

western Minnesota were substantially larger than any reported elsewhere (Sajwaj et al. 1998. Final Rept. Non-game Wildlife Office, MN Department NR, Brainerd, MN).

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Submitted by **ROBIN J. INNES, KIMBERLY J. BABBITT**, Department of Natural Resources, University of New Hampshire, Durham, New Hampshire 03824, USA (e-mail: kbabbitt@cisunix.unh.edu); and **JOHN J. KANTER**, New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, Concord, New Hampshire 03301, USA.

**GOPHERUS POLYPHEMUS** (Gopher Tortoise). **JUVENILE USE OF GOPHER TUNNEL.** Mammals occasionally make use of Gopher Tortoise burrows (Frank and Lips 1989. Florida Field Nat. 17:20–22) and in some instances they may be closely associated with the burrows (e.g., Jones and Franz 1990. Florida Field Nat. 18:45–68). However, to our knowledge, only a single record exists of Gopher Tortoises using structures excavated by mammals, the record being a description of an adult Gopher Tortoise nesting in a pocket gopher (*Geomys pinetis*) mound (Epperson and Wendland 1997. Herpetol. Rev. 28:87).

On 2 November 2004 at 1001 h, we visited the burrow of a hatchling tortoise that had emerged from its nest on 5 September 2004 (SLCL = 53.08 mm, SLPL = 53.43 mm, mass = 38.06 g), and fitted with a radio-transmitter and released on 6 September 2004 at the Joseph W. Jones Ecological Research Center in Baker County, Georgia (USA). The hatchling had been tracked to its burrow the previous day at 1420 h and no disturbance had been observed. However, on 2 November, the burrow was found to have fresh dirt filling the entrance and emerging onto the apron. We radio tracked the hatchling to an area ca. 11.6 m straight line distance from its burrow and the signal was coming from below ground. We excavated the area to determine the status of the hatchling and it was located alive, ca. 37 cm below ground in a pocket gopher tunnel. Approximately two minutes after excavation, a pocket gopher began to back-fill the exposed portion of the tunnel. Eight pocket gopher mounds were observed within about 5 m of the location. The habitat surrounding the site consisted primarily of Wiregrass (*Aristida beyrichiana*) with sandy soils, and an open Longleaf Pine (*Pinus palustris*) canopy. From our observations, we conclude that a burrowing pocket gopher intersected the tortoise burrow and the tortoise proceeded along the newly constructed, adjoining pocket gopher tunnel. Over the previous 54 days, this individual had been tracked 26 times and had traveled a total straight line distance of only 10.1 m as compared to this recorded movement of more than 11 m. Juvenile Gopher Tortoises do possess the ability to dig out of occluded burrows (Diemer 1992. J. Herpetol. 26:158–165), so pocket gopher activity would not necessarily lead to increased tortoise mortality.

Submitted by **DAVID A. STEEN, GABRIEL J. MILLER, SEAN C. STERRETT**, and **LORA L. SMITH**, Joseph W. Jones Ecological Research Center, Route 2, Box 2324, Newton, Georgia 39870, USA; e-mail (DAS): David.Steen@jonesctr.org.

**KINOSTERNON BAURII** (Striped Mud Turtle). **SIZE AND REPRODUCTION.** *Kinosternon baurii* occurs in the floodplain swamp along the lower Apalachicola River in Franklin and Gulf Cos., Florida (Ewert et al. 2004. Herpetol. Rev. 35:80). Two of eight females from the previously reported sample were larger than any documented for any *K. baurii* or *K. subrubrum* (Conant and Collins 1998. A Field Guide to Reptiles & Amphibians, Eastern and Central North America, third ed., expanded. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, Massachusetts. 616 pp.). The longest (UF 143962), found 18 August 1991 (max. CL = 138 mm, max PL = 129 mm, CW = 95 mm, non-gravid mass = 398.8 g) contained 7 eggs (RCM = 0.134), and the heaviest, found 7 May 1991 (max CL = 135 mm, max PL = 128 mm, CW = 97 mm, non-gravid mass = 401.0 g) contained 6 eggs (RCM = 0.101). Both females were on land, presumably to nest, near the upstream end of Forbes Island in the Apalachicola River (29.9451°N, 85.0166°W, WGS84/NAD83).

In all, we found seven gravid females, two intact nests, and several eggshells from depredated nests. Mean clutch size was 4.7 eggs (range 3–7, N = 9). Mean egg size was 6.8 (range 4.6–8.1) g and 29.9 (range 25.0–32.3) mm x 18.9 (range 17.0–20.4) mm. One larger viable egg produced in captivity was 8.6 g, 34.5 x 19.4 mm, and two depredated eggshells were ~35 mm long. Five gravid females were nesting or on land during mid-late mornings 7–17 May and 16–18 August, which occurred within brief periods of field work (~12 d April–May, ~5 d August). Thus, nesting could occur from spring into the late summer.

These data suggest that locally, at least, eastern *Kinosternon* more closely approach in body size several species from west of the Mississippi River (review in Iverson 1991. Herpetol. Monogr. 5:1–27) than prior measurements had indicated. Although the sample size is small, *K. baurii* from along the lower Apalachicola River appear to lay larger clutches of larger eggs than do populations in peninsular Florida (Wilson et al. 1999. Copeia 1994:958–968; Meshaka and Blind 2001. Chelon. Cons. Biol. 4:75–80).

Submitted by **MICHAEL A. EWERT**†, Department of Biology, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana 47405-3700, USA; and **DALE R. JACKSON**, Florida Natural Areas Inventory, Florida State University, 1018 Thomasville Road, Suite 200-C, Tallahassee, Florida 32303, USA (e-mail: djackson@fnai.org).  
† Deceased.

**MAUREMYS RIVULATA** (Balkan Terrapin). **ENDOPARASITES.** *Mauremys rivulata* is a freshwater turtle that ranges through southeastern Europe, Bulgaria, western Turkey, coastal Syria, Lebanon and Israel (Ernst and Barbour. 1989. Turtles of the World, Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, D.C. 313 pp). To our knowledge there are no reports of helminths from *M. rivulata*. The purpose of this note is to report two species of Digenea and two species of Nematoda in *M. rivulata* from Turkey.

Sixteen *M. rivulata* (mean carapace length = 17.9 cm ± 3.1 SD, range: 9–24 cm) were collected in 1996, 1999–2003 in Turkey. Eleven were from Görükle (40°15'N, 28°49'E), four were from Kayapa (40°10'N, 28°52'E), one was from Nilufer Çayı (40°16'N, 29°02'E). Terrapins were sacrificed with an overdose of sodium pentobarbital. The esophagus, stomach, small and large intestines were opened and examined for helminths. Digeneans were fixed