



A Record *Cryptobranchus alleganiensis*

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This observation suggests that the species is somewhat communal in its hibernating behavior. Similar habitat encompassed more than 2 acres.-W. J. HAMILTON, JR., *Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.*

A RECORD *CRYPTOBRANCHUS ALLEGANIENSIS*.-On Sunday, September 1, 1946, while visiting in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Tennessee, a female specimen of *Cryptobranchus alleganiensis* was taken from the Little Pigeon River. This clear, cold mountain stream rises on the east side of Newfound Gap, between Mt. LeConte and Clingmans Dome and follows a course down through the village of Gatlinburg, Tennessee. The specimen was taken in the limits of the village and just outside the National Park boundary as it climbed out on a rock, presumably to sun. Sometime during the night of September 1, over 200 eggs were laid in a large tub in which the specimen had been placed. The specimen measured 740 mm. in total length; width of the head 90 mm. This is 54 mm. longer than the largest specimen mentioned in Bishop's recent *Handbook of Salamanders* (p. 61). The specimen was presented to the natural history collection of the Smoky Mountain National Park.-FRANK W. FITCH, JR., *Department of Fish and Game, Texas A. and M. College, College Station, Texas.*

AN ALBINO *AMPHIUMA*.-An albino of the species *Amphiuma means tridactylum* Cuvier, was collected in Audubon Park, New Orleans, Louisiana, May 18, 1946. The individual, an adult male, 44 cm. in total length, is normal except for the complete absence of the dark pigment. The many minute yellowish spots present in the usual pattern are accentuated in the albino. This is the only albino specimen observed among more than 300 individuals of the species seen in Audubon Park during April-August, 1946, where the population has been under observation of the Zoology Department of Tulane University for many years. Retained in captivity with a normally pigmented animal of the same size, the albino displayed no apparent difference in sensitivity to light or in the feeding reaction. The specimen is preserved in the Tulane Collections in Vertebrate Zoology.-FRED R. CAGLE, *Department of Zoology, Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana.*

SNAKES EATING BATS.-The diet of many snakes includes a number of rodents and other mammals such as shrews, moles, weasels, and opossums. Few snakes are known to eat bats. Silver (1928, *Jour. Mammal.* 9(2): 149) mentions a pilot black snake, *Elaphe o. obsoleta*, captured up under the roof of a building where bats were roosting, which was subsequently found to have been feeding on these animals. Carr (1940, *Univ. Fla. Publ., Biol. Ser.*, III, No. 1: 82) refers to several chicken snakes, *Elaphe q. quadrivittata*, found hanging from stalactites and in crevices in the ceiling of a cave inhabited by thousands of bats. No doubt there are other arboreal snakes that occasionally eat bats.¹

The present note concerns a captive corn snake, *Elaphe g. guttata*, and a captive pilot black snake, *Elaphe o. obsoleta*, that have been fed bats on several occasions. Two species of bats were eaten, the large brown bat (*Eptesicus f. fuscus*) and the Georgian bat (*Pipistrellus s. subflavus*). In each instance the bats were immediately seized and usually constricted before swallowing was begun. Swallowing was accomplished almost as easily as with other mammalian prey except that the presence of the wings made it somewhat more awkward. Both of these individual snakes also eat birds. The readiness with which these arboreal snakes accepted bats suggests that they encounter and capture these mammals with some frequency under natural conditions. A captive king-snake, *Lampropeltis g. getulus*, consistently refused to eat bats despite the fact that its diet includes, among other animals, small mammals superficially similar to bats. This suggests that because of its terrestrial habits bats do not constitute a normal part of its food.-

J. A. FOWLER, *Biology Department, Sidwell Friends School, Washington, D.C.*

¹ Uhler, Cottam and Clarke (1939, *Trans. Fourth N. Amer. Wildlife Conference*: 610) record a bat from the stomach of a rattlesnake (*Crotalus h. horridus*) collected in the George Washington National Forest, Virginia.