A New Size Record for the Chestnut Lamprey, Ichthyomyzon Castaneus Girard in Oklahoma[1]

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On 6 January 1965 Donald Hicks and Mickey Kernodle took an extraordinarily large female chestnut lamprey with its host, a 13 lb. carp, *Cyprinus carpio*, from Northeastern Outing Club Lake, an oxbow of the Illinois River in Cherokee County, Oklahoma, about 12 miles N.E. of Tahlequah. The specimen is catalogued as OAM no. 5782 in the zoological collections at Oklahoma State University.

While still alive the specimen was 363 mm in total length but shrank to 347 mm after fixation in formalin and preservation in 50% isopropanol. This is 37 mm longer than the largest specimen (310 mm, Upper Mississippi River) examined by Hubbs and Trautman (1937). The largest specimen previously known from Oklahoma is a female 284 mm long, 63 mm shorter than our specimen, recorded by Hall and Moore (1954) from the Poteau River.

The following counts were taken from the preserved specimen: Myomeres, between the last gill opening and the anus, 52; supraoral cusps 2; infraoral cusps 8; circumorals 21; anterior row 6, not counting the bicuspid supraoral; anteriormost lateral rows have 10 teeth, but others behind have 9 or 8; and bicuspid circumorals 7 (3 right, 4 left).

The measurements in mm are: total length 347, tail 98, body depth 28, eye 3.4, snout 28.5, disk length 25, and gill openings overall 40.

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There are 13 dorsolateral lateral-line organs on each side of the snout; below these and above the posterior rim of the disk, there are 12 right and 9 left organs. Clusters of 4 right and 3 left organs lie beneath the first gill openings. Along the dorsum, behind the nostril and scattered or in an irregular row, to the end of the tail, there are 52 right and 57 left organs.

The characters of our specimen fall within the range of variation given by Hall and Moore (1954), except in regard to total length and the maximum numbers of teeth in the anterior row (5) and the anterior lateral rows (9). According to Hubbs and Trautman (1937) the number of teeth varies, but it is not correlated with age, since the dentition is determined at metamorphosis.

Literature Cited

Hall, Gordon E. and George A. Moore. 1954. Oklahoma lampreys: their characterization and distribution. Copeia 1954(2):127-135.

Hubbs, Carl L. and Milton B. Trautman. 1937. A revision of the lamprey genus *Ichthyomyzon*. Misc. Pub. Mus. Zool. Univ. Mich. 35:1-109, 2 pls.