

Proceedings of the Iowa Academy of Science

Volume 23 | Annual Issue

Article 46

1916

Additional Notes on the Little Spotted Skunk, *Spilogale interrupta* Raf.

B. H. Bailey
Coe College

Copyright ©1916 Iowa Academy of Science, Inc.

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.uni.edu/pias>

Recommended Citation

Bailey, B. H. (1916) "Additional Notes on the Little Spotted Skunk, *Spilogale interrupta* Raf.," *Proceedings of the Iowa Academy of Science*, 23(1), 290-290.

Available at: <https://scholarworks.uni.edu/pias/vol23/iss1/46>

This Research is brought to you for free and open access by the Iowa Academy of Science at UNI ScholarWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in Proceedings of the Iowa Academy of Science by an authorized editor of UNI ScholarWorks. For more information, please contact scholarworks@uni.edu.

afraid when one approaches the cages, and the contrast is more marked to one who knows the sly, secretive, vicious character of these animals in the wild. When the old time trapper shall have passed and the last pair of steel jaws shall have rusted away, we may still wrap ourselves comfortably from the wintry blasts because of the successful solution of those who have established the industry of mink farming.

ADDITIONAL NOTES ON THE LITTLE SPOTTED
SKUNK, *SPILOGALE INTERRUPTA* RAF.

B. H. BAILEY.

In volume XXII of the Proceedings of the Iowa Academy of Science, it was shown that the Little Spotted Skunk is state-wide in its distribution. Since writing the last article, I have received specimens from Muscatine, Iowa, from Mr. J. Greenblatt; also from Mr. Christian Hoeg, of Decorah, Iowa, who states that they seem to be quite common in that vicinity; and also from Sabula, Iowa, at which place Mr. J. C. Day and son had received during the winter of 1915 and 1916, up to the 17th of March, 1916, twenty-five pelts of "civet cats," trapped in the immediate vicinity of Sabula. Further effort to discover whether the Little Spotted Skunk has crossed the Mississippi to the Illinois side has resulted negatively in the region of Muscatine and Davenport, but from Mr. C. H. Swift of Sabula, Iowa, I learned that he had personally trapped two specimens of the Little Spotted Skunk on the Illinois side of the Mississippi river, north of Savannah, "twenty years ago." These two specimens were caught while trapping for larger skunks. That they have not become common in that region is evident by the testimony of several men in Savannah, notably, Mr. George N. Machen, who has for many years been a close observer of the wild life in that region. Careful inquiry has further confirmed the statement that "civet cats" are far less abundant in the eastern part of the state than are the common large skunks, and that they become relatively more numerous in middle and western Iowa. The firm of J. C. Day & Son, at Sabula, up to date, had purchased 814 hides of the common skunk, while as before stated, only twenty-five skins of the "civet cat" or Little Spotted Skunk had been purchased during the same time.