

KHIN MYO MYO (e-mail: kmyomyo@gmail.com) and **STEVEN G. PLATT**, Wildlife Conservation Society - Myanmar Program, Office Block C-1, Aye Yeik Mon 1st Street, Hlaing Township, Yangon, Myanmar (e-mail: sgplatt@gmail.com).

KINOSTERNON SCORPIOIDES (Scorpion Mud Turtle). DIET. *Kinosternon scorpioides* is a Neotropical turtle that occupies low elevations from Mexico south to northern Argentina, Bolivia, and northern Peru (Ernst and Barbour 1989. *Turtles of the World*. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, D.C. 313 pp.). This turtle is omnivorous, eating fish, amphibians, snails, insects, algae, and other plants (Vanzolini et al. 1980. *Répteis das Caatingas*. Academia Brasileira de Ciências. 161 pp.).

On 3 April 2016 at 1230 h, we observed a subadult *K. scorpioides* (116 mm carapace length) preying on an adult horsehair worm (Nematomorpha, Gordioidea), in a small body of water in Parque Nacional Serra do Pardo, Alameda, Pará, Brazil (5.6560278°S, 52.708°W; WGS 84). Little is known about prey-predator relationships between reptiles and the Nematomorpha. In this case, we do not know if the Nematomorph was an accidental or unusual food item or is a routine prey for the turtles. This is apparently the first record of predation of a nematomorph worm for *K. scorpioides* in Amazonia.

The specimen (LZA 1281) was deposited in the herpetological collection of the Laboratório de Zoologia Universidade Federal do Pará, Campus de Altamira. Fieldwork was conducted under the auspices of SISBIO authorization 51921-2016.

EMIL JOSÉ HERNÁNDEZ-RUZ (e-mail: emilhj@yahoo.com), **ROBERTO PORTELLA DE ANDRADE, ELCIOMAR ARAUJO DE OLIVEIRA**, and **JAMILLE KARINA COLEHO CORREA**, Laboratório de Zoologia, Faculdade de Ciências Biológicas, Universidade Federal do Pará/UFPA, Campus de Altamira, Rua Coronel José Porfírio, 2515 - CEP 68372040 - Altamira - PA, Brazil.

MALACLEMYS TERRAPIN LITTORALIS (Texas Diamond-backed Terrapin). BASKING BEHAVIOR. Basking *Malaclemys terrapin* have been documented floating at the surface of the water and on or just below the saltmarsh mud surface (Brennessel 2006. *Diamonds in the Marsh*. University Press of New England, Lebanon, New Hampshire. 219 pp.; Harden et al. 2007. *J. North Carolina Acad. Sci.* 123:154–162). On 18 March 2014, we observed an adult male *M. t. littoralis* exhibiting a basking behavior apparently not previously documented in the literature. The male terrapin was captured as part of ongoing terrapin research in West Galveston Bay, Texas. The *M. t. littoralis* was encountered in a dense stand of 60–80 cm tall *Spartina alterniflora* in Galveston, Texas, USA (29.25938°N, 94.90401°W; WGS 84). Upon initial observation, the *M. t. littoralis* was sitting at an angle atop the grass with its anterior skyward (Fig. 1). It appeared to have pushed down on and then climbed up the dense *S. alterniflora* to reach unobstructed sunlight. The recorded carapace temperature was 23.3°C. At the time of capture (1210 h), air temperature above the grass was 22.5°C, and 22.0°C at ground level. In contrast, the soil surface temperature was 17.3°C. Air temperature had increased throughout the morning, from a low of 18.2°C when the survey began at 0912 h. This behavior may represent a mechanism by which terrapins inhabiting heavily vegetated wetlands can actively thermoregulate by manipulation of the relative shading provided by marsh plants.

All air temperatures were measured, with the thermometer shaded and out of the wind, using a Kestrel 3000. Carapace and soil surface temperature were measured using a Metris



FIG. 1. *Malaclemys terrapin littoralis* climbing *Spartina alterniflora* towards sunlight.

Instruments infrared laser thermometer (model TN400L1). Data were collected under TPWD Scientific Research Permit SPR-0504-383.

BRYAN J. ALLEMAN (e-mail: balleman@alumni.lsu.edu) and **GEORGE J. GUILLEN**, Environmental Institute of Houston and University of Houston - Clear Lake, Houston, Texas, 77058, USA.

PODOCNEMIS EXPANSA (Giant South American River Turtle). PREDATION. River turtles often nest on a fine sand beach adjacent to Lago da Amazonas in the Bosque da Ciência of the Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazônia, Manaus, Brazil, close to the Center for the Study of Amazonian Turtles (3.099439°S, 59.984217°W). In addition, some nests are transplanted from unprotected areas along the borders of the lake and reburied on this sand beach. Hatchlings of *Podocnemis expansa* from one nest with 55 eggs were noted to have emerged by 0900 h on 3 November 2015; 50 eggs hatched and 20 of the hatchlings had emerged and dispersed into the lake. Before the other 30 could emerge from the nest, a Black Agouti (*Dasyprocta fuliginosa*) dug open the nest (depth 22 cm) and ate parts of 12 of the 30 recently hatched turtles (Fig. 1). The 18 remaining hatchlings were unharmed and also dispersed into the lake. This is the first record of an Agouti, which are normally vegetarians, preying on recently hatched turtles in the nest. Most predators of turtle hatchlings eat the entire hatchling in one gulp but this Agouti took bites out of various parts of several turtles. Possibly this may be due to the fact that this rodent is accustomed to eating seeds which do not move after being bitten, so when a hatchling moved away, it then