The road bed stays firm, even in the rainy season. The climate is cool, 75° being the highest temperature recorded for the summer of 1964. However, the insects came in numbers to a blacklight at temperatures of 50°, and there was often more insect activity on rainy nights than on dry ones! From El Salto (some food and gas can be obtained here) it is a two and a half hour drive to the City of Durango (first good lodgings after leaving Mazatlán).

MAZATLÁN TO NOGALES

North of Mazatlán the size and density of the thorn forest is gradually reduced. Ciudad Obregón, approximately a nine hour drive from Mazatlán on Rt. 15, lies in the middle of the Sonoran desert and makes an excellent base. There are several good dirt roads leading to the coast (directions need to be obtained locally as the roads are unmarked and frequently changed) as well as several good collecting spots along the Rio Yaqui, particularly along the road leading to the Obregón dam (turnoff at Esperanza just north of Cd. Obregón). If one follows the Obregón dam road for approximately seven miles it is possible to turn right and follow a fairly good dirt road to the foothills of the Sierra Madre. In this area there are many good collecting spots and campsites are not difficult to find. North of Ciudad Obregón, Guaymas and Hermosillo have good accommodations, and the road passes through country similar to areas in southwestern Arizona. However, some of the fauna, at least around Hermosillo, does not extend into Arizona, and in a few instances shows a distinct relationship with the fauna of central Baja California.

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BEETLE TALK

The following proposals concerning the scientific names of beetles were placed before the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

Criocerus sexpunctata Fabricius, 1792 (Insecta, Coleoptera): Proposed rejection as a nomen oblitum. R. F. Smith, 1965, Bull. Zool. Nomenclature 22(4):246.

Xyleborus Bowdich, 1825 (Insecta, Coleoptera): Proposed suppression under the plenary powers. R. T. Thompson, 1965, Bull. Zool. Nomenclature 22(4):269.



1966. "Beetle Talk." The Coleopterists' Bulletin 20(1), 26–26.

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