NOTES ON OKLAHOMA REPTILES

C. J. McCoy

Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Recent collecting in Oklahoma has yielded several locality records for reptiles that amplify or extend distributional data published by Webb (1). Specimens cited are deposited in Carnegie Museum of Natural History (CM), or the University of Colorado Museum (UCM).

Chrysemys concinna hieroglyphica - Although Webb (1) referred all Oklahoma cooters to Chrysemys floridana, he suggested that Ch. concinna may enter the state along the eastern border, and possibly hybridize there with Cb. floridana. A large male specimen of Chrysemys concinna bieroglyphica (CM 58828) taken in the Illinois River at Flat Rock (approximately 2 mi. south of Hanging Rock Camp), Cherokee Co. is the first record of the species in the state. I also have re-examined a series of cooters (CM 3073a-3073c, 3094a-3094b) from Wister, Le Flore Co., reported by Webb (1) as floridana. These specimens show a combination of the characters of concinna and floridana, and apparently were taken from a hybridizing population.

Kinosternon subrubrum bippocrepis — Two specimens from the Verdigris River valley in Wagoner Co. (CM 50792, 3.7 mi. east of Broken Arrow; CM 58826, 2.7 mi west of Coweta) represent a new county record near the northwestern periphery of the range.

Trionyx spinifer bartwegi — Two specimens (CM 50798-50799) from Carrizozo Creek at the Oklahoma state line, Cimarron Co. are the first records from the tip of the Panhandle. The species has been reported from adjacent Union Co., New Mexico (2).

Lygosoma laterale — A juvenile specimen (CM 58815) collected in Boiling Springs State Park, Woodward Co. extends the known range westward by approximately 25 miles, from Little Sahara State Park, Woods Co. (1). The dense riparian forest along the North Canadian River in Boiling Springs State Park supports a reptile fauna rich in eastern woodland species such as L. laterale, Elapbe obsoleta, and Storeria dekayi.

Sceloporus undulatus erytbrocheilus — This distinctive Mesa de Maya subspecies has been reported from Black Mesa, and from rocky canyons immediately east of Kenton (3). A specimen from bluffs north of the Cimarron River, 8.8 mi. north of Boise City, Cimarron Co. (UCM 19999) extends the range eastward in Oklahoma. This peripheral population of erytbrocheilus is probably disjunct, as is a population at Two Buttes, Baca and Prowers Co., Colorado, directly to the north.

Arizona elegans — A first record from the western half of the Panhandle is CM 48832, taken 0.2 mi. east of Kenton, Cimarron Co. There is a published record from adjacent Baca Co., Colorado (4). Although abundant farther east, especially in sandy areas along the west-east-flowing plains, rivers, Arizona is uncommon on the High Plains. A new western limital locality for the plains population of Arizona elegans (5), is 3 mi. south of Conchas Dam, San Miguel Co., New Mexico (CM 54980).

Sistrurus catenatus - The distribution of subspecies of the massasauga in Oklahoma has been interpreted in different ways. Webb (1) indicated that Panhandle populations should be the desert subspecies, S. c. edwardsi, and more eastern populations S. c. tergeminus. But Collins (6) placed the zone of intergradation in Kansas farther east, opposite Woods and Harper counties, Oklahoma. A specimen from Woodward Co. (CM 58818, collected 10 mi north of Woodward) has 25 scale rows at midbody and six tail bands (as in tergeminus), combined with 33 body blotches and a lightly marked venter (as in edwardsi). This specimen represents an intergrade population, as would be expected from Collins' map (6). Data presented by Knopf and Tinkle (7) for Texas Panhandle populations, and by Maslin (8) for Colorado massasaugas, however, suggest that all Oklahoma High Plains populations are intermediate between the plains and desert subspecies.

Proc. Okla. Acad. Sci. 55: 53-54 (1975)

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

For assistance in the field, I thank Mark J. S. Browning, T. Paul Maslin, John Kelly McCoy, and Richard C. Vogt.

REFERENCES

1. R. G. WEBB, Repuiles of Oklaboma, University of Oklaboma Press, Norman, 1970.

- 2. W. G. DEGENHARDT and J. L. CHRISTIANSEN, Southwestern Nat. 19: 21-46 (1974).
- 3. C. J. McCoy, Southwestern Nat. 6: 79-85 (1961).
- H. M. SMITH, T. P. MASLIN and R. L. BROWN, Univ. Colorado Stud. Ser. Biol. 15: 1-52 (1965).
- 5. R. R. FLEET and J. R. DIXON, Herpetologica 27: 295-302 (1971).
- 6. J. T. COLLINS, Ampbibians and Reptiles in Kansas, Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas, Lawrence, 1974.
- 7. G. N. KNOPF and D. W. TINKLE, Herpetologica 17: 126-131 (1961).
- 8. T. P. MASLIN, Southwestern Nat. 10: 31-34 (1965).