

THE FIRST RECORD OF THE SOUTHEASTERN SHREW (*SOREX LONGIROSTRIS*) IN PIKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

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ABSTRACT

A new record of occurrence of the Southeastern Shrew (*Sorex longirostris*) has been documented. Four individuals were trapped in Pike County, Illinois. This indicates a continuous range with populations previously collected in northeastern Missouri and southwestern Illinois.

INTRODUCTION

In October, 1981 four specimens of the Southeastern Shrew, *Sorex longirostris*, were captured in pit traps. Three specimens were collected 200m south of Valley City, Pike County, Illinois, along Flint Creek. The fourth specimen was captured 2km south of Valley City, in the Pike County Conservation Area. These are the first known records in Pike County, indicating their range to extend northwestward into west-central Illinois.

The Southeastern Shrew has been reported from various counties in southern Illinois. George (1977) reported specimens from Jackson, Johnson, Union and possibly Williamson Counties. Hoffmeister and Mhor (1972) reported specimens from Alexander, Coles, Fayette and Johnson Counties. Klimstra and Roseberry (1969) reported specimens from Union and Pope Counties. Wood (1910) reported the Southeastern Shrew in McHenry County, however, subsequent investigation found this specimen to be *Sorex cinerius* (French, 1980). Parmelle (1967), tentatively identified remains of at least 27 individuals from deposits in a fissure in Monroe County.

Mock and Kivett (1980) have reported captures of the Southeastern Shrew in Adair, Schuyler, and Macon Counties of northeastern Missouri. Prior to Mock and Kivett's work, the only record was from Barry County, 400km southwest (Brown, 1961).

The Pike County specimens in part fill the gap between these records from southwestern Illinois and northeastern Missouri.

The Pike County specimens have been added to the mammal collection at Western Illinois University.

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