
OCCURRENCE OF SCAPHIOPUS HOLBROOKII HOLBROOKII
(HARLAN) IN ATHENS COUNTY, OHIO¹

PAUL J. SPANGLER

Department of Zoology, Ohio University,
Athens, Ohio

A single individual of the spadefoot toad was collected near Athens, Ohio, May 24, 1943, by Dr. H. T. Gier. This specimen, an adult female, was reported in Copeia.² This appears to be the only definite record for Ohio up to the present.

Following a heavy rainstorm on June 1, 1950, Jack Jacobsen and the author heard an unfamiliar "whank" coming from a temporary pond near the Athens Airport. We investigated the area and were able to collect one female specimen which was swimming in the water. Others were heard but could not be located.

On June 16, following another heavy rainstorm, the toads were again heard. The temporary pond near the airfield was examined again, and several males were spotted singing. They submerged when approached and none were collected. At another temporary pond at the western end of the airfield a terrific din was set up by these toads. By using a net, thirty-one (31) specimens were collected in less than half an hour. There were many more present in the pond. Eight pairs were taken in amplexus. Tadpoles of the toads were also collected on June 29. These are the first tadpoles of the spadefoot collected in Ohio. Specimens will be placed in the Zoology Department Collections at Ohio University, Athens, and in the Ohio State Museum, Columbus.

Specimens: 1 ♀—Near Athens, Ohio, May 24, 1943, H. T. Gier, Coll;
1 ♀—Athens (Airport), Ohio, June 1, 1950, Jacobsen & Spangler.
8 ♂ 23 ♀—Athens (Airport), Ohio, June 16, 1950, Spangler.
24 Tadpoles—Athens (Airport), Ohio, June 29, 1950, Spangler.

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²Gier, H. T. Copeia, 1945, (1) p. 50.