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Recent Evidence of the Mastiff Bat in Southern Florida

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Little is known about the status, distribution, or biology of the Florida mastiff bat (*Eumops glaucinus floridanus*). Evidence of the genus in Florida dates back to the Pleistocene (Martin 1977), but few modern records exist. Most of the recent Florida specimens were collected from Coral Gables in Dade County between 1955 and 1967 (Owre 1978). Koopman (1971) examined 27 of these specimens and judged them to be a distinct, geographically isolated subspecies of the tropical-American *E. glaucinus*. After 1967, no further evidence of mastiff bats was documented until 1978, when a small colony was discovered roosting in a pine tree cavity near Punta Gorda in Charlotte County (Belwood 1981).

On 30 August 1988 an adult female mastiff bat was discovered about 0800 h in downtown Coral Gables on the 7th-floor balcony of an office building. When it was removed from the balcony about 1600 h, the bat was very lethargic. It had been lying in a corner of the balcony partially exposed to the afternoon sun. There were no outward signs of trauma or bleeding and the bat made no effort to escape or struggle when it was picked up. External measurements were: total length 137 mm, tail 50 mm, forearm 63 mm, and tragus 4.5 mm. It weighed 39 g at capture, increasing to 42 g within 36 hours under veterinary care.

While the bat was being radiographed to assess the extent of its injuries, we discovered that it was pregnant. The fetus was aborted three days later, and has been preserved at the Florida Museum of Natural History (UF 24317). Measurements were: crown-rump 38 mm, total length 68 mm, tail 22 mm, forearm 21 mm, hind foot 9 mm, ear 7 mm, and weight 3.9 grams (L. Wilkins, pers. comm.).

Immediately after the fetus was aborted the female became active and vocal. Periodically it emitted a high, piercing call typical of the subspecies (Owre 1978). During the early morning of 5 September the bat escaped from an outdoor cage about 19 km north of where it was first found.

Two 14-day-old mastiff bats were found in June in Broward County during the 1960's (G. Hubbell, pers. comm.). Belwood (1981) reported that five of seven females from Char-

lotte County were post-lactating, and a sixth was pregnant with a single fetus on 7 September 1979. Our record of advanced gestation on 30 August is further evidence of a late summer-fall birth season in southern Florida. Individuals of the conspecific *E. g. glaucinus* in Cuba have been found pregnant in September and October, and lactating females have occurred in July, September, October and November (Silva Taboada 1979: Table 3.31-3).

Observations of mastiff bats in Florida are rare. The most recent find confirms the continued existence of a small breeding population of this species in southern Florida. The Florida mastiff bat is currently under review for listing by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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An Orphaned Young Ruddy Duck in North Florida

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As Thomas A. Morrill and I canoed among the cypress-lined edge of Lake Munson, Leon County, on 4 July 1986, we observed a large downy duck near the edge and about 20 m from us. Although we expected a Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*), the only anatid regularly breeding in this part of Florida except the much larger Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*), neither of us was certain of the bird's identity as we studied it. That it did not seek cover when pressed was uncharacteristic of young Wood Ducks. On the first occasion it attempted flight, but its remiges were much too short and helped only to propel it along the surface in coot-like fashion. The second time we approached closely it dove, remained under water for about 20 sec., then surfaced about 30 m behind us. During this two-hour trip we saw no other duck, although Wood Ducks have bred near this lake, where I saw 12 birds including a brood of 5 ducks on 6 July 1975.

Examination of paintings in Kortright (1942) revealed a surprising resemblance in the general color patterns of downy young Ruddy Ducks (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) and Wood