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NOTES ON THE MAMMALS OBSERVED IN
MARSHALL COUNTY, IOWA

IRA N. GABRIELSON

Few specific locality records for mammals in central Iowa have ever been published. The following brief notes, therefore, have been prepared for the purpose of making available for future workers on Iowan mammalogy the information I am able to give. This list is not complete but comprises only such notes and specimens as came to my hands in one way or another during three years' residence.

1. Opossum. *Didelphis virginiana*

A small boy brought an opossum to me on November 4, 1914. He had caught the animal in a trap and wanted to know what it was as neither he nor his father had ever seen anything like it.

2. Flying Squirrel. *Glaucomys volans volans*

Common in the timber near Marshalltown. At different times I had two individuals in captivity and they made the most interesting pets I ever had. November 17, 1914, a single individual was brought to me by a hunter. On December 12, 1914, a dead adult and a live, partly grown, young one were secured by a companion on a hunting trip and given to me.

3. Western Fox Squirrel. *Sciurus niger rufiventer*

Common, especially within the city limits of Marshalltown, where half wild ones lived along the streets. One living near my home very frequently came and perched on my shoulder to ride along the street for some distance.

4. Gray Chipmunk. *Tamias striatus griseus*

Common in the timbered sections along the Iowa river and Linn creek. Several were brought to me alive at different times by members of the high-school classes.

5. Thirteen-lined Ground Squirrel. *Citellus tridecemlineatus tridecemlineatus*

Common throughout the pasture lands of the county.

6. Franklin's Spermophile. *Citellus franklini*

Quite common, particularly north of Marshalltown.

7. Woodchuck. *Marmota monax monax*

Quite common along Iowa river and Linn creek.

8. House Mouse. *Mus musculus*

An abundant pest.

9. Norway Rat. *Rattus norvegicus*

Common pest throughout the county.

10. Northern White-Footed Mouse. *Peromyscus leucopus noveboracensis*

Very common mouse. Eighty-nine were taken from about 226 pellets secured under a roost of four long-eared owls on April 3, 1913.

11. Meadow Mouse. *Microtus pennsylvanicus pennsylvanicus*

Every clover field has its quota of these mice, particularly on the river-bottom lands. Seventy skulls were taken from the long-eared owl pellets mentioned above.

12. Prairie Meadow Mouse. *Microtus ochrogaster ochrogaster*

Eighteen skulls of this mouse were identified in the long-eared owl pellets.

13. Muskrat. *Fiber zibethicus zibethicus*

Quite common in Iowa river and the Goose Ponds north of Marshalltown.

14. Pocket Gopher. *Geomys bursarius bursarius*

Common in all pasture lands and clover fields.

15. White-Tailed Jack Rabbit. *Lepus townsendi campanius*

Beginning to appear in the county. Old settlers told me that they had never seen it in the county until the last few years. I shot three during the fall of 1913 and saw the tracks of several more at various times.

16. Mearn's Cottontail. *Sylvilagus floridanus mearnsi*

Very common. I collected four on December 12, 1914, and shot others at various times.

17. Red Fox. *Vulpes fulvus fulvus*

I saw several skins in fur buyers' supplies that were taken along Linn creek in 1914. I was unable to get exact dates on these.

18. Coyote. *Canis latrans latrans*

An occasional one secured by trappers and brought in for bounty. I saw one alive on December 12, 1914, and learned of one den dug out in the spring of 1915.

19. Illinois Skunk. *Mephitis mephitis avia*

I saw many skins of a large skunk and identified them some-

what doubtfully as this subspecies. The large skunk was common although probably not over half so abundant as the smaller species.

20. Little Spotted Skunk. *Spilogale interrupta*

The little spotted skunk, or, as it is locally known, the "civet cat," is common. I collected one on November 22, 1914.

21. Mink. *Putorius vison lutreocephalus*

Quite common. Next to the muskrat and skunk the fur of the mink is the one most commonly turned in by the farmer boys from their winter trapping.

22. Weasel. *Putorius longicauda* subsp.

Weasels were occasionally seen but I was never able to secure one to determine the subspecies.

23. Raccoon. *Procyon lotor lotor*

Not common, though more abundant than many people suspect. I saw two killed by Mr. Henry Friese, on October 11 and October 18, 1914, respectively.

24. Short-tailed Shrew. *Blarina brevicauda brevicauda*

Five skulls of these shrews were taken from the long-eared owl pellets referred to under the various species of mice.

25. Least Shrew. *Cryptotis parva parva*

One skull of this species was found in the owl pellets.

26. Prairie Mole. *Scalopus aquaticus machrinus*

Common. One collected November 1, 1914, was identified as this subspecies by Dr. H. H. T. Jackson.

27. Red Bat. *Nycteris borealis borealis*

On June 20, 1915, a female red bat was brought to me by a high school boy. This bat had two young clinging to it. I kept it in a screened porch for two days, but it escaped.

28. Free-tailed Bat. *Nyctinomus depressus*

One caught alive on October 21, 1914, and recorded in Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington, Vol. XXIX, p. 86, April 4, 1916.