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## Goldeye in the Black River

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# GENERAL NOTES

## THE GOLDEYE IN THE BLACK RIVER

The goldeye, *Hiodon alosoides* (Rafinesque) has previously been abundant in the Hudson Bay drainage of Manitoba and is distributed from the Mississippi Valley as far west as Yellowstone and as far south as Mississippi and Alabama (Moore, George A., 1968, Fishes. In Blair, W. Frank, Albert P. Blair, Pierce Brodkorb, Fred R. Cagle, and George A. Moore, Vertebrates of the United States, McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York. IX + 616 pp. Part II, p. 53). On 2 November 1978, a single specimen was collected on an artificial spinner near Lynn, Arkansas (T15N R2W S3), by Charles Clark, and was deposited in the Arkansas State University Fish Collection (No. 8688). The specimen was an adult female, 33.1 cm in total length, 26.7 cm in standard length; it possessed 9 principal dorsal fin rays, 33 anal fin rays, 12 pectoral fin rays, 7 pelvic fin rays, and 58 scales in the lateral line.

This female specimen represents the first definite record of *H. alosoides* occurring in the Black River. Buchanan (Buchanan, Thomas M., 1973, Key to the Fishes of Arkansas, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201) reported past collection sites in Arkansas at four places on the Arkansas River and one on the White and Little Red Rivers, respectively. Yeager and Beadles (Yeager, Bruce E. and John K. Beadles, 1976., Fishes of the Cane Creek Watershed in Southeast Missouri and Northeast Arkansas, Proceedings Arkansas Academy of Sciences XXX:100-104) reported catching a single specimen in the channelized portion of Cane Creek, over a sandy bottom, which represented the first record for the goldeye in the Black River System.

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## NOTES ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ORNATE BOX TURTLE (*Terrapene ornata ornata*) IN ARKANSAS

The ornate box turtle, *Terrapene ornata ornata*, is found in the grasslands of the Great Plains of North America, ranging from southern Wisconsin, to southeast Wyoming, southward to the Gulf Coast of west Louisiana and Texas and westward to south Arizona and southeast Sonora (Ward, 1978).

In Arkansas, there are few records of occurrence for the ornate box turtle, and those which do exist are inconsistent and confusing. The first record of the ornate box turtle in the state was Columbia County (Hurter and Strecker, 1909). Schwardt (1938) listed Garland, Lafayette, Perry, Prairie, and Washington Counties; however Dellinger and Black (1938) recorded only Fulton County. Dowling (1957) felt that further confirmation was needed before the turtle was included as a native species, thus he did not include the ornate box turtle in his listing of reptiles for Arkansas. Legler (1960) mapped only one location in Arkansas where the ornate box turtle occurred and the exact location was not given in his account. Reagan (1974) included only Boone, Benton, and Prairie Counties in his discussion of the ornate box turtle in Arkansas. He did not include earlier distributional records because he felt they were not representative of the turtle's distribution at the time of his writing (*Pers. comm.*, 1979). Ward's 1978 map illustrating the distribution of the ornate box turtle noted seven known and two uncertain localities where the turtle occurred in Arkansas. However, no specific locations were given for these occurrences. Unpublished records for the ornate box turtle include sightings in Prairie County (Tom Foti, 1972 and David Hunter, 1974).

In an effort to better delineate the turtle's range in Arkansas, various prairie areas were visited by the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission staff from early spring to late summer in 1978. Counties and approximate acreage studied included Arkansas (40), Benton (15), Boone (65), and Franklin (3000). Searches for the turtle took place on these areas from sunrise to noon. Special emphasis was placed on areas near natural breaks in vegetation as populations are found to be higher in these areas (Legler, 1960). When captured, identification of the turtles was made using Cagle (1957), Conant (1975), and Legler (1960). Specimens were captured, examined, photographed, and released at the point of their capture.



Figure 1: Arkansas counties in which occurrences of the ornate box turtle were reported from 1909 to 1978.