Yokley

Abstracts

HELMINTH PARASITES OF THE GRAY FOX (*UROCYON CINEREOARGENTEUS*) IN ALABAMA AND GEORGIA

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The viscera of 30 gray foxes collected from seven counties in southeastern Alabama and one county in west Georgia were examined for helminth parasites. All foxes were caught by professional fur trappers during the 1977-1978 trapping season. Eleven different species of helminths were present in the sample of foxes. The incidence and worm burden of each species of parasite were calculated. *Physaloptera* sp. was the most prevalent nematode with an incidence of 80%. The number of *Physaloptera* per fox ranged from 1 to 162. *Ancylostoma caninum* was second with an incidence of 63%. The highest worm burden occurred in Troup County, Georgia with 96 parasites per fox, representing 6 species. Lee County Alabama was second with 71 parasites per fox, representing species.

OVERWINTERING IN THREE SPECIES OF PITCHER PLANT MOTH (*EXYRA*: NOCTUIDAE)

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The pitcher plant moth genus, *Exyra* Grt., contains three species, *semicrocea* Guen., *E. rolandiana* Grt. and *E. ridingsii* Riley, all obligate inhabitants of pitcher plants of the genus *Sarracenia*. The life history of *E. semicrocea* is being studied in Baldwin County, Alabama. Collections and observations were made of *E. rolandiana* overwintering in New Jersey and of *E. ridingsii* in Georgia. All three species overwinter as larvae but exhibit distinct differences in larval instar, diapause development and nature of the overwintering chamber. Observations were made of the overwintering habits of other pitcher plant associated arthropods in Alabama: the insect families Sarcophagidae, Sciaridae, Sphecidae, and Tortricidae; the mite family Phytoseiidae; and spider families Salticidae and Oxyopidae.

BIVALVE MOLLUSKS OF THE BUTTAHATCHIE RIVER, ALABAMA AND MISSISSIPPI

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The Buttahatchie River is a main tributary of the Tombigbee River and is one of the recruitment areas for the many species of freshwater mussels which inhabit the Tombigbee River. No previous survey of the Buttahatchie River mussel fauna has been recorded and few collections have been made from any part of its length. In this study, collections were made along the lower seventy miles of its length from Henson Springs, Alabama to its mouth near Columbus, Mississippi. At least forty different mussel species inhabit this stretch along with the freshwater Asiatic clam, *Corbicula*.