

LIFE HISTORY NOTES

PODARCIS SICULA (Italian Wall Lizard). Winter Activity. I observed a young adult Italian Wall Lizard sunning itself at 1:20 pm on 20 January 2005. The lizard was perched on a log about 20 cm above the ground on the south side of the Northern Hills Junior High School biology room in Shawnee County, Kansas. The air temperature (in the shade) close to where the lizard was perched was 56°F. The humidity was 60%. The lizard was in direct sunlight. The temperature was not recorded on the surface of the log. The area where the lizard was observed was protected on all sides, thus wind was calm at the site. A considerable amount of ice and snow covered much of the area. At 1:30 pm the log the lizard was perched on was no longer in direct sunlight and the lizard had disappeared; it was not observed leaving its perch.

Submitted by **LARRY L. MILLER**, Biology Department, Northern Hills Junior High School, 5620 NW Topeka Boulevard, Topeka, Kansas 66617.

SCELOPORUS CONSOBRINUS (Prairie Lizard). NEW STATE MAXIMUM LENGTH. KANSAS: Cherokee Co: NW1/4, Sec.36, T33S, R35E. 29 April 1967. L. H. Panks. MHP 4254. Verified by Richard S. Hayes. SVL = 75 mm (2.95 inches), TL = 165 mm (6.5 inches). Exceeds previous record SVL of 67 mm as reported by Collins and Collins (1993. Amphibians and Reptiles in Kansas. Third Edition. Univ. Press Kansas, Lawrence. xx + 397 pp.).

Submitted by **CURTIS J. SCHMIDT** and **TRAVIS W. TAGGART**, Sternberg Museum of Natural History, Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kansas 67601.

PHRYNOSOMA CORNUTUM (Texas Horned Lizard). NEW STATE MAXIMUM LENGTH. KANSAS: Stevens Co: 1.8 mi N & 10.5 mi W Hugoton (Sec. 2, T33S, R39W), N°37.2028, W°101.5372. 31 May 2002. Female. Travis W. Taggart and Curtis J. Schmidt. MHP 7469. Verified by Richard S. Hayes. SVL = 90 mm (3.54 inches), TL = 123 mm (4.84 inches). Exceeds previous record TL of 118 mm as reported by Collins and Collins (1993. Amphibians and Reptiles in Kansas. Third Edition. Univ. Press Kansas, Lawrence. xx + 397 pp.).

Submitted by **TRAVIS W. TAGGART** and **CURTIS J. SCHMIDT**, Sternberg Museum of Natural History, Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kansas 67601.

RANA CATESBEIANA (Bullfrog). Diet. Kansas: Meade Co: While bird banding over shallow water at Meade State Park on 6 May 2005, I approached my mist net and saw something hanging from it which did not appear to be a bird. As I got nearer, I found it to be a Bullfrog, about 25 cm in length (nose to end of feet). Because we were conducting a field day for primary school students which included fishes, mammals, and birds, I thought our fish specialist might be able to use a frog in his demonstrations. When I grabbed the Bullfrog, which did not appear to be tangled in the net, it opened its mouth wide, revealing a Common Yellowthroat, which it had completely swallowed. The Bullfrog was later released unharmed at Meade State Fish Hatchery.

The frog had to have jumped at least three feet above the water level to grab the bird in the net. Charles Ely (pers. comm.) had similar experiences near Hays, Ellis County, Kansas, where Bullfrogs killed and attempted to eat Red-winged Blackbirds in mist nets set over water. The Blackbirds however proved too large to consume. I've had cats, dogs, raccoons and even a snake try to take birds in mist nets, but this is the first banding casualty for me from an amphibian!

Submitted by **THOMAS L. FLOWERS**, P. O. Box 87, Meade, Kansas 67864.



A Bullfrog and the Common Yellowthroat that it tried to eat while the bird was entangled in a mist net in Meade County, Kansas. Natural Resources Conservation Service Photograph.