

ADDITIONS TO THE KNOWN FISH FAUNA OF THE MAIN BODY OF LAKE TEXOMA

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Riggs and Bonn (1) published an annotated list which treated briefly the status of all known fishes in Lake Texoma and contiguous waters up to September, 1958. This report relates to collecting operations in the vicinity of the University of Oklahoma Biological Station (UOBS) from 1965 to 1970. Collections were made with seine, electrofishing gear, and a trawl described by Taber (2). The following species, except where otherwise noted, were taken from sites in the Buncombe Creek arm of the lake, sites which were of the lake proper rather than tributary to it.

Hybopsis aestivalis (speckled chub). Previously not reported from Lake Texoma. Three (22-26 mm, TL) were taken by trawl from shallow open water in August 1965; sixteen (18-30 mm, TL) were similarly taken in August, September, and October of 1966.

Camptostoma anomalum (stoneroller). Riggs and Bonn (1) stated that, though common in certain tributaries, only two specimens were known from the lake proper. Ten (6 larvae and 4 larger specimens, 23-53 mm, TL) were taken by trawl from shallow open water in May and June 1965 and May 1966.

Notemigonus crysoleucas (golden shiner). Previously known only from certain tributaries of the lake. Three (56-76 mm, TL) were seined in early June 1965.

Fundulus notatus (blackstripe topminnow). Riggs and Bonn (1) reported this species to be "Occasional in the quiet areas of the more permanent tributaries". Three (16-42 mm, TL) were taken by seine June and August of 1965. One was recorded from the UOBS boathouse harbor on October 15, 1970.

Labidesthes sicculus (brook silverside). Riggs and Bonn (1) reported this to be the most common atherinid in the lake prior to 1954 when it was surpassed in abundance by the Mississippi silverside,

Menidia audens. Riggs and Bonn stated that it was abundant in the tributaries of Lake Texoma in 1955 and "... no specimens were taken in the lake or tributaries in 1958 in spite of considerable effort to collect it." Monthly collections in 1965 yielded two adults from the Buncombe Creek arm of the lake in October, as recorded by Mense (3), suggesting that, albeit marginal, a small population still remains.

Lepomis microlophus (reear sunfish). According to Riggs and Bonn (1), "Very rare in the lake. This species was stocked by Texas hatcheries shortly after the lake was impounded [1942], but the habitat is not suitable. No specimens are known to have been taken since 1953." Apparently, since 1958, there has been a marked increase in the abundance of this species. Monthly seining operations in 1965 produced only one specimen (69 mm, TL) from the Buncombe Creek area. On July 30, 1966, Dr. Howard McCarley and class (vertebrate natural history, UOBS) collected 28 young-of-year (32-41 mm, TL) and 16 adults (127-686 mm, TL) from littoral waters of the islands, approximately 2 km SSE of UOBS. From March to August, 1968, W. L. Shelton and J. Smith frequently collected adults in the Buncombe Creek arm of the lake, and Shelton found them commonly, especially in backwater areas, in April and May of 1969 and 1970. The occurrence of young-of-year suggests that the population is self-perpetuating.

Etheostoma spectabile (orangethroat darter). Reported only from various tributaries of the lake proper by Riggs and Bonn (1). Three specimens (8-28 mm, TL) were taken by seine in May and August of 1965 and May of 1966.

The specimens reported above represent hundreds of man-hours of collecting. Excepting *L. microlophus*, none of the species are major portions of the ichthyofauna of the lake proper, although they are all taken with regularity in contiguous waters.

Two species not mentioned above have been introduced periodically into Lake Texoma by the Oklahoma Wildlife Department and/or various "sportsmen's clubs" since the report by Riggs and Bonn (1). These are the walleye, *Stizostedion vitreum*, and the striped bass, *Morone saxatilis*. Apparently, both are rare in the Buncombe Creek arm of the lake; to our knowledge, the only specimen of either species taken from the Buncombe Creek area was a 230 mm, SL, walleye taken from the west shore by hook and line on October 24, 1970.

The diminished abundance reported by Riggs and Bonn (1) for alligator gar, *Lepisosteus spatula*, may reflect a low level of reproduction for this species in Lake Texoma. Riggs and Bonn (1) knew of no young alligator gar from the lake. May and Echelle (4) reported taking three young-of-year from the Wilson Creek arm of the lake in July, 1965. Subsequent collecting each summer in the Wilson Creek

area has yielded no young alligator gar, although the young of othergars were commonly taken. This species may become increasingly rare in the lake.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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REFERENCES

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3. J. B. MENSE, *Ecology of the Mississippi Silversides, Menidia audens Hay, in Lake Texoma*, M.S. Thesis, Univ. Okla., Norman, 1967.
4. E. B. MAY and A. A. ECHELLE, *Copeia* No. 3: 628-630, 1968.