fat-body of pinched-open *Tenebrio* larvae. In normal feeding, a single worm can immobilize an *Asellus* larva much larger than itself, penetrate the exoskeleton with its proboscis, and in less than an hour suck out all the soft parts within.

According to Hyman (op. c.), the reproductive season of *P. fluviatilis* (which reproduces only sexually) extends, at Chicago, from September through December; and she assumes a similar breeding season throughout the range of this species in the northeastern part of the United States. My observations show that mature individuals with functional reproductive organs can be collected in Rhode Island as late as the middle of February.

LITERATURE CITED

HYMAN, L. H. (1928). Studies on the morphology, taxonomy, and distribution of North American Triclad Turbellaria, I. *Procotyla fluviatilis*, commonly but erroneously known as *Dendrocoelum lacteum*. *Trans. Amer. Micr. Soc.*, 47:222-55.

KENK, R. (1944). The freshwater Triclads of Michigan. University of Michigan, Museum of Zoology, *Miscellaneous Publications, No. 60.*

MORGAN, A. H. (1930) *Field Book of Ponds and Streams.* New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

Note

AN ADDITIONAL RECORD OF THE SALAMANDER AMPHIUMA IN TEXAS ——Brown, 1950, (*Annotated Checklist of the Reptiles and Amphibians of Texas*) lists *Amphiuma tridactylum* Cuvier from Bowie, Hardin, Harris, Marion, Nacogdoches, and Sabine counties, Texas. There is now deposited in the Southern Methodist University collection an *A. tridactylum*, (SMU 264), collected 7 mi. nw. of Clarksville, Red River Co., Texas, Aug. 13, 1950 by Charles Albright. The specimen, taken during the late afternoon, was hiding beneath a board at the edge of a lake. A description is as follows: male; costal grooves, 62; 3 toes on each foot; length of second approximately twice length of third, third approximately twice length of first on each foot; front legs 8.5 mm. in length, rear legs 13.0 mm. in length; tail length, 101 mm., total length, 495 mm. Color (in formalin) is dark-brown above, light-grey below, with the separation of the two colors sharply defined as a lateral line which extends from a point above the insertion of the front leg equal to the length of the front leg to the point of insertion of the rear leg. ——LAWRENCE CURTIS, Student, Southern Methodist University, Dallas.

EFFECT OF TEMPERATURE-CHANGE UPON EGG-PRODUCTION IN LYMNAEA PALUSTRIS (Müller.)——Numerous experiments made by me on the effect of temperature-change on snails, demonstrated that such changes have a marked effect upon the number of egg-masses deposited within a given time. Pulmonate snails collected from icy lakes and streams during the winter months, and transferred to water at room temperatures (21°—30° C.), began egg deposition very shortly after the transfer. When the same species was subjected to temperature changes in the opposite direction (room-temperature to low temperature, 5.5°C.), egg-laying almost stopped completely after a period of a few days.

In order to determine the specific effect of change of temperature on the egg-laying of *Lymnaea palustris* (Müller) the following experiment was performed.

On July 7, 1932, (at the University of Michigan Biological Station, Cheboygan, Mich.), I took 48 *L. palustris* (shell height, 24 to 30 mm.) from a marshy region to the laboratory. At the time the snails were

collected, they were depositing eggs in great abundance, as was indicated by numerous freshly-deposited egg masses. I divided the snails into two equal groups of 24 each. Life-conditions were identical, except that the controls were kept at room temperature, while the experimental lot was transferred to a cold room kept at a constant temperature of 5.5° C. Within eight hours the temperature of the water in the aquarium of the experimental lot dropped from 28°C. to 5.5°C., while that of the control varied between 16° and 29°C. Records were kept of the number of egg masses deposited by each of the two groups of snails for a period of one week.

The snails of my control lot produced during the seven-day period a total of 16 egg masses, while the experimental group produced but two. These two were both deposited within 48 hours after the experimental lot had been put in the refrigeration room. After seven days, the aquarium from the cold room was brought into the laboratory, where the temperature of the water rose to 29°C. within a period of eight hours. All egg masses deposited during the first seven days were removed from the two aquaria. A record was then kept of the number of egg masses deposited by controls and experimentals during the following 7 days, with both groups subjected to the same temperature-range of from 16°-30°C.

During this 7-day period, those snails previously subjected to a low temperature (5.5°C.) deposited 22 egg masses, while the control group deposited but 13. The experiment was continued for another week, to determine over how long a period this acceleration in egg deposition by the experimental group would continue. During the second week of the 14-day period the controls deposited 9 egg masses and the experimental group deposited 11. This gives a total of 38 egg-masses for the control lot and 35 egg-masses for the experimental lot, which shows no significant difference. The use of temperature increased egg-production for one week, producing purely a temporary effect on the reproductive processes of the snails.

In brief summary: (*1*) Transfer of *L. palustris* from room temperatures (16°—129°C.) to low temperature (5.5°C.) stopped egg laying within a period of 2 days. (*2*) Egg deposition of *L. palustris* was accelerated when the snails were transferred from a low temperature (5.5°C.) to room temperatures (16°-30°C.) (*3*) The change in temperature from low (5.5°C.) to room temperatures (16°-30°C.) produced only a temporary effect upon the reproductive processes as judged by the number of egg-masses deposited.——ELMER P. CHEATUM, Professor of Biology, Southern Methodist University.

THE COAL SKINK, EUMECES ANTHRACINUS BAIRD, IN TEXAS——The presence of this skink in Texas has never been noted, although specimens have been taken from adjacent Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana (Smith, *Handbook of Lizards*, 1946). On September 8, 1950, we collected two specimens 4 mi. e. of Lufkin, Angelina County, Texas (approximately 60 mi. due w. of the Texas-Louisiana border). These, apparently, are the first Texas records. The skinks were taken from a piney woods habitat during the afternoon, one among leaves at the edge of a woodland, and the other hiding in a rotten stump on the edge of a small lake. Both specimens were taken within an hour of collecting time, which may indicate it to be a rather common lizard in the area.

Color and pattern are very much alike in both specimens, and in general agreement with Smith's description (*supra*, p. 372). They are extremely dark, almost black; the dorsolateral light line is indistinct, and the median dorsal light line very indistinct. The white line from ear to groin is very distinct, however. There are large white spots (in formalin) on the three most posterior supralabials. The ventrum is greyish-blue and the posterior half of the tail dark blue. Scalation and measurements are as follows: