

**CLEMMYS INSCULPTA** (Wood Turtle). **ECTOPARASITES.** Parasitic interactions between *Clemmys insculpta* and the turtle leeches *Placobdella parasitica* and *P. ornata* have been previously documented (Brewster and Brewster 1986. Herpetol. Rev. 17:48; Farrell and Graham 1991. J. Herpetol. 25:1-9; Hulse and Routman 1982. Herpetol. Rev. 13:116-117; Koffler et al. 1978. J. Herpetol. 12:571-572; Siddall and Dessler 1992. Can. J. Zool. 70:123-128). We report additional instances of parasitism by *Placobdella parasitica* and *Placobdella ornata* on *Clemmys insculpta*.

On 3 June 1994 an adult female wood turtle (CL = 203.55 mm, CW = 146.05 mm, PL = 193.40 mm, mass = 1050 g) was captured in Pontiac County, Québec, Canada. Although completely healed, both of the turtle's front feet had been amputated and the anterior left side of the carapace had been mutilated. This turtle was parasitized by 4 or 5 brood size *Placobdella parasitica* on the integument adjacent to the femoral scute, in the right posterior limb socket. On 8 June 1994 the gravid turtle was recaptured

and 10 *Placobdella parasitica* (ROMIZ I 3277) were collected. Of those, two *P. parasitica* were found on the integument anterior to the left posterior limb. The remaining eight leeches consisted of a single brood located below the neck, immediately posterior to the gular scutes. On 15 June 1994 the turtle was once again recaptured on land. One *P. ornata* (ROMIZ I 3281) was found on the left posterior limb of the turtle.

On 9 June 1994 an adult female *C. insculpta* (CL = 196.15 mm, CW = 140.40 mm, PL = 192.35 mm, mass = 1000 g) was captured as it basked. A thorough examination of the turtle yielded two *P. ornata* (ROMIZ I 3288) in the left posterior axial area. One leech was firmly attached to the integument anterior to the limb, while the other was affixed to the foot.

On 22 June 1994 a gravid female wood turtle (CL = 198.05 mm, CW = 137.9 mm, PL = 190.90 mm, mass = 925 g) was caught while leaving a nesting site. A *P. ornata* was found on the fifth marginal scute, to the right of the nuchal.

Seventeen adult and one juvenile *C. insculpta* were captured as they basked on 2–4 May 1995, shortly after emergence from hibernation in Sutton County, Québec, Canada. Adult and juvenile *P. ornata* parasitized 22% (4/17) of the turtles. However, broods of *P. parasitica* were found on 50% (9/17). In all, 55% (10/17) of the wood turtles were parasitized by at least one of the leech species. Parasites were encountered almost exclusively in the posterior axial area, with 94% found on the posterior limbs, limb sockets, or tail. The exception was a brood of *P. parasitica* located below the neck and posterior to where the left gular scute joins with the integument. The turtle host had its left limb amputated, as was the case with the turtle from Pontiac County with a brood in the gular region. Measurements for adult turtles (N = 16) are given as mean  $\pm$  SD (range) and were as follows: CL =  $189.67 \pm 10.02$  mm (171.55–204.85 mm), CW =  $140.09 \pm 7.18$  mm (126.85–151.50 mm), PL =  $174.31 \pm 6.71$  mm (158.90–183.75 mm), mass =  $970.62 \pm 131.20$  g (700–1200 g).

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