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THE PIGMY SUNFISH, *ELASSOMA ZONATUM*  
JORDAN, IN OKLAHOMA\*

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On April 19, 1947, 21 specimens (13 males and 8 females) of the pigmy sunfish were taken by a college class, under the direction of Dr. W. H. Irwin, from a roadside pool about 15 feet long and 8 feet wide which, under conditions of heavy rainfall, is probably connected with a near-by swamp located ten miles east of Broken Bow in McCurtain County, Oklahoma, on U. S. Highway 70 in T. 6 S., R. 26 E. The water was about two feet deep and highly turbid. No specimens were taken from the swamp proper because of numerous obstacles encountered there, but the water was clear and about one foot deep. Other fish species represented in the collection from the roadside pool were: *Amia calva* (395 mm), *Notemigonus crysoleucas*, *Notropis percobromus*, *Ameiurus melas*, *Ameiurus natalis*, *Fundulus notatus*, *Gambusia affinis*, *Aphredoderus sayanus* (spawning), *Hololepis gracilis* (in breeding color), *Chaenobryttus coronarius*, *Lepomis cyanellus*, *Lepomis megalotis*, and *Lepomis macrochirus*.

The specimens of *Elassoma zonatum*, the first recorded for Oklahoma, agree in most respects with the description of the species by Jordan and Evermann (1896). However, we find the eye averages 3.9 in the head rather than 3.0 and the anal III, 6 (in 16) and III, 5 (in 5) rather than always III, 5. The vertical bars average 10 in number instead of 11 and are slightly wider than the interspaces rather than equal to them. The black spot on the sides is about two times as long as the eye instead of being equal to it and is divided by one or two light lines.

The males are easily distinguished from the females by the blackened posterior edges of their dorsal and anal fins.

The same pool was again visited by a collecting party led by the senior author on June 4, 1947. At this time no *Elassoma* were taken although numerous hauls were made through the small muddy pool. Some other species previously present but not taken at this time were: *Notropis percobromus*, *Ameiurus melas*, *A. natalis*, *Fundulus notatus*, *Hololepis gracilis*, and *Chaenobryttus coronarius*. Species not previously taken but represented in these collections are: *Esox vermiculatus*, *Lepomis humilis*, and *Centrarchus macropterus* (young in large numbers from the near-by swamp).

LITERATURE CITED

Jordan, D. S. and E. W. Evermann. 1896. The Fishes of Middle and North America. Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus. 47 (1): 1-1240.

\*Contribution No. 140 from the Department of Zoology, Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College.