Recent Additions to the Mammal Collection of the Stovall Museum

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The mammal collection of the Stovall Museum has been inventoried and reorganized since September, 1959. About 300 new specimens have been received, and a little over a third of these are catalogued and listed here. These specimens are available for study in Norman or by museum loan.

The skulls and skins of new specimens are kept together by wrapping the skull in cellophane and attaching it by a thread to the hind leg of the skin as described by English (1958). As funds and time permit, the skins and skulls of all the smaller mammals of the collection are being similarly prepared.

The Table gives the numbers, names, and locations by county of the specimens collected and catalogued since September, 1959. Bold faced type indicates that the specimen was not previously represented in the Stovall Museum collection. One record seems worthy of special note. The Ringtail Cat (Bassariscus astutus) was found dead and still warm along State Highway 9 about five miles west of Norman in McClain County. The stomach contained four Lepidoptera which were scarcely digested. Otherwise the stomach was empty. No evidence of wear or caries are visible on the teeth. It is likely that this animal had escaped from captivity, but a thorough inquiry of the residents of the area failed to provide further information.

Other additions to the collection, which are not yet catalogued, come mainly from four areas in Oklahoma. These are: Black Mesa, Cimarron Co.; Wichita Mtns., Comanche Co.; University of Oklahoma Biological Station and vicinity, Marshall Co.; and the Norman area in Cleveland and McClain counties.

In addition to the Oklahoma specimens, the collection received a few mammals from Padre Island, Texas; Grant Co., New Mexico; Los Angeles Co., California; Washburn County, Wisconsin; and Fairbanks, Alaska.

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LITERATURE CITED

English, P. F. 1958. A method of attaching skin and skull specimens. J. Mammal., 39: 456.