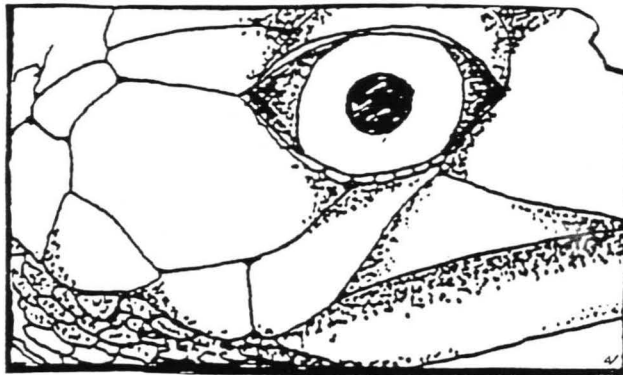


**KANSAS  
HERPETOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY**



**21ST ANNUAL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 5-6, 1994  
FRIENDS UNIVERSITY  
WICHITA, KANSAS**

Saturday, November 5, 1994

William Penn Science Building  
Wallingford Lecture Hall, Room 100

8:30 Registration / Coffee

9:30 WELCOME  
Dr. Biff Green, President  
Friends University

Announcements

9:45 DIFFERENCE IN FIGHT OR FLIGHT BEHAVIOR BETWEEN ADULTS  
AND JUVENILES IN THE RATTLESNAKE

Sistrurus catenatus

Jimmy Daren Riedle, Paul Bixel, and David K. Saunders  
Emporia State University, Division of Biological Sciences,  
Emporia, Kansas 66801

Observations have been made stating that juvenile rattlesnakes are more aggressive than adults due to their small size and vulnerability. While testing for rattling frequency in Sistrurus catenatus, we have found that this is not always the case. Although juvenile snakes assumed defensive postures when presented with a threatening stimulus, if the stimulus was not moved within a short period of time, the juvenile snake attempted to flee. Juveniles also exhibited short bursts of rattling when presented with a stimulus, instead of the long periods of rattling associated with the adults. Adults tend to hold their ground more and flee less than the juveniles. We feel that although juveniles exhibit aggressive behavior towards a threatening stimulus, they attempt to flee more often than adults due to their small size and vulnerability. We are currently in the process of testing these assumptions.

10:00 STATUS, DISTRIBUTION, AND DIET OF THE OUACHITA DUSKY  
SALAMANDER IN SOUTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA

Desmognathus brimleyorum

Doyle Crosswhite and Paul S. Shipman  
Oklahoma State University, Department of Zoology,  
Stillwater, Oklahoma 74078

10:15 REVIEW OF LAWS REGARDING KANSAS HERPS

Dan Heskett, Conservation Officer  
KDWP, Southcentral Regional Office  
8420 N Broadway  
Wichita, Kansas 67147

10:40 HERPETOFAUNA OF THE MISSOURI BOOT-HEEL

Jimmy Daren Riedle<sup>(1)</sup> and Paul S. Shipman<sup>(2)</sup>

(1) Emporia State University, Division of Biological Sciences,  
Emporia, Kansas 66801

(2) Oklahoma State University, Department of Zoology,  
Stillwater, Oklahoma 74078

The Missouri Boot-heel is made up of four counties, Mississippi, New Madrid, Pemmscot, and Dunklin, and lays in extreme southeastern Missouri. The habitat in this area was originally bottomland hardwood forest, and cypress/tupelo swamps created by flooding from the Mississippi River and, to a lesser extent, the St. Francis River. Over the last 100 years, the majority of this area has been drained and converted to cropland. Clearing of forests and draining of wetlands has caused native wildlife to become fragmented, occurring in the remaining isolated pockets of natural habitat. We conducted a survey for the Missouri Department of Conservation to gather information about the distribution and abundance of the Alligator Snapping Turtle ( Macrocllemmys temminckii ) in southeast Missouri. During the course of this survey, we captured and tagged 37 M. temminckii . Eight other turtles species were also captured. Observations of other amphibians and reptiles observed will also be discussed.

11:00 AMPHIBIAN POPULATIONS AROUND BARPALI IN WESTERN ORISSA, INDIA: A PROGRESS REPORT

Dwight R. Platt

Department of Biology

Bethel College

North Newton, Kansas 67117

From March to August 1994, amphibian populations were censused around the village of Barpali in western Orissa, India, where observations on amphibians had been made previously from 1954 to 1957. Fourteen species were recorded in 1994 and this included all twelve species observed in the 1950's. Three changes to be discussed in this paper include:

- 1.) the discovery of two new species previously confused with Limnonectes limnocharis .
- 2.) the first reports of Uperodon globulosum and Bufo fergusonii from this locality.
- 3.) a decline in the population of Bufo stomaticus .

The study is being continued to February 1995.

11:15 GROUP PHOTO

11:30 LUNCH - on your own.

1:00 BUSINESS MEETING/ELECTION

1:30 KEYNOTE ADDRESS

THE EVOLUTIONARY SPECIES CONCEPT

Joseph T. Collins  
Museum of Natural History  
University of Kansas  
Lawrence, Kansas 66045

2:30 Break

2:45 HERPETOLOGY VS. HERPETOCULTURE

Eric M. Rundquist  
1705 Haskell  
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

3:00 CHAMELEONS: LITTLE LIONS OF THE TREES, BRANCHING OUT

Rachael Ball  
Jewell High School  
P. O. Box 20  
Jewell, Kansas 66949

Fifty-three, captive hatched, flap-necked chameleons were observed to determine how the size of perch and climbing dowel rod diameters would change as the chameleons grew. It was assumed that for them to show a size preference at any given time in their life-cycle they would have to possess behavioral adaptations which would enable them to select branch/limb size. Chameleons were offered ten dowel rod sizes from which to choose. The data collected supported the hypothesis that chameleons will select larger dowel diameters as they grow. One of the experimental procedures verified earlier studies, which were also statistically significant. All the experimental evidence collected in these studies indicates that chameleons select resting perch sizes and horizontal pathways which are within the limits of their zygodactylous nature.

3:15 FREE-FOR-ALL SLIDE SHOW

4:00 HERP PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP, LIVE KANSAS HERPS, Room 124  
Joe Collins, Suzanne Collins, and Larry Miller

Evening Events - Sedgwick County Zoo  
5555 Zoo Blvd.  
Wichita, Kansas 67212

Enter at the Zoo Education Building.

6:30-7:30      HERPETARIUM, behind-the-scenes tour.

7:30            ANNUAL BENEFIT AUCTION  
Joseph T. Collins, Auctioneer

Sunday, November 6

8:30      Lobby open / coffee

9:00      EFFECT OF SIZE ON THE TEMPERATURE DEPENDENCE OF RATTLING  
FREQUENCY IN THE RATTLESNAKE

Sistrurus catenatus

Paul Bixel, Jimmy Daren Riedle and David K. Saunders  
Emporia State University, Division of Biological Sciences  
Emporia, Kansas 66801

The maximum rate of contraction of the tail shaker muscle is dependent on the ambient temperature and ranges from 15 Hz at 10 C to 90 Hz at 40 C. The goal of this research is to determine the influence of size on this dependence. Our methods involve the use of a strobe in a variable temperature chamber to determine frequency. The species we are currently looking at is Sistrurus catenatus which range in size from 25 cm to 65 cm. Preliminary data show juvenile individuals and adults to be capable of the same frequencies at temperatures from 10 C to 40 C.

9:15      A SYSTEMATIC REEVALUATION OF MIDWESTERN COPPERHEAD  
POPULATIONS

Agkistrodon contortrix

Jeff Ettling  
Sedgwick County Zoo  
5555 Zoo Blvd.  
Wichita, Kansas 67212

9:30 OPEN FORUM RATTLESNAKE ROUNDUPS

10:00 ADLIBITUM GROWTH STUDIES AND GROWTH MODELS FOR OLD  
WORLD CHAMELEONS

Robert L. Ball  
Jewell High School  
Jewell, Kansas 66949

A captive hatched clutch of 53 flap-necked chameleons was placed in an *ad libitum* growth study upon emergence from their eggs. The data were used to construct several growth models. In addition, data from Gary W. Ferguson and Eileen Castle on other taxa, as well as data from a cohort of captive hatched Oustalet's chameleons, *C. oustaleti*, were modeled. At this time, ideal growth patterns for *Chamaeleo* are becoming clearer and are important for the long-term survival of many populations.

10:15 OBSERVATIONS OF GROWTH AFTER INJURY IN THE SLIDER TURTLE,  
TRACHEMYS SCRIPTA ELEGANS

David McLeod  
Division of Biological Sciences  
Emporia State University, Emporia, Kansas 66801

In July 1991, an abnormally shaped red-eared slider (*Trachemys scripta elegans*) was collected in Slate Creek, Sumner County, Kansas. The specimen had a rubber "O" ring around its carapace and plastron which had restricted normal growth, and had formed this male specimen into an hour-glass shape. I will discuss the observations which were made of this specimen during a one-year study period after the "O" ring was removed. I will also present some possible explanations for these results.

10:30 OPEN FORUM: FUTURE KHS INITIATIVES

11:00 CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADJOURNMENT

Items for sale (publications, art, shirts, etc.) will be located in room 110. This room will be open each morning before the presentations, during break periods, and after the slide show Saturday.