

Peromyscus spp., *Mus musculus*, *Reithrodontomys*, *Synaptomys*, and *Microtus*. Below is a list of small mammals known to be present in Hancock County, either from sight or trapping records. Although the adults of some of the species are too large to be used as food by the Barn Owl, their young are not.

Striped Spermophile	<i>Citellus tridecemlineatus</i>
Eastern Chipmunk	<i>Tamias striatus fisheri</i>
Eastern Flying Squirrel	<i>Glaucomys volans</i>
Fox Squirrel	<i>Sciurus niger rufiventer</i>
Red Squirrel	<i>Tamiasciurus hudsonicus loquax</i>
Cottontail	<i>Sylvilagus floridanus</i>
Wood Mouse	<i>Peromyscus leucopus noveboracensis</i>
Deer Mouse*	<i>Peromyscus maniculatus bairdii</i>
Meadow Mouse	<i>Microtus pennsylvanicus</i>
House Mouse	<i>Mus musculus</i>
Norway Rat	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>
Least Short-tailed Shrew	<i>Cryptotis parva</i>
Short-tailed Shrew	<i>Blarina brevicauda</i>
Cinereous Shrew	<i>Sorex cinereus</i>
Mink	<i>Mustela vison</i>
Long-tailed Weasel	<i>Mustela frenata noveboracensis</i>
Least Weasel	<i>Mustela rixosa allegheniensis</i>
Muskrat	<i>Ondatra zibethica</i>
Striped Skunk	<i>Mephitis mephitis nigra</i>
Opossum	<i>Didelphis virginiana</i>

* Studies of the deer mouse populations of this county previous to this study indicate that *P. maniculatus* outnumbered *P. leucopus* 8 to 1.

SUMMARY

1. No species of small mammals, as yet unreported for Hancock County, Ohio, were found in the pellets of the Barn Owl, *Tyto alba pratincola*, collected from three different locations near Findlay, Ohio.

2. The meadow mouse, *Microtus p. pennsylvanicus*, comprised 85.16 per cent of the food consumed.

3. The pellets collected from the Worden farm, located in the open countryside, contained fewer bird remains, 0.48 per cent, than did those collected from the two locations within the city, 2.35 per cent.

4. Remains of game species were represented by the cottontail and the long-tailed weasel; they constituted a negligible amount (0.37%) of the total food. Four skulls of a total of 1063 were of these two species.—RICHARD S. PHILLIPS, *Biology Department, Findlay College, Findlay, Ohio.*

Notes of the Eastern Screech Owl, *Otus asio naevius*: A Correction.—I ask the privilege of making in the pages of 'The Auk,' where most of my little contributions to ornithological literature have been made since 1888, a correction of a statement in A. C. Bent's 'Life Histories of North American Birds of Prey' (Part 2, 1938), where, on page 256, in treating of the voice of the Eastern Screech Owl, Mr. Bent says that I had given him a description of two of the notes and then proceeds to quote me, but unfortunately not quite correctly. What I actually sent him was a description of what I considered to be *three* separate vocal utterances. I cannot now say just how I worded the description which my good friend Cleveland Bent misread, but it must have been substantially as follows: (1) The well-known wail, or whinny; (2) the so-called love song consisting of a series of short, even, low notes delivered with varying degrees of rapidity and varying in pitch, sometimes with the first part slow and the latter part rapid and virtually a trill; (3) 'wheooo,' a mellow whistle with a

falling inflection, often followed by three shorter notes, each a very little higher than the preceding note—'wheoo, woo, woo, woo.'

I think I got the term "love song" for the second of these from Bradford Torrey, but I have never applied it to the first, the wail or whinny, and I should not agree with Mr. Bent in using it for Thoreau's Screech Owl described in 'Walden.' Now from later observations I am inclined to call it the courtship song and to consider the wail to be the territorial song.

This revision of my contribution to the "Life Histories" leaves it in substantial agreement with Dr. Tyler's description of these notes on page 257.

When an author corrects in print a published statement of his own, it is a good custom for owners of copies of the publication containing the statement to make the correction in their copies, and it is in the hope that readers will follow that custom that I have written this note.—FRANCIS H. ALLEN, 9 Francis Ave., Cambridge, Mass.

Air-sacs in the English Sparrow.—These observations were secured in connection with an investigation to determine a desirable method for tracing the air-sacs in birds. The English Sparrow, *Passer domesticus*, and the Rock Dove, *Columba livia*, were used because both were abundantly available and because most work on avian air-sacs has been based on the latter. The literature on the air-sacs of the Pigeon or Rock Dove is so comprehensive that it was thought best for purposes of this discussion to contrast the system in the English Sparrow with that of the Pigeon. Nomenclature is that of Müller (Smiths. Misc. Coll., 50: 365-414, 1908).

The Department of Biology at Clark University furnished facilities and materials for the investigation. I am indebted to Dr. R. F. Nunnemacher for counsel and encouragement.

Method.—Both Woods Alloy and Latex were used as media of injection through the trachea. Although Woods Alloy has enjoyed the praise of many investigators, especially Gilbert (Auk, 56: 57-63, 1939), I found its use inconvenient because of the necessary temperature controls, particularly in the smaller English Sparrow. I found pigmented Latex superior to the alloy in that no temperature controls were needed and the resulting molds were elastic, permitting freer examination.

In the Pigeon I was able to secure molds of finer detail than those shown in Gilbert's plates of "casts" (which really are not casts at all but rather internal molds), including the extensive osseous sacs of the pelvic girdle and of all the vertebrae, by maintaining higher temperatures during a slower drip process of injection with Woods Alloy. The word cast is defined here to indicate a copy of the original; mold, the original in reverse.

The Primary Air-Sacs.

The Sacci Cervicales: The cervical air-sacs are in direct communication with each other, only a medial line indicating their dual origin. The resulting sac is symmetrical and tongue-shaped in the mold; its apex extends forward to the tenth cervical vertebra. No pars ovalis is apparent. The cervical system of diverticula is present, though neither the canalis intertransversarius nor its diverticula pneumatize cervical vertebrae anterior to the third. (Perhaps the system reaches the atlas, as in the Pigeon, but if so it was not indicated by the Latex method of injection.) Ventral to the most posterior cervical vertebra each cervical air-sac communicates with the interclavicular sac. The thoracic system of diverticula is wanting.

The Saccus Interclavicularis: The interclavicular sac encases the anterior part of the thoracic cavity; it is not ostensibly divided into a medial and two lateral chambers. The former is present only in the form of two delicate flaps in the mold which form