Some Distributional Records of Amphibians and Reptiles From Southeastern Oklahoma

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The majority of the records reported in this paper are additions to the list of known herpetofauna of Bryan County. One other noteworthy record for the southeastern part of the state is included. All collections were made by members of field zoology classes at Southeastern State College, in company with the author. All specimens are in the collection of the Department of Biology, Southeastern State College.

Carpenter (1956) indirectly summarized the herpetofauna of Bryan County as recorded up to that time. Additions to the county list have been made by Carpenter (1958), McCoy (1960), and Taylor and Laughin (1963). None of these reports include the following four species of reptiles, all of which have been collected in the county within the past two years:

LACERTILIA SCINCIDAE

Eumeces septentrionalis obtusirostris-Southern prairie skink.

This skink has been taken at two localities: 7 miles north of Durant, on a limestone outcropping south of the Blue River, June 21, 1962; and 10 miles north of Bennington, also on a limestone ledge at Mossy Lake, October 8, 1963. These are probably the easternmost records for this species at this latitude.

SERPENTES COLUBRIDAE

Halden valeriue elegans-Western earth snake.

Two specimens of this snake were collected 10 miles north of Bokchito, November 1, 1961. The range of this species surrounds Bryan County, and this collection merely helps fill in a gap in the distributional records which are sparse at best for this secretive snake.

Heterodon nasicus gloydi-Dusty hognose snake.

A single specimen was collected at Durant on the campus of Southeastern State College, September 29, 1962. This is the easternmost record of this species at this latitude. The specimen was a juvenile, probably caught while dispersing from the wooded, sandy bottoms of Chuckwa Creek at the north edge of the campus.

Diadophis punctatus arnyi-Prairie ring-neck snake.

One specimen was collected 11 miles northwest of Durant at the site of old Fort Washita, September 13, 1963. Bryan County is well within the range of this species, but specimens are rare from the drier, southwestern portions of the range, including this part of Oklahoma.

The final collection to be reported here is the second record for Oklahoma of Amphiuma means tridactylum, the Three-toed amphiuma or "Congo eel" (Urodela, Amphiumidae). A specimen of this salamander was collected 6 miles south of Broken Bow, McCurtain County, in a small swamp where U. S. Highway 70 crosses Little River, October 11, 1963. The salamander was a juvenile, measuring 175 mm. in total length (134 mm. snout-vent length) after preservation. This is the same swamp described by Blair and Lindsay (1961) which Blair has had under surveilance for some 25 years. It is well known to many biologists from Oklahoma and elsewhere. Amphiuma had been suspected to occur there, and had been diligently sought, but had not to my knowledge been formerly collected at that site. The only other collection of Amphiuma from Oklahoma of which I am aware is that reported by Curd (1950) from Grassy Lake, southeast of Broken Bow, collected June 18, 1948. Grassy Lake is about 12 to 13 airline miles northeast of the Little River swamp.

The swamp at the time of collection of the *Amphiuma* was nearly dry. The salamander was found under a log which was half buried in the mud where water would normally have been about a foot deep. It was coiled in a shallow depression connected by a tunnel with a crayfish burrow. It is possible that excavation of several crayfish burrows might lead to the discovery of additional specimens.

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