Oklahoma Range of Dipodomys ordii

(Rodentia: Heteromyidae)

JAMES N. THOMPSON, JR. and JOHN KEEVER GREER,

University of Oklahoma Stovall Museum of

Science and History, Norman

In his monograph on the Ord kangaroo rat, Dipodomys ordii, Setzer (1949) reported the eastern marginal records for the species to be bounded by a line drawn between Medore, Kansas; 3 miles S Cleo Springs, Oklahoma; and Vernon, Texas. The species occupied Oklahoma west of this line, as well as a small section of Oklahoma along the Canadian River between 4 miles N Minco, Grady County, and 2½ miles S Norman, Cleveland County. These areas are shown by the solid lines "A" and "B" of the accompanying map (Fig. 1.) The range reported by Hall and Kelson (1959:516-517) does not differ from that of Setzer.

Recent studies of 130 skins in the collection of the University of Oklahoma Stovali Museum extend the known range of the species (Fig. 1). Black dots represent both known and previously unreported collections of Dipodomys ordii. The locations representing range extensions are as follows: T17N, R5W, Kingfisher Co.; T16N, R4W, Logan Co.; T12N, R10W, Canadian Co.; T11N, R9W, Canadian Co.; T10N, R7W, Grady Co. T3N, R1W, Cleveland Co.; T3S, R14W, Tillman Co.; and 3.3 miles ESE of Taylor, Cotton Co.

For a burrowing animal, such as the kangaroo rat, the edaphic factors of its environment are important range-limiting considerations. All of the above locations are sandy areas associated with major waterways. These findings tend to support Blair (1939:116), who indicated the prob-

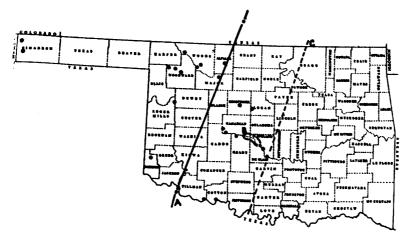


Fig. 1. Range of Dipodomys ordii in Oklahoma

able range of *D. ordii* as the sand areas of Oklahoma west of the Osage Savanna Biotic District, the western edge of which is along the dotted line "C" (Fig. 1).

LITERATURE CITED

Blair, W. F. 1939. Faunal relationships and geographic distribution of mammals in Oklahoma. Amer. Midland Natur. 22:85-133.

Hall, E. R. and K. R. Kelson. 1959. The Mammals of North America. Vol. I. Ronald Press, New York.

Setzer, H. W. 1949. Subspeciation in the kangaroo rat, Dipodomys ordii. Univ. Kansas Publ., Mus. Nat. Hist. 1(23):473-573.