

## BRIEF NOTE

A SILVER-HAIRED BAT, *LASIONYCTERIS NOCTIVAGANS*,  
FROM HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO<sup>1</sup>NORMA LEWIS, R. A. DAVIS and KEVINA VULINEC, Cincinnati Museum of Natural History,  
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The silver-haired bat, *Lasionycteris noctivagans* (LeConte, 1831) Peters, 1866, is not common in Ohio. Fewer than 35 specimens, from 13 counties, have been reported, none from Hamilton Co. (Gottschang 1981 and pers. comm. January 1984, D. Case pers. comm. January 1984). The closest recorded find is from Clermont Co., the next Ohio county to the east (Goodpaster 1941).

On 23 December 1983 a live female *L. noctivagans*, weighing 10.6 g, was brought into the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History, where it was assigned number CMNH M265. The animal was caught by John Nerswick at 9:45 AM that day in the building located at 3 East 4th St. in downtown Cincinnati. The official Cincinnati temperature at 9 AM was the overnight low of -15 °C. This low, also reached on 19 December 1983, was the lowest temperature recorded by the National Weather Service, Greater Cincinnati International Airport, since the previous winter.

The bat was found lying on the floor in the building's lobby, which is separated from the outside by two sets of glass doors and an entryway. It probably got to the lobby through the building ventilating and heating ducts. During the previous year, two other bats, not identified, were found on the same floor of the building.

Considering the time of year, the collecting site, and the weather at the time of collection, we conclude that the bat was hibernating in the building, presumably

in the ventilating system somewhere near the outside of the building. We suggest that the cold weather roused the animal from hibernation and stimulated it to move further into the building in search of a warmer winter refuge.

*Lasionycteris noctivagans* is migratory (Barbour and Davis 1969). This report of one in Ohio so late in the year is unique. Gottschang (1981) reported earliest and latest records of 28 April and 5 November, respectively, and concluded that Ohio silver-haired bats probably migrate south for the winter. However, he did point out that winter records in other states and in Canada indicate that some members of the species may hibernate in the North. These other records have been compiled by Izor (1979).

There is little direct evidence as to where individual hibernating *L. noctivagans* may have spent the warmer months. Izor (1979) reported on two females found in Chicago during January 1977. He suggested that those two animals had summered farther north. Likewise, this winter record of a silver-haired bat from Hamilton Co., Ohio, suggests that the animal may have spent the summer somewhere to the north.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS. John Nerswick found the bat and had the thoughtfulness to bring it to the Museum. Jack L. Gottschang, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Univ. of Cincinnati, shared his knowledge and records of bats of Ohio, as did Denis Case, Div. of Wildlife, Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources. Ivan Winterberg, weather service specialist, National Weather Service, and Steve Horstmeyer, meteorologist, television station WLWT, furnished temperature data. We thank all these people for their aid.

<sup>1</sup>Manuscript received 31 January 1984 and in revised form 14 March 1984 (#84-4).

## LITERATURE CITED

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- Goodpaster, W. 1941 A list of birds and mammals of southwestern Ohio. J. Cincinnati Soc. Natur. History, 22: 1-47.
- Gottschang, J. L. 1981 A guide to the mammals of Ohio. Ohio State Univ. Press, Columbus, OH. 176 p.
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## EDITOR'S NOTE

New manuscripts usually will be published within 7 months of acceptance in *The Ohio Journal of Science*.