

Mammal Records for Oklahoma County

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The purpose of this study was to add to the information concerning the mammalian inhabitants of Oklahoma County. Due to the rapid growth and industrialization of this area, especially in the immediate vicinity of Oklahoma City, native habitats are continually being altered or destroyed completely. It is probable that this process will continue indefinitely and consequently the mammalian fauna will also continue to change. It was thought desirable to obtain information concerning the present fauna since in succeeding years it will probably differ in composition.

The following is a list of mammals taken from previous published records from Oklahoma County.

Blair (1939)

Eastern Flying Squirrel, (*Glaucomys volans saturatus*).
Plains Pocket Gopher, (*Geomys breviceps llanensis*).
Muskrat, (*Ondatra zibethica cinnamomina*).

Duck and Fletcher (1942)

Virginia Opossum, (*Didelphis virginiana*).
Striped Skunk, (*Mephitis mephitis*).
Spotted Skunk, (*Spilogale interrupta*).
Raccoon, (*Procyon lotor*).
Muskrat, (*Ondatra zibethica*).
Mink, (*Mustela vison*).

Methods

This study was carried out from October 9, 1959, to November 14, 1959. During this period 375 snap traps were set in the following areas of Oklahoma County: Sec. 4, T11N, R4W; Sec. 9, T13N, R2W; Sec. 10, T13N, R4W; Sec. 15, T13N, R4W; Sec. 16 T13N, R3W; Sec. 24, T13N, R3W; Sec. 27, T13N, R4W; Sec. 30, T10N, R3W; Sec. 33, T10N, R1W; Sec. 33, T10N, R3W.

Spectimens Taken

	No. of individuals
Eastern Cottontail, (<i>Sylvilagus floridanus</i>).	1
Least Shrew, (<i>Cryptotis parva</i>).	1
White-footed Mouse, (<i>Peromyscus leucopus</i>).	3
Deer Mouse, (<i>Peromyscus maniculatus</i>).	4
House Mouse, (<i>Mus musculus</i>).	6
Cotton Rat, (<i>Sigmodon hispidus</i>).	47
TOTAL	62

Sight Observations

	No. of individuals
Fox Squirrel, (<i>Sciurus niger</i>).	1
Coyote, (<i>Canis latrans</i>).	3
Prairie Dog, (<i>Cynomys ludovicianus</i>).	3
Eastern Mole, (<i>Scalopus aquaticus</i>)*.	1

Road Kills

Striped Skunk, (<i>Mephitis mephitis</i>).	1
Virginia Opossum, (<i>Didelphis virginiana</i>).	1

Representatives have been prepared and placed in the mammal collection of the University Museum at Norman, from the specimens collected in this study.

Summary and Conclusion

As stated in the introduction, the purpose of this study was to add to the information concerning the mammalian inhabitants of Oklahoma County. During the course of this study ten species were either taken or observed which had not previously been recorded in Oklahoma County. The Cotton Rat, (*Sigmodon hispidus*), was taken in greater numbers than any of the other small rodents.

LITERATURE CITED

- Blair, Frank W. 1939. Faunal relationships and geographic distribution of mammals of Oklahoma. Amer. Mid. Nat. 22(1):85-133.
- Duck, L. G. and Jack B. Fletcher. 1942. A survey of the game and fur-bearing animals of Oklahoma. Oklahoma Game and Fish Commission, Pittman-Robertson Series No. II. State Bulletin No. 3, pp. 1-144.

*A prepared specimen of *Scalopus aquaticus* is located in the University Museum at Stillwater.