

THE AMPHIBIA OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, INDIANA

B. H. GRAVE, DePauw University

The portions of Montgomery County that are drained by Rock River and especially its small tributaries are admirably adapted to furnishing shelter to amphibia. Salamanders are abundant in weathered and crumbling stony cliffs along the ravines of small streams. Some species also, are to be found under logs higher up upon the wooded hill sides.

The following list of species is given in the order of their abundance:

1. *Plethodon dorsalis*.
2. *Plethodon cinereus*.
3. *Plethodon glutinosus*.
4. *Spelerpes (eurycea) bilineata*.
5. *Spelerpes longicauda*.
6. *Spelerpes lusifuga*.
7. *Spelerpes* Sp?
8.  *Amblistoma maculatum*.
9.  *Amblistoma Jeffersonianum*.
10.  *Desmognathus* Sp?

Two of these species show a remarkable variation particularly in color differences. The color of the mid-dorsal stripe of *Plethodon dorsalis* varies all the way from lemon yellow through orange to cinnamon or chocolate brown, so that almost a complete gradation between *Plethodon cinereus* and *Plethodon dorsalis* exists.

Plethodon cinereus is also represented by a few individuals with no dorsal stripe so that the speckled or mottled character of the ventral and lateral parts is carried over the entire body. This gives the appearance of a distinct species to all but expert systematists. Species No. 7 above, clearly belongs to the genus *Spelerpes*. It is plain yellow below and mottled brown above, but it has no lines or color bands. *Necturus maculos* and *Amblistoma tigrinum* occur in this county but they have not been collected by us.

FROGS

Frogs are represented by four or five species, which are named in the order of their abundance. All are common except *Rana catesbiana* which is rare and scarcely ever seen.

1. *Rana pipiens* (Grass frog).
2. *Rana clamitans* (Green frog).
3. *Rana palustris* (Pickerel frog).
4. *Rana sylvatica* (Wood frog).
5. *Rana catesbiana* (Bull frog).

OTHER AMPHIBIA

Acris Gryllus (Cricket frog).
Bufo americanus (Toad).

Other species which occur rarely in this territory are *Hyla pickeringi* (Crucifer) and *Hyla versicolor* (Tree frog.)

The great abundance of individuals and species of the general *Plethodon* and *Spelerpes* is an outstanding fact. One can collect dozens of each species in a single day. The great variability of some of these species is also observable in any considerable collection of individuals.

