

A RECORD OF THE MOLE SALAMANDER, *AMBYSTOMA TALPOIDEUM* FROM MIDDLE TENNESSEE

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Published data on the distribution of the Mole salamander, *Ambystoma talpoideum* (Holbrook) have indicated that this species has a discontinuous range in Tennessee. Conant (1958) shows this amphibian as occurring in extreme west Tennessee and extreme southeast Tennessee, with one isolated record from middle Tennessee. This single record is probably the specimen reported by Gentry (1955) from Overton County.

An adult *Ambystoma talpoideum* was collected on 12 February 1966 from a road adjacent to Booger Swamp, a flooded woodland three miles east of Cookeville, Putnam County, Tennessee. This specimen is deposited in the vertebrate collection of Tennessee Technological University as No. TPI-H354. Subsequent

collections were made in the same locality on 3 March 1966 and 12 April 1966. These collections yielded an additional five specimens of *A. talpoideum*.

This additional record of *Ambystoma talpoideum* substantiates the occurrence of this secretive amphibian in middle Tennessee. It is interesting to note that intensive collecting in this small swamp during the past several years by herpetologists and students had not revealed its presence.

LITERATURE CITED

- Conant, Roger. 1958. A field guide to reptiles and amphibians. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston. 366 p.
Gentry, Glenn. 1955. An annotated check list of the amphibians and reptiles of Tennessee. *J. Tenn. Acad. Sci.* 30(2): 168-76.

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