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Arkansas Academy of Science

RANGE EXTENSION OF THE PORCUPINE (*ERETHIZON DORSATUM*)
INTO SOUTHWEST ARKANSAS

Both Dodge (1982) and Hall (1981) report that the range of the porcupine (*Erethizon dorsatum*) extends into central Texas and Oklahoma and eastern Kansas but none have been reported in Arkansas.

Between 1 December and 15 December, 1984 a porcupine was accidentally killed 2 km north of the town of Ben Lomond in Sevier County, Arkansas (R29W, T10S, Sec. 10). This female specimen weighed 7.6 kg (16.8 lb) and measured 94 cm in total length. This is the first documented occurrence of a porcupine in Arkansas and may indicate a range expansion of the species.

The specimen was recovered by Arkansas Game and Fish Commission personnel and has been donated to the Museum of Natural History at the University of Arkansas.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank G. Tollett for donating the specimen to the Commission and thank M. Hooper for providing us with the information.

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NOTES ON THE DEATH OF AN INTRODUCED BLACK BEAR IN ARKANSAS

Between 1959 and 1967, the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission transplanted 254 black bear (*Ursus americanus*) from northern Minnesota and Manitoba to western and northwestern Arkansas. Releases were made in the White Rock and Piney Creek Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) in the Ozark National Forest and in the Muddy Creek WMA in the Ouachita National Forest (Rogers 1973). Since that time the number of black bears has increased dramatically (Pharris 1981). Arkansas' first modern-day bear hunt was held in 1980.

On September 20, 1984 a 150 kg (330 lb) female black bear was killed in Johnson County under a depredation permit. The bear had been causing extensive damage to fruit trees and other property and attempts to live-trap the animal were unsuccessful. After the bear was killed it was noted that she was wearing an aluminum ear tag.

After reviewing a report prepared by Rogers (1968) it was determined from the ear tag number that this individual bear had been captured near Ely, Minnesota and released on Piney Creek WMA on July 28, 1968. At the time of her release the animal weighed 65 kg (143 lbs) and was classed as a mature animal. She was killed only about 21 km (13 mi) west of her original release site.

According to these data, this animal was a minimum of 17 years of age. Although Pelton (1982) states that bears in the wild may reach ages of 15 to 20 years, the occurrence of this 17 year old female is noteworthy because it may be indicative of the capability of some Arkansas habitats to support bears. Although Rogers (1973) reported movements of restocked bears in Arkansas of up to 418 km (260 mi), apparently this female was able to survive for a long period of time within a relatively small area.

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ANALYSIS OF SOLAR COLLECTOR SURFACE TO AIR FLOW THERMAL TRANSFER
USING SOLID STATE SENSORS AND MICROCOMPUTER INTERFACING

Previous studies investigated dual functioning collectors (Eichenberger, Energy Conv. & Mgt., 20:197-199, 1980) and efficiencies of thermal conversion for certain solar collectors (Eichenberger, Arkansas Academy of Science Proc., XXXVII, 82-83, 1983). The first study listed above