

RANGE EXTENSION OF THE EASTERN SPADEFOOT
TOAD (*SCAPHIOPUS HOLBROOKI*, HARLAN) IN
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

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ABSTRACT. — An extension of the usual range of the spadefoot toad is reported.

The Eastern Spadefoot Toad (*Scaphiopus holbrookii*) is known in Illinois only from a few specimens taken along the Mississippi River in Alexander, Union and Monroe counties; and one locality in southwestern Johnson County. The presumed range in Illinois according to Smith (1961) includes extreme southern Illinois south of a line from roughly Murphysboro to Golconda.

A single specimen was collected on August 11, 1967, near Lusk Creek in northcentral Pope County. This was slightly north of the presumed range and some 30 miles ENE of the known range representing an extension into the Shawnee Hill uplands.

The specimen was captured in an old limestone quarry near the center of the

SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 16, T12S, R6E. The toad was captured overnight in a Museum Special snap trap set at the base of the 20-foot high quarry wall. The toad, caught across the thighs, was still alive when removed from the trap. Apparently the toad had attempted to capture ants feeding on the oat and peanut butter bait on the trap and sprung the trigger.

The soil along the base of the quarry wall was reddish with a loose sandy texture and void of any vegetation except for a few shrubby hardwood trees. The surrounding hillside was an upland oak-hickory association.

LITERATURE CITED

SMITH, P. W. 1961. The amphibians and reptiles of Illinois. Ill. Nat. Hist. Sur. Bull. 28(1).

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