

in their migratory search for a place to hibernate. Only a few must find suitable places for winter hibernation. I have reached the above conclusions after only three years' observation, but this note may suggest seasonal observations to persons in the other localities.—ROY L. FOWLER, *Aldersyde, Alberta*.

Gastrodonta multidentata NEAR OTTAWA.—While collecting lands shells in Rockcliffe Park, Ottawa, Ontario, during the month of July, 1934, I came across a colony of *Gastrodonta multidentata* (Binney.) on a rocky slope under the trestle of the toboggan slide. The diameters in millimetres of the six specimens are as following; 1.8, 2.0, 2.3, 2.7, 2.8, 2.8, the average diameter being 2.4. Two of the specimens taken were alive.

This species is very rare in the Ottawa district and the only previous find recorded is by F. R. Latchford, who mentions having found them on King's Mountain, Ottawa County, Quebec, and on the hills north of Hull City, Quebec. See *Trans. O. F.-N. N. C.* 6; 211, February 5th. 1885.—G. E. FAIRBAIRN.

NOTE ON LAMPREYS.—In the November, 1934, issue of *The Canadian Field-Naturalist* I find, on page 133, a note on "boils" in *Esox lucius*. "Boils" is used in some lay and not medical sense. In the latter case a boil is never an open sore, but means a confined collection of pus.

The context of the note leads me to suppose that we are dealing with wounds made by Lampreys. These never cause death so far as I know unless they are invaded by *saprolegnia* or some other microbe. Sea salmon when injured by nets or rocks in the course of their anadromous annual trip appear to be aware of the infection and that salt water will kill it. They go back to sea unless caught in the slack of nets on the way down. Netters all know about it.

Incidentally, Lampreys are so highly prized in Europe that the catch in any one river might be more valuable than the salmon catch. Any merchant can import "Aal in Gellee" from Europe and introduce a delicious food delicacy. I prefer the German form, still holding its French name in Germany.—ROBERT T. MORRIS, M.D.

FRESHWATER CLAMS AS BAIT.—Anglers are sometimes annoyed by the question of bait. Either they run short of bait, or have no means of procuring any, the soil being of a sandy nature or too dry to yield the ever reliable angleworm. I may say that in many instances fresh-water clams, which are generally plentiful, will prove to be good substitutes for worms. This past summer, the writer was most successful with clams when teasing Small-mouth Black Bass. Clams also landed Rock Bass and large minnows,—which could be used as bait later. You simply break open the clam and bait your hook with a piece sliced from the hard part of the mollusk. The bit of information may not have much scientific value, but it might be useful to many an embarrassed fisherman and add to the question of fish food.—HARRY BERNARD, *St. Hyacinthe, Que.*

NOTES RELATIVE to *Passerella iliaca fuliginosa* Ridgway—The references made to the Sooty Fox Sparrow by Mr. Hamilton M. Laing in *The Canadian Field-Naturalist* of February, 1934 (page 37) are extremely interesting.

A few further notes in relation to the known breeding range of *fuliginosa* may prove of interest.

During the month of May, 1931, when collecting on the west coast of Vancouver Island, Sooty Fox Sparrows were frequently heard and seen and a series of breeding birds and young secured. On May 7th and 8th six breeding birds were seen along Chesterman's Beach, near Tofino, the males being in full song and on May 9th numerous breeding birds were seen on Bare Island. It was not until May 22nd that juvenile birds were seen and secured and these were in numbers on Bare Island in different stages of development. Mr. Laing makes mention of the colour of the lower mandibles of the specimens secured on Hornby Island. The same remarks apply to the adults, both male and female, from the west coast and in referring to our notes we find that the bill colouring of all the adult birds is as follows: Upper mandible dark brown with marginal edges pale; lower mandible pinkish at base shading to bluish or blue-gray, tip brown. In the very young birds the whole bill is yellowish brown and in the fully fledged young the bill is olive brown with marginal edges yellow.

No nests were found but in every instance the birds, both adult and young, kept about dense patches of salal and scrub.



Morris, Robert T. 1935. "Note on Lampreys." *The Canadian field-naturalist* 49(3), 60–60. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.339792>.

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