Southwestern Association of Naturalists

A Noteworthy Record of the Long-Legged Myotis (Myotis volans) from Central México

Author(s): José Ramírez-Pulido, Gerardo Ceballos and Stephen L. Williams Source: *The Southwestern Naturalist*, Vol. 25, No. 1 (Jan. 30, 1980), p. 124

Published by: Southwestern Association of Naturalists Stable URL: https://www.jstor.org/stable/3671229

Accessed: 06-12-2019 19:31 UTC

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I acknowledge Dr. Rodolfo Hernandez Corzo, El Dirección General de la Fauna Silvestre, for granting a scientific collecting permit; Rodolfo O. Corrales, and Merced and Juan Gomez of Atotonilco for their cooperation and hospitality; Marcia K. Petersen for field assistance; P. L. Dalby for constructive criticism of the manuscript; and the Michigan State Univ. Latin Am. Stud. Cent. for financial support.— Michael K. Petersen, The Museum, Michigan State Univ. East Lansing, MI 48824 (present address: 3302 Morningside St., Ames, IA 50010).

A NOTEWORTHY RECORD OF THE LONG-LEGGED MYOTIS (MYOTIS VOLANS) FROM CENTRAL MÉXICO.—The geographical range of Myotis volans amotus is separated from the rest of the range of M. volans by 800 to 1100 km. Reported localities of M. v. amotus are from scattered areas in the Mexican states of Veracruz and Jalisco. In Veracruz, the subspecies is known only from Cofre de Perote, the type locality (Miller, Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington 27:211–212, 1914). In Jalisco, M. v. amotus has been reported from Los Masos (Miller and Allen, Bull. U.S. Nat. Mus. 144:1–218, 1928), 8 mi W Atenquique, 9100 ft (Baker and Phillips, J. Mamm. 46:691–693, 1965), and 15 mi S, 9 mi E Talpa de Allende, 6900 ft (Watkins et al., Spec. Publ. Mus. Texas Tech Univ. 1:1-44, 1972). The latter localities are approximately 650 km west of the type locality. Based on these scanty records, the distribution of this subspecies has been assumed to be the Transvolcanic Belt of México, with the reported collecting localities representing the eastern and western extremes of the range.

On 28 May 1978, a single lactating female (UAMI 1386) was collected at Zoquiapan, 15 km SW Río Frío, 3110 m, in the State of México. This is 150 km W and 30 km S of the type locality, and 500 km E from the western localities. This specimen was netted over a pond, located in a pine forest, with two Lasiurus cinereus cinereus and four Eptesicus fuscus miradorensis. The specimen of M. v. amotus comes from a gap between previously reported specimens. Previous specimens of M. v. amotus all were collected at higher elevations. The new specimen indicates that this subspecies occurs throughout the Transvolcanic Belt.

External and cranial measurements (mm) of this new record are as follows: total length, 93; length of tail, 41; length of hind foot, 7; length of ear from notch, 13; length of forearm, 40.1; greatest length of skull, 14.8; condylocanine length, 12.7; breadth of braincase, 6.7; zygomatic breadth, 8.8; mastoid breadth, 7.7; palatal length, 6.5; length of maxillary toothrow, 4.9; breadth across third molars, 5.5.—José Ramírez-Pulido and Gerardo Ceballos. Dep. de Biología. Univ. Autónoma Metropolitana-Iztapalapa (UAMI), Apartado Postal 55-535, México 13, D. F., MEXICO, and Stephen L. Williams, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, 4400 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15235 U.S.A.

DISPERSAL OF A LESSER PRAIRIE CHICKEN (TYMPANUCHUS PALLI-DICINCTUS).—Several researchers have documented fall dispersal of juvenile grouse, but there are no published accounts of dispersal of lesser prairie chickens. The purpose of this paper is to describe dispersal of a juvenile from a lesser prairie chicken population in the Texas Panhandle. The study was conducted 14.5 km W and 8.1 km S Sundown in northern Yoakum Co. during Oct. 1977 through Feb. 1978. The 5,200-ha study area was on strongly sloping, stabilized sandhills