

THOMPSON'S PIGMY SHREW, *MICROSOREX THOMPSONI WINNEMANA*, IN TENNESSEE

MICHAEL L. KENNEDY, MICHAEL C. WOOTEN, AND MICHAEL J. HARVEY
Memphis State University
Memphis, Tennessee 38152

INTRODUCTION

Microsorex hoyi winnemana (= *M. thompsoni winnemana*) was reported near the North Carolina-Tennessee boundary at Newfound Gap, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Swain Co., North Carolina, by Hoffmeister (1968). Hamilton (1943), Wharton (1968), and others also reported this species in proximity to Tennessee. Although *M. hoyi* has been reported as occurring in Tennessee during the Pleistocene (Guilday et al., 1969), until this time no recent records of *M. t. winnemana* are available documenting the occurrence of this species in the state.

EVIDENCE

On 14 and 20 June, single female specimens of Thompson's pigmy shrew were taken from pit traps 0.5 mi. (0.8 km) W Whigg Meadow (approximately 16 mi. SE Tellico Plains), Monroe Co., Tennessee. This locality in the Southern Appalachians (Cherokee National Forest) is approximately 1325 m in elevation. Specimens averaged 77.5 mm in total length, 27.5 mm in length of tail, and 9.0 mm in hind foot length. Pit traps were approximately 10 m apart and located adjacent to fallen

trees and tree stumps in a forest clearing associated largely with beech, maple, buckeye, and hawthorn. *Sorex cinereus* and *Clethrionomys gapperi* were taken in the same pit trap with one *M. thompsoni*. A detailed discussion concerning the systematics and life history of this species is given in Long (1974).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank Mr. Beecher Colvin and others of the Tellico Ranger District, Cherokee National Forest, for making this work possible. We are indebted to Mr. Richard Conley and other members of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency for their help in this investigation. This work was supported in part by the Tennessee Natural Heritage Program.

LITERATURE CITED

- Guilday, J. E., H. W. Hamilton, and A. D. McCrady. 1969. The Pleistocene vertebrate fauna of Robinson Cave, Overton County, Tennessee. *Palaeovertebrata*. 2:25-75.
Hamilton, W. J., Jr. 1943. The mammals of eastern United States. Comstock Publ. Co., Ithaca, N.Y. 432 p.
Hoffmeister, D. F. 1968. Pigmy shrew, *Microsorex hoyi winnemana*, in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. *J. Mamm.* 49:331.
Long, C. A. 1974. *Microsorex hoyi* and *Microsorex thompsoni*. *Mammalian Species*. 33:1-4.
Wharton, C. H. 1968. First records of *Microsorex hoyi* and *Sorex cinereus* from Georgia. *J. Mamm.* 49:158.