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Additional Noteworthy Records of Missouri Amphibians and Reptiles with a Possible Addition to the Herpetofauna

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Extensive field work within Missouri recently has led to the discovery of new localities for many species of amphibians and reptiles (Nickerson and Krager, 1971) that were not included in Reptiles of Missouri (Anderson, 1965) or other works. This report is concerned with records along the northern Ozark border. All specimens are deposited within the Milwaukee Public Museum Herpetological Collection.

Anurans

*Gastrophryne carolinensis* Holbrook, Eastern Narrow-Mouthed Toad. Two specimens extend the range of this species ca. 70 miles from the nearest site noted by Nelson (1972). One (MPM 4645) was collected 4 June 1972, ca. 5.0 mi. SE of Clinton, Henry County (R 24 W, T 40 N, Section 8). The second (MPM 4646) was taken 3 May 1970, ca. 4.0 mi. NNE of Osceola, St. Clair County (R 25 W, T 39 N, Section 11). These specimens extend the range of *G. carolinensis* and indicate sympatry with *G. olivacea* in Henry County.

*Salamanders*

*Ambystoma annulatum* Cope, Ringed Salamander. Two specimens of this amphibian (MPM 4659, 4660) were collected by Bill Fitzgerald in late September, 1971, ca. 4.0–6.0 mi. W of Warrenton, Warren County (R 3 W, T 47 N) and they represent the northeasternmost record for the species.

*Ambystoma opacum* (Gravenhorst), Marbled Salamander. One specimen (MPM 4647) taken 3 May 1970, ca. 4.0 mi. NNE of Osceola, St. Clair County (R 25 W, T 39 N, Section 11) represents a range extension of approximately 60 mi. to the northwest (Conant, 1958). We know of no other records from the Osage River Basin.

*Eurycea longicauda melanopleura* (Cope), Dark-Sided Salamander. The state’s most northwestern record (MPM 4416) was collected 5 May 1972, ca. 2.5 mi. N of Sedalia, Pettis County (R 21 W, T 46 N, Section 17) at Georgetown Quarry.

Snakes

Masticophis flagellum flagellum (Shaw), Eastern Coachwhip. Wilson (1970) does not list Missouri locality records for this species, but does present a distributional map. Apparently the first specimen (MPM 4653) of this species for Henry County was taken 4 June 1972, ca. 5.0 mi. SE of Clinton (R 24 W, T 40 N, Section 8).

Lizards

Holbrookia maculata perspicua Axtell, Eastern Earless Lizard. The discovery of two of these lizards 5 June 1967 just inside Knobnoster State Park, Johnson Co. (R 24 W, T 46 N, Section 20) is problematical. The nearest record is ca. 115 miles to the southwest in Kansas (Axtell, 1956). The lizards were collected along a creek bed bordering an Oak-Hickory forest by John Kupec. One of the authors (Krager) examined both lizards alive, but only one specimen (MPM 4655) was preserved and subsequently received by MPM. Further collecting at the site has been during inclement weather and fruitless. The addition of this species to Missouri’s herpetofauna must be viewed as dubious because of the proximity of Whiteman Air Force Base and Central Missouri State University. However, this is not a common “pet trade species.” The habitat is similar to that noted by Axtell (1956) and two lizards were found.

Eumeces laticeps (Schneider), Broad-Headed Skink. A partially decomposed E. laticeps was discovered 17 August 1971 in a small stream ca. 10 mi. NE of Sedalia, Pettis County (R 20 W, T 47 N, Section 15). The first Pettis County specimens (MPM 4649, 4650) were collected 11 June 1972, ca. 2.5 mi. N of Sedalia (R 21 W, T 46 N, Section 17) at Georgetown Quarry.

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References


