

THE MOLLUSCAN FAUNA OF THE GREAT RIVER
VALLEYS OF ILLINOIS

BY

FRANK C. BAKER

University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois

The paper lists the Molluscan land species found in ten localities on the Ohio and Mississippi river banks from Hardin County on the Ohio northward to Jo Daviess County on the Mississippi. It shows that the number of species increases southward, certain species being found only in southern Illinois while others are restricted to the northern part of the State. The river bluffs are peculiarly adapted to the needs of land snails; they afford protection and food as well as moisture, and the numerous outcrops of limestone afford lime in abundance. Several races are confined to the large valleys. Two species, known only from the Mississippi River bluffs in the southern part of the State, are believed to be migrants from Missouri.

The paper is based on field work carried on for the State Natural History Survey during 1931-1932 for the purpose of obtaining data needed for the preparation of a handbook of the land mollusks of Illinois.