

23Ag Col. Kearny's command arrived, w. great number of sick men & worn-down horses; officers sick: Lts. Swords, VanDerveer, Eastman; Asst.-surg. Hales very sick. Also Capt. Trevor, and Lts. Bowman, Ury, & Kingsbury. [Evans says that Kearny's command arrived on the 25th—a misprint?] Runners sent to chiefs of Osages, Cherokees, Creeks, Choctaws, etc., to invite them to Council with the Plains Indians present at the Fort.

2S Council of Indians [3 days] began at Ft. Gibson.

Notes on Mammals of Dallas County, Texas

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Little is known of the distribution of mammals in north-central Texas. Russell's study of the mammals of Cooke County (1953) is, I believe, the only work of this sort which has been carried out in this area.

During the last two years (summer of 1954 through the summer of 1956) my students and I have made regular collections of mammals from various stations in Dallas County, in an attempt to ascertain the species occurring and their relative abundance. This paper summarizes our results. It should not be considered a complete list for the county; doubtless species are present which we have neither collected nor observed. Furthermore, we did not try to make ecological or taxonomic studies of these animals. Such studies would be useful since our preliminary work leads me to believe that in this area there is intergradation between the subspecies of several different species. These studies would require, however, more specimens than are now available.

My sole purpose in publishing now this list is to set a starting point for future work in ecological and taxonomic fields. All specimens are in the permanent collections of the Department of Biology of Southern Methodist University.

I am grateful to all the students who have participated in this program; and am particularly indebted to Mr. Dilford Carter and Mr. Warry Williams for their many hours spent in the collection and preparation of specimens.

Dallas County lies near the intersection of 33° N. Latitude and 97° W. Longitude. It has an area of 893 square miles

and an elevation of from 450 to 750 feet above sea level. The southwestern part is quite hilly with a maximum elevation of about 750 feet. There are numerous limestone outcrops in this area; and juniper, cedars, and oaks are the dominant trees. The northern part of the county is mainly blackland prairie, with mesquite the principal tree. The lowland areas follow the branches of the Trinity River. The West Fork of this stream enters the mid-western part of the county, and the Elm Fork enters just east of the northwestern corner. Both forks flow toward the center of the county and meet just west of the center. From this point the main stream flows southeasterly and leaves the county at its southeastern corner. The East Fork of the Trinity enters the eastern edge of the county, flows southward for several miles, and leaves the county to join the main stream to the southeast. Oaks, sycamores, elms, and willows are the dominant trees throughout the lowland areas.

In the list of species, only those collected or those observed by me have been listed. Species and names are listed in the order given by Miller & Kellogg (1955).

Accounts of Species

Didelphis marsupialis virginiana Kerr. (Opossum).—Found in all of the ecological associations within the county.

Cryptotis parva parva (Say). (Least Shrew).—One female shrew was trapped in blackland prairie near the eastern edge of the county. Snap traps, live traps, and pit-falls were used repeatedly in an attempt to take shrews in all parts of the county, but these attempts were futile with the one exception.

Scalopus aquaticus intermedius (Elliot). (Southern Plains Mole).—In June, 1956, two males were collected in the northwest quadrant of the county from an area of sandy loam which supported thick grass and low shrubs. Fresh mole tunnels were also found in the same type of habitat in the southeast quadrant of the county, but no specimens have as yet been collected. Davis (1942) in his study of the moles of Texas had no specimens from Dallas County. On the basis of his descriptions, however, I have tentatively referred these specimens to *intermedius*, although they appear to be intergrades between *intermedius* and *pulcher*.

Lasiurus borealis borealis (Müller). (Red Bat).—Several species of bats certainly inhabit this area, but this species seems to be the most common, and is the only one which has been taken.

Dasypus novemcinctus mexicanus Peters. (Nine-banded Armadillo).—Armadillos are found in all parts of the county, but most commonly in the southern half. They seem to prefer wooded areas, but are occasionally seen in open grassland.

Lepus californicus melanotis Mearns. (Black-tailed Jackrabbit).—Jackrabbits have been seen in all parts of the county, and in 1956, more abundantly than in either 1954 or 1955.

Sylvilagus floridanus alacer (Bangs). (Eastern Cottontail).—Common throughout the county.

Sylvilagus aquaticus aquaticus (Bachman). (Swamp Rabbit).—These rabbits occur throughout the county in thickly wooded areas near streams and lakes.

Citellus tridecemlineatus texensis (Merriam). (Thirteen-lined Ground Squirrel).—This species is not now nearly so common as it once was in Dallas County. Isolated colonies have been observed in areas of grassland throughout the county. Golf courses seem to be attractive to these rodents.

Sciurus niger rufiventer É. Geoffroy-Saint-Hilaire. (Fox Squirrel).—The fox squirrels in this area show intergradation between *rufiventer* and *ludovicianus*. I refer them tentatively to the former, since the measurements of two specimens examined correspond more closely to the measurements for this subspecies as set forth by Lowery & Davis (1942).

Glaucomys volans texensis A. H. Howell. (Eastern Flying Squirrel).—Although no flying squirrels have been collected, they were observed near the north edge of the Dallas city limits, and have been reported from several areas in the southern parts of the county.

Geomys bursarius brazensis Davis. (Brazos Pocket Gopher).—Two males were collected from an area of sandy loam beside U.S. Highway 175, four miles northwest of Seagoville (southeastern part of the county). This is the same area in which mole tunnels were observed, and is the only area in the county where gophers have been found thus far. Features of the skulls of these two specimens correspond

most closely with data presented by Davis (1940) for the subspecies *brazensis*.

Perognathus hispidus spilotus Merriam. (Hispid Pocket Mouse).—Two pocket mice, both males, were collected in northwest Dallas County, and probably occur throughout the county. According to the unpublished data of Buchanan (1956), who refers these specimens to *spilotus*, this area is one of intergradation between *spilotus* on the north and *hispidus* on the south.

Castor canadensis texensis V. Bailey. (Beaver).—Although no specimens have been collected, beaver were observed in a pond near the Trinity River in the southeastern part of the county.

Reithrodontomys fulvescens aurantius J. A. Allen. (Fulvous Harvest Mouse).—All individuals of this species have been taken from lowland areas near the forks of the Trinity River in the northwestern and southeastern parts of the county.

Peromyscus maniculatus pallescens J. A. Allen. (Deer Mouse).—I have referred the deer mice of this area to *P. m. pallescens* on the basis of range alone, since I had available no specimens for comparison. They are abundant throughout the county.

Peromyscus leucopus texanus (Woodhouse). (White-footed Mouse).—According to the data of Osgood (1909) these mice are referred to *texanus* although there is, in this area, possible intergradation between *texanus* and *leucopus*. These mice have been taken only in the northeastern quadrant of the county from the grassy edges of wooded areas. *P. leucopus* is much less common than *P. maniculatus*.

Sigmodon hispidus texianus (Audubon & Bachman). (Hispid Cotton Rat).—This species includes the mammals trapped in greatest numbers during the past two years. They occur in all parts of the county in open, grassy habitats.

Neotoma floridana osagensis Blair. (Florida Woodrat).—Woodrats are no longer abundant in this area, but have been taken in the southern and western parts of the county in rather heavily wooded areas. In these areas, typical woodrat houses, constructed mainly of sticks, were found. In the southwestern corner of the county, along limestone

outcrops, their presence was quite evident, but no attempts were made to trap the animals.

Rattus norvegicus (Berkenhout). (Norway Rat).—This Old World species is found mainly in the city, and in and around barnyards.

Rattus rattus alexandrinus (É. Geoffroy-Saint-Hilaire). (Alexandrine Rat).—This Old World rat is found in and around human habitations.

Mus musculus brevisrostris Waterhouse. (House Mouse).—Reference of these Old World mice to *brevisrostris* is based on the data of Schwartz & Schwartz (1943). These mice are abundant throughout the county, particularly in the city and near farmhouses and barnyards.

Canis latrans frustror Woodhouse. (Coyote).—Found in the less heavily populated areas of the county.

Urocyon cinereoargenteus floridanus Rhoads. (Gray Fox).—Common in the less heavily populated parts of the area. They have been observed or collected in all parts of the county.

Procyon lotor fuscipes Mearns. (Raccoon).—Reported from several areas within the county, but only one specimen was collected (a skull taken from an animal found dead on the bank of a creek in the northeastern quadrant of the county).

Spilogale interrupta (Rafinesque). (Spotted Skunk).—Although these skunks have been reported from several parts of the county, only one specimen, a female, was taken from an area of woods and grassland just west of the Dallas city limits.

Mephitis mephitis mesomelas Lichtenstein. (Striped Skunk).—These skunks are apparently more common in this area than is the spotted skunk. Specimens have been observed or collected in all parts of the county.

In addition, the following species have been reported by people living in different parts of the county:

Ondatra zibethicus (Linnaeus). (Muskrat).

Myocastor coypus (Molina). (Nutria).—These have been introduced into several areas of the State from South America.

Mustela frenata Lichtenstein. (Long-tailed Weasel).

Mustela vison Schreber. (Mink).

Lynx rufus (Schreber). (Bobcat).

The possibility that these and other species occur in small numbers in isolated areas must not be overlooked.

In summary, 27 species of mammals (excluding domestic forms) are known to occur in Dallas County. In addition, there are five species which have been reported but which have not been observed or collected by my students or me. Intergradation between the subspecies of several species apparently occurs in this area. There are problems of ecology and taxonomy which remain to be solved.

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Andropogon Ischaemum L. var. songaricus Ruprecht: Technical Name for King Ranch Bluestem

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In their recent detailed studies of forage bluestems of *Andropogon* and allied genera, Celarier and Harlan (1955) recognize two basic races of *A. Ischaemum*, for which technical names are not given. The first ("Common") is primarily central and south European. Since the type locality for *Andropogon Ischaemum* L., Sp. Pl. 2: 1047, 1753, was "Europae australioris aridis," this race is *A. Ischaemum* var. *Ischaemum*. It is apparently not found in the United States except perhaps in limited experimental cultivation. The second race ("Oriental"), Asiatic but extending westward into Europe, is one to which at least two cultivated and escaped strains of bluestem in the United States belong. The earliest varietal name applying to this race to be found in Hackel's world-wide monograph of Andropogoneae (1889) is var. *songaricus* Ruprecht. No varieties are recognized or even listed in synonymy in the official Flora of the