

1974-7

740313-7	<i>Microtus ochrogaster</i>	133-33-18-12-29 gms	♀	ut. normal
740313-8	"	127-31-18-11-24 gms	♀	ut. normal
740313-9	"	123-29-18-11-21 gms	♀	ut. normal
740313-10	"	121-26-18-10-24 gms	♂	testes 7 mm
740313-11	"	100-21-17-9-13 gms	♂	testes 5 mm
740313-12	"	87-19-15-8-8 gms	♀	ut normal
740313-13	<i>Sigmodon hispidus</i>	199-71-28-16-58 gms	♂	testes 13 mm
740313-14	"	[153][20]-29-17-63 gms	♂	testes 14 mm

We'll leave these traps set in same position tonight and will collect traps & mammals tomorrow morning. noted a *Microtus pinetorum* under an old shed door. there were trails and two nests under this door. at approximately 7:00 P.M. 8 Harris Sparrows were settling in a rose bush 3 feet high and 4 feet wide and thickly constructed. meadowlark were heard but we not feeding in the field. 4 small sparrows were flushed from the grasses. This field has been allowed to grow into grasses. One cottontail left short grasses and ran to wooded fence line. 2 redtails in area. There was some evidence of nests being excavated by predators but nothing compared to the predation at Paradise Park on the Perry Reservoir (see notes of last week). In regards to shed doors on the ground, I have been checking these doors for 10 years and this is the first year of noticeable deterioration, in fact one door fell apart when attempting removal. This may be associated with excessive rains this last year.

March 14, 1974

at 8:00 A.M. collected the following mammals from trapline.



all traps in runway among base grasses and last years growth of a 2-3' yellowish-red grass with curly basal blades on the ground level. 10 of the 100 traps were along fence row along utility lines where all *Sigmodon* were caught and where in previous years there was a high population of *Synaptomys*. Only one *Microtus ochrogaster* from the fence line. The trails here followed the base of the fence line and was well developed and relatively under-protected overhead. The elevated ridge adjacent

(3 feet away, ~~and~~). still supports good grasses. The only *Synaptomys* caught was at fence line marked x and was entering the trapping field from the Turnpike right-of-way. most of the trails were associated with ridges or elevated elevations in the field. These could be identified by green grass patches. mammals caught at these places indicated the animal leaving the ~~ground~~ mound. This population is characterized by many young of several ages indicating considerable winter breeding. The homogeneity of the population would indicate an immigration and expansion of a population in a relatively new plant community.