

MEXICO 11 May - 25 May, 1972

Car 2166
Charles Martin
David Schmidtly

J.R.D.
Journal

10 MAY 1972 College Station to 35.6 mi E Valles, S.L.P., Mexico (766.6 mi)

Left C.S. 5:am; arrived Reynosa 12 noon, DST; crossed
in 20 min; 1.5 mi S. Reynosa, had flat; returned to
tire repair shop, waited 45 min on repair; made 2nd
Aduana easy & arrived ^{CST} 3rd Aduana about 3:PM; he
wanted permit for traps; David showed his collecting
permit; but he wanted to see duty tax report for traps;
made us unload truck; checked gear; & finally let us
go. (he was slightly drunk). Drove to Mante (6:30PM) CST,
ate & drove to Valles for gas; & turned east towards
Tampico & stopped between Tamulte & El Gano for night;
Boy!! Hot! Hot! Hot! set up tent for protection & in sack
by 11:PM - drove 766.6 mi. this date.

11 May 1972 Camp to 3 mi (5km) E Las Vigas, Veracruz. (368.2 mi)
Up at 4:45am; loaded & on road by 5:20; drove to
Tantoyuca for breakfast; crossed toll bridge at Rio
Poncho & Rio Tuxpan; & arrived in Las Vigas at 2:PM;
ate lunch, & drove to campsite 3 mi E Las Vigas, 7900';
David & Chos set 200 traps; 2 Bat nets; & 3 Gopher traps;
Carl & I collected 4 Sal, 4 Lizard, & 1 snake; ate camp
supper; & in sack by 9PM. Camp area on old volcanic
flow, with Pine, Sycamore, Agave & assorted shrubs.
Saw *Coniophanes*? in Sycamore, but missed him.

13 May Camp to 13.4 mi NE Metapet, Hidalgo, 7300' (208.9 mi.)
Up at 5:10 am; ran traps; 1 Bat, 2 birds, & 10 mice; loaded
& left camp 8:35am; Breakfast in Las Vigas & drove to
Apizaco, Tlaxcala for lunch; collected 6. th sides of
Huamantla, Tlaxcala; 3 Cnem, 6 Scelop.; Chos broke my
potato Rake!! drove on to Tulancingo, missing the turnoff
to Metapet; returned 6 mi, & drove north 6 mi to Metapet.

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13 May (TBID) drove 13.4 mi NE Metepec on dirt road; winding up & down thru Pine-oak forests + beautiful scenes. Found small area on side of road (Flick) + camped at 3:30 PM, Carl + I collected while Dave + Chas set traps. We found P. bellii; Chiropterotriton, Thamnophis + 3 Gekkis. I cooked chili for supper + we were all in bed by 9:PM.

14 May: Camp to Ixmiquilpan, Hidalgo, Mexico (119 mi)

Up at 5:30 AM; Chas + Dave picked up traps, 46 mammals, 1 Bat; began immediately sorting + killing mice, Carl + I walked about 4 mi up + down road coll., 10 S. grammicus + 1 E. lynxe. Caught 11 birds in net, labeled them Locality #2, Carl + I took down nets, folded traps, took down tent; + generally gathered all gear together; broke camp 1 PM; + drove to Tulancingo, Pachuca, + Ixmiquilpan, arriving here 4:10 PM; Found motel; + ate, checked in 110° per room, + Chas + Dave immediately started karyotype work; Carl + I tagged lizards; ate at 7 PM; + washed clothes in sink of room. Will collect w. E town in morning while I eat karyotype.

15 May Environs of Ixmiquilpan, Hidalgo

Carl + I checked out of motel + moved Schmidtly to different room; we left them with karyotyping + drove 2-3 mi west town + collected to 12:30; + found 24 Cnem., 1 S. spinosus; drove back to town + ate, checked P.O., doesn't open til 3; bought food for Schmidtly, + took to him. He wanted rice, went to ice house, no ice til 5 PM; drove to Rio Tula + preserved herbs; went to P.O. at 3 and mailed letter to Mary + package to Villa \$10⁰⁰. Back to Schmidtly, took him to town for call home; Father was operated on + was checking on how well he was. Heard via

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phone call that Wallace & 2 S.S. men were killed; turned around & headed west to set traps, saw bus-car collision in town near motel, killed driver of car!; Dave m/w & set traps. Will pick up on way to San Juan Del Rio in morning. Carl & I camping out tonight; can't afford another nite in motel, will pick Schmidly up at 5:30 am.

5/16/72 TXMIDULPAN to -

Up at 5:40 am, overslept 10 minutes, loaded gear & left Motel area at 6:10 am; picked up traps (5 mi N, 2 mi W Txmiquipan (200') & Ches hñdzilch, Dave & ; drove to San Juan del Rio for breakfast, arr. 8:15 am, ate, went to truck & I had locked keys in truck - Caramba!! with piece of wire, etc to slip in above window & hook lock & pull up - 25 min shot!! arguy, were saved by wire!! Coll. near edge of town waiting for train to go by; S. scutatus, C. gularis; drove to Peña Blanca; collecting along way; found Perognathus under rock nn Vizcachon, & S. spinosus; stopped in Peña Blanca arroyo for night; shot Crayps, while Ches & Dave set traps & nets. Wind blowing hard; do not expect to collect much - in rock by 9 PM.

5/17/72 Peña Blanca to Penas de Amoles

up at 5:30 am; Carl & I picked up nets while Dave & Ches picked up traps; they got zilch! Nets contained Eudermis (very rare Bat); Pipistrellus, Dermodus & Tadarida. Drove to camp area 1 mi above Penal; They skinned bats while Carl & I herped. Caught Geophis, Conopsis, S. aeneus, S. jarrovii, S. grammicus, E. lynxe, Hemirhagerrhis. Dave & I drove down to 6000' (7 mi ENE Amoles) & set traps & bat nets; Dave almost bitten by rattlesnake setting traps; I found hole & dug it out - do not know what it is? Drove back to camp, cooked supper & in bed by 9 PM.

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5/18/72 Pinal de Amoles to Peña Blanca

Up at 5:30 am; Dave & I drove to Bat nets; caught 6 birds + 3 bats. Dave was zilched again on trapping. Chas caught 10 mice. Carl & I drove back to Bat Net site to look for more rattlesnakes - none - drove back to camp, cooked lunch, + loaded truck; + drove down to Peña Blanca to set Bat nets - arrived there 3:30 pm. Cut willow limbs for poles + set six sets of nets along dry river bed. Carl + I ran road from Peña Blanca to Higuerillas + return; zilch! Set up camp at old camp spot; ran bat nets until 10 pm; had 1 Vampire + 1 Tadarida in 8 d by 10:30 PM.

5/19/72 Peña Blanca to San Juan del Rio

Up at 5:30 am; picked up nets + bats + headed to S.J. del Rio for David to run karyotype material. Carl + I ran road to Ameclico + to Peña Blanca, picked up S. spinosus + C. gallicus. David found cheap motel 5⁰⁰ for 2; so he got Carl + I a room. Carl + I ran road to presa NW of town + coll. R. montezumae, + R. pipiens, + ran river for short while + got Thamnophis + R. montezumae. Preserved lizards until 11 pm; + hit sack. Room loaded with mosquitos - no wonder it was cheap; not much sleep this night!!

5/20/72 Up at 6 am; loaded truck + went to breakfast in town, David to Bank, Chas to P.O., + Carl + I watched truck. On road by 9:10 am; drove to Ameclico; 4 mi NNE, 3 mi SE; + collected Amylostoma at 8650'; in presa; had to swim in ice cold water up to my waist!! Also collected Thamnophis S. jarrovii, S. grammicus, S. scalaris, S. torquatus, Tolucaj + Physosoma. Returned to Ameclico for lunch, 2 PM; down mountain setting traps, ending up on Rio Galindo, where we set 3 Bat nets + Line of traps.

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5/21/72 Rio Galindo to Celaya, Guanajuato

Carl & I collected R. montezumae, R. pipiens + B. occidentalis along Rio Galindo last night. Up at 6:am; picked up nets + traps; 3 Bats; Four mice, + drove to 3mi SE Amealco; For last set of traps; Carl & I sawed a small quarry + got Thamnophis + R. montezumae fiddleback. Also noted birds for Truxel. Stopped at 9000', 2.1 mi SE Amealco, + let Chet + Dave put up skins. We got 5 Physosoma. Then we drove to Acambaro + on to Celaya, arriving there in P.M. Got motel + Chet + Dave ran karyotypes while Carl + I tried to collect lizards - too hot, no luck.

Carl + I ate in town, + drove out to road ditch 5mi E, + 2.1 mi E. Celaya; + collected 1 T. melanostictus, 1 R. pipiens + 1 B. compactilis. In bed by 10:PM.

Called many this P.M. Rosy, great to hear her voice.

5/22/72 Celaya - Guanajuato - Rincon de Ramos, Aguascalientes

Left Celaya 8:45 am; + drove to 15mi NE Guanajuato, 8700', in oak forest to look for shanks. Found 2 S. grammicus, 2 S. tigrinus; drove back to main road Hwy 45; + made it to Rincon de Ramos by 3:45 PM.

Camped 8.1 mi N.; against granite domed hill + collected 4 C. septentrionalis, + 1 B. punctatus.

At camp supper + drove to small pond 2.1 mi N. Rincon to look for Frogs; collected 9 Frogs, ran my trap line + had C. scutulatus in mammal trap.

In bed by 9:30:

5/23/72 Camp (8.1 mi N. Rincon) to Zzatuccos + 50 mi SW Saltillo

Collected early; Zilch, Carl coll. 4 Cnem. septentrionalis + I got Holbrookia. Chet + Dave stuffed mammals. Left 11:am for Zzatuccos. Carl + I collected butterflies.

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5/23 (cont.) nr. motel + on adobe walls; got 12 S. fuscus; chis
+ Dave running mice caught last night. Wind up today +
collecting very poor. Plan to leave motel about 9:30PM
+ road collect towards Saltillo. Left motel 8:45pm; drove
to within 50mi of Saltillo; + camped on roadside; found 1
Tantilla wilcoxi DOR in 183 mi of road collecting in bed by
12:10am.

5/24 Camp to S'misse Bella Union, Coahuila, 6500' (Camp)
Up at 6am, drove thru Saltillo + ate on edge of town, drove
SE on Hwy 57 to San Antonio de Los Alazanas turnoff, thru
Alazanas to near top of mountains at 8900'. Returned down rd.
about mi + collected on slopes of valley, collecting Crotalus,
S. grammicus, S. jarrovi + E. b. piceus (6). Picked up more
grammicus en way down; stopped at Truckstop + ate lunch;
+ drove to spring + waterfall area 5 mi above Bella Union.
Carl coll. 1- S. parvus at this locality. Carl + I walked
stream below springs for birds + coll. 3 for Arnold. Walked
stream following dark + found 3 R. pipiens. In bed by
10PM.

5/25 S'misse Bella Union Coahuila to College Station, Texas
Up at 5am, checked Bat nets, unlike others up at 5:45am,
Loaded + on road by 6:10am; (3 sets in net, one got away)
Drove to Monterrey + got thru before morning rush (7:30-7:45)
drove to small restaurant between Monterrey + Sabinas Hidalgo
for late breakfast + reached N. Laredo 10:30am, stopped +
crossed border 11:30am (CST vs 12:30 DST) Made us unload entire
truck ("flicks") + finally reach Bryan 8:00pm, unloaded live
mice, gear + guys + reached home 8:45PM —