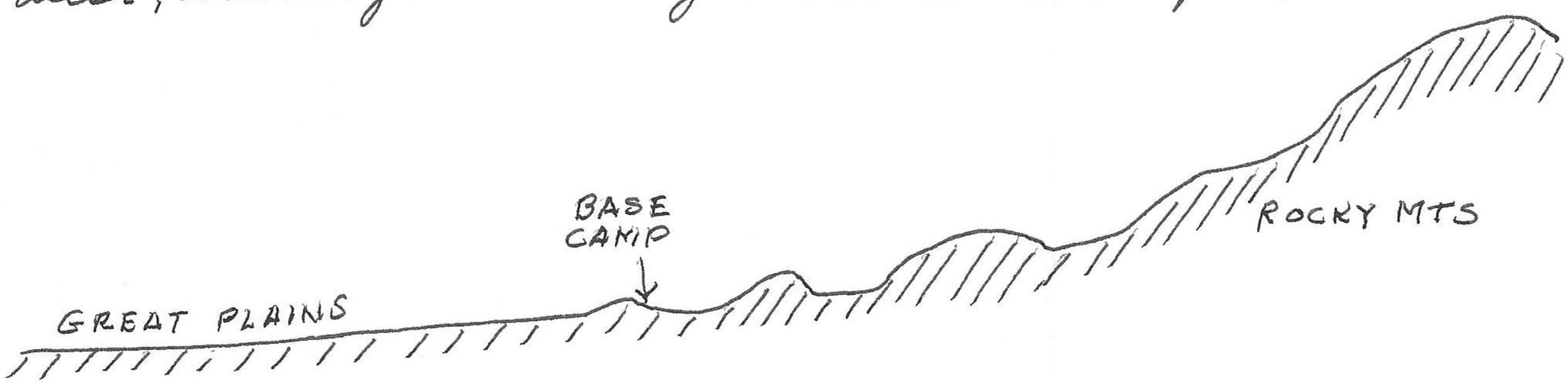
may be the factor or competition will micratus montanus.
It is interesting to see how the Transition invades the
higher region along the east slope of the ranges bordering
the Great Plains. Continued south to Loveland, at
Risso Canyon the country is just breaking off from the flat
plains and is not as highly cultivated as to the south.
At Loveland established camp at 3½ mi. w Loveland,
5030 ft., Larimer Co., Colorado. This area is approx.
1 block S of the City water reservoir (cement tank) or one
block south of the southern terminal of Cenpreceous
perpendicular corridor forming rock outcroppings. This
base camp at the contact between the flat extension of
the Great Plains from the east and the mountains to the
west, although in a canyon bottom so to speak.



The area is the contact between grasslands and transition zones
The grasslands invades the foothills on lower slopes and
in canyon bottoms at higher elevations is replaced by
chapparal and ponderosa pine. Even here, the grass dominates
in favorable slopes and exposures. The grassland climate
is still present. The flat prairie to the east, ends abruptly
in a series of low ridges, ~~each ridge higher as one passes~~
to the west and finally ends in the general mountain mass
of the Rocky Mountains. The valleys between the north-South
ridges support grasslands. The ridges support transition zone.
The contact zone is approx. 3 miles wide, however, in other
areas the grasslands rise abruptly from flat country to
steep slopes of the mountain. The front range or barrier
is a fault or upturned edge of crustal flexures. Such
a situation permits micratus ochrogaster to inhabit its
grassland community surrounded by montane & transition.
It will probably be possible to trace microtus ochrogaster
up one of these canyons to a point where it will contact
microtus ~~ochrog~~ montanus. Most of this transect, however,