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EFFECTS OF SUBMERGENCE ON HATCHING SUCCESS OF EGGS OF THE SNAPING TURTLE (Chelydra serpentina)

Freshly deposited eggs of Chelydra serpentina were divided into equal lots and submerged in water from local habitat for periods of 12, 24, and 48 hrs, plus control. They were then incubated under identical conditions in moist sand at ambient temperatures. At end of incubation, 3 categories were considered: no development, died early in development, and hatched successfully. Developmental failure occurred more frequently in submerged eggs, but the difference was not found to be significant. Larger sample size may have produced more significant results, and will be attempted in future experiments.

As an additional anecdotal comment, it is noted that several eggs of the Wood Turtle, Clemmys insculpta, were found under water near a partially flooded nest in Michigan. All later hatched successfully when incubated in the laboratory. Eggs were recently laid but but time of submergence is unknown.

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RATTLESNAKE ENVENOMATION IN TUCSON, ARIZONA: 1973 - 1980

Medical records of 159 patients admitted with rattlesnake envenomation to the eight general hospitals in Tucson from 1973 to 1980 were examined. There were 127 males (80%) and 32 females (20%), ranging in age from 2 to 81 years of age, with 67% in the 11 to 40 age group. The upper extremity was involved in 64% and lower extremity in 35%, with fingers most common (54%)."Illegitimate" bites were 55% in males and none in females. Snakes involved were estimated to be 50% Crotalus atrox and 30% C. s. scutulatus. Treatment was primarily i.v. crystalloid solution and WYETH antivenin (AV). An average of 5.2 vials of AV was given to 97 (61%) patients with acute serum reaction of 17% (2% severe). There were four bite excisions and three fasciotomies. Final grade of bite by the author was: no envenomation 6%, mild 16%, moderate 25% and severe 53%. Average hospital stay was 3.4 days in 156 patients and 32 days (9, 17, 71 days) in three patients with fasciotomy. Complications were: necrosis 10 (6%), infection 6 (4%), and digital contracture 3 (2%). Surgical treatment had the highest incidence of morbidity and complications.

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FURTHER OBSERVATIONS ON THE TAXONOMIC STATUS OF TWO COLOR PATTERN MORPHS OF EURYCEA QUADRIDENTIGITATA (HOLBROOK) IN NORTH AND SOUTH CAROLINA.

Data from the analysis of several color pattern, morphometric, larval and osteological characters strongly support separate species status for populations of Eurycea quadridigitata (Holbrook) occupying the Piedmont of North and South Carolina, portions of the upper Coastal Plain in South Carolina, and most of the Coastal Plain in North Carolina.

In comparison to the nominal form, the new species has a different color pattern, is smaller, and possesses fewer costal grooves. It differs further in configuration of skeletal elements, particularly the vomer, basibranchial II and the pelvis. Larvae are spotted dorsally and have shorter gill rami. These differences and others will be discussed.
25th Annual Meeting
Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles

30th Annual Meeting
Herpetologists' League

August 1 - 6, 1982
North Carolina State Museum of Natural History
Raleigh, North Carolina
SILVER ANNIVERSARY MEETING
SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES
AND
30th ANNUAL MEETING
THE HERPETOLOGISTS' LEAGUE
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA
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HOSTED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
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