

## Additional Turtle Records for Kansas

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Distributional records in Kansas for the turtles *Graptemys geographica* (Le Sueur) and *Pseudemys floridana boyi* (Le Conte) are few, the former has been recorded from six localities and the latter from five. Because of the paucity of such information, the following records are reported.

A young map turtle, *Graptemys geographica* was collected by the author on August 31, 1953, in Long Creek, 1/4 mi. S. of Melvern, Osage County. The carapace measurements are: length, 43 mm.; width, 38 mm. The plastron measures 36 mm. in length and 25 mm. in width between the bridge centers.

Long Creek flows from northern Coffey County through southern Osage, joining the Marais des Cygnes River northeast of Melvern. It is a twisting stream, characterized by numerous deep holes alternating with rocky riffles. The banks are high and wooded and most of the bottom is mud, but there are several stretches of rock bottom. Other aquatic turtles inhabiting this creek are: spiny soft-shelled turtle, *Amyda ferox bartwegi* Conant and Goin; common snapping turtle, *Chelydra s. serpentina* (Linnaeus); painted turtle, *Chrysemys picta bellii* (Gray); elegant slider, *Pseudemys scripta elegans* (Wied); and false map turtle, *Graptemys pseudogeographica kohnii* (Gray) (a single record).

The map turtle here recorded is No. 418 in the collection of the author. This species has also been reported from the following Kansas counties: Anderson, Crawford, Franklin, Montgomery, Riley, and Wilson (Smith, 1950).

A large female saw-toothed slider, *Pseudemys floridana boyi* (No. 675 in collection of K.S.T.C., Emporia), was presented to the college soon after capture by Mrs. Robert Palmer, of Emporia, whose husband collected the turtle as it was crossing a road at the north end of the lake in Crawford County State Park No. 2, 1 mi. N., 1 mi. E. of Farlington, Kansas, on July 4, 1953.

At the point where the turtle was captured, the lake is just south of the road and the West Fork of Drywood Creek is a short distance to the north. The turtle was moving in direction of the creek. This slider is a completely aquatic turtle (Smith, 1950), and probably, like its neighboring subspecies, *P. f. heiroglyphica*, is found away from the water only during emergence due to nesting activity (Cahn, 1937). As

the lake seems to provide a suitable habitat, it appears unlikely that the turtle would migrate from it to the smaller creek. Therefore, it may have been returning to the water following the deposition of its eggs. The nesting habits of this subspecies have not been reported, but Cagle (1937) records "early June" for *P. f. heiroglyphica* in Tennessee and Carr (1952) reports Agassiz' statement of July 12 for a more southern form, *P. f. mobilensis*, from Mississippi. The date of capture of the *P. f. boyi* reported in the present paper, July 4, falls within the known egg laying periods of these adjacent subspecies and may account for the turtle's presence on land.

The dimensions of the carapace of this slider are: max. length, 288 mm.; width, 207 mm. The plastron dimensions: max. length, 270 mm., width between bridge centers, 175 mm.

Previous records of *P. f. boyi* from Kansas counties are: Greenwood, Miami, Wilson, and 2 localities in Woodson (Smith, 1950).

#### Literature Cited

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