

and being after dark placed traps at 10 foot intervals but without regard to runways or electric settings, generally on top of grasses. Traps in same field but not in exact setting of previous line.

3 1/2 mi. W Loveland, 5030 ft., Larimer Co., Colorado

July 25, 1948

Inspected trapline set last night after dark in old research area A-7-21-48. Indicated positive conditions only;

3 *Microtus ochrogaster* 1-7-25-48; 11 *Microtus ochrogaster* 2-7-25-48;  
22 *Thomomys* 3-7-25-48; 31 *Microtus ochrogaster* 4-7-25-48;  
34 *Reithrodontomys* 5-7-25-48; 91 *Microtus ochrogaster* 6-7-25-48;  
98 *Microtus ochrogaster* 7-7-25-48; 110 *Reithrodontomys* 8-7-25-48;  
111 *Reithrodontomys* 9-7-25-48.

This afternoon set traps at 6 mi. W and 1/2 mi S Loveland, 5200 ft., Larimer Co., Colorado. This area is one of the longitudinal or parallel valleys that have resulted from differential erosion of folded strata and faulting along the front range. This is the second valley west of the Great Plains to the east and is connected by the Big Thompson valley. It is influenced by transition. Photo 10-7-25-48 of this research area A-7-25-48 which shows the topography of area. The stratigraphy is east dipping strata with differential erosion creating abrupt west exposures and long gradual east exposures following the dip of the structure. The vegetation has reacted to this difference of exposure. The valley floor at this point is at grade and thus presents a marsh condition, elsewhere the grade is sufficient to prevent marsh formation. Such conditions (marshes) are uncommon in these canyons and provide fewer communities for *Microtus ochrogaster* or *Microtus montanus* that prefer damp grass meadows for best community development. The grass & sedges surrounding the black mass of bull rushes and cattails are mowed but seldom grazed. The north end of this meadow is relatively undisturbed grasses. A few willow clumps are scattered throughout valley. The photo faces north with Big Thompson River traverses picture from left to right thru both ridges and forms the lowest point of drainage in the valley. One valley is to the left between this valley & main mountain mass. One valley between here & plains to east. Set 114 traps at 10 foot intervals in grass bordering the cattails & bullrushes.