
ANIMALS OF THE GLACIAL BORDER¹

EDWARD S. THOMAS

Ohio State Museum, Columbus 10

SUMMARY

The glacial border has a rich and diversified fauna in correlation with the wide range of habitats fringing the glacial boundary. The large complex of species has had diverse sources of origin and represents migrations during a number of periods from the Tertiary to the present.

The various elements listed are as follows: (1) Allegheny Plateau fauna, (2) northern relicts, (3) immigrants from the Atlantic seaboard in early post-glacial time, (4) immigrants from the south and southwest of the glacial boundary, (5) invaders from the west during the Xerothermic Period, and (6) species which have extended their ranges as a result of occupation of the land by Europeans.

The distribution of certain species seems to indicate that they may have persisted not far from the ice front throughout Wisconsin time, perhaps throughout the Pleistocene.

¹This paper, in modified and expanded form, will be published later in THE OHIO JOURNAL OF SCIENCE as the presidential address before the Ohio Academy of Science.