the following measurements:

Total length	208.7 mm
Tail length (1)	91.3 mm
Head-body length (1)	117.4 mm
Axilla-groin length	53.0 mm
Head length	14.2 mm

Both salamanders have been deposited in the herpetology collection of J. Willis Stovall Museum of Science and History, University of Oklahoma, Norman.

Literature Cited

- Bishop, S. C.
1943. Handbook of salamanders. Comstock Publ. Co., Inc., Ithaca, 555 pp.
- Collins, J. T.
1974. Amphibians and reptiles in Kansas. Univ. Kansas, Mus. Nat. Hist., Public Educ. Ser. (1):1-283.
- Conant, R.
1975. A field guide to reptiles and amphibians of eastern and central North America. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, 429 pp.

Peters, J. A.

1964. Dictionary of herpetology. Hafner Publ. Co., New York, 392 pp.

Smith, H. M. and R. W. Reese

1968. A record tiger salamander. *Southwestn. Nat.* 13: 370-372.

—Jeffrey Howard Black, Department of Biology, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801 and Richard L. Lardie, Instrument Trainer Branch (DOOL), 71st Pilot Training Wing, Vance Air Force Base, Oklahoma 73701.

Received 3 March 1976

Accepted 17 March 1976

EARLY BREEDING BEHAVIOR OF *Notophthalmus v. viridescens* IN ALLEGANY COUNTY, MARYLAND

Lee (1973) reported *Notophthalmus v. viridescens* as usually breeding during March and April in Maryland, and recorded 26 February as the earliest known breeding date for the state. On 2 January 1976 a pair of *N.v. viridescens* was found in amplexus at a small pond on the Lille-Aaron Straus Explorer camp, Allegany County, Maryland. The female was extremely distended with eggs. Air temperature was -1°C , and the major portion of the pond was covered with 1-2 cm of ice. The mating pair was found in an area of the pond free of ice due to several springs which entered the pond at this site. The depth of the water was 5 cm. On 3 January 1976 the pond was revisited in light rain, air temperature about 2°C . Nine pairs of *N. v. viridescens* were observed, as well as three unmatched individuals. One of the amplexing pairs consisted of two males. All were seen at a depth of 3-8 cm, some underneath a thin sheet of ice. Returning later the same day, none of the salamanders could be found. This breeding date constitutes an extension of 55 days from the previous record of early breeding activity of *N. v. viridescens* in Maryland

Literature Cited

Lee, David S.

1973. Seasonal breeding distributions for selected Maryland and Delaware amphibians. *Bull. Md. Herp. Soc.* 9(4):101-104.

—David M. Hillis, Maryland Herpetological Society, Natural History Society, of Maryland, Inc. 2643 North Charles Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21218.

Received 8 April 1976

Accepted 9 April 1976