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## UNUSUAL COLOR MARKING IN THE PRAIRIE MOLE.

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During the spring of 1904 there was turned over to the Department of Natural History of Washburn College, Topeka, Kansas, a peculiar mole which had been trapped in a yard near by. The specimen was prepared and placed in the Museum where it can be found at the present time.

From general characters the mole was identified as a young adult male of the Prairie Mole, *Scalops aquaticus* subspecies *machrinus* (Raf.) but presented some striking variations. From tip to tip it was  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches, or  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches without the tail which was  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches long, and nearly naked; the nostrils were somewhat superior, the snout being  $\frac{7}{16}$  inch long. Width of front feet 1 inch and length with claws, 1 inch. Width of hind feet,  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch, length of hind feet  $\frac{7}{8}$  inch.

On the abdomen there was an irregular diamond shaped spot of fur 2 inches long and  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide which was bright orange in color. There were several tiny spots scattered here and there around the larger one and the fur about the snout and front feet was tinged with the same color. The man who trapped the specimen said that of the hundreds he had taken in his lifetime this was the only one he had ever seen with color marking.