

FUNISIA

1972

Stephen D. Busard

12 MAR - 23 MAY

GABES

GAZETTEER OF TUNISIAN LOCALITIES.

GOUV. DE GABÈS: (IN RELATION TO GABÈS) (GABÈS = 518 E-W; 365 N-S)

BORDJ SAIDANE (74 km W + 14 km S); EL HAMMA (28 km W); LIMAGUÈS  
(93 km W, 12 km S); SEMBAT (31 km W); RHENNOUCH (2.5 km W, 6.0 km N);  
OÜED EL FERD (10.7 km E, 15 km S); AOUNET (8 km W, ~~11~~ km N); STEFTIMI  
(100 km W, 9 km S); DOUZ (99 km W, 47 km S); BENI ZELTENE  
(37 km S); TOUJANE (4 km E + 46 km S); MATMATA (11.6 km W,  
37 km S); ZARAT (26 km E + 24 km S); OÜED ZIGZAOU (20 km E + 33 km  
S.); OÜED EL BEIDA (9 km W + 5 km S); TEBOULBOU (4 km E + 2 km S);

MAR 72

Spain, Cadiz Prov., Rota:

Released from USN today, tomorrow begins world's

longest voyage! [International Biological Project: Desert Biome !!]

MAR 72

Today was fairly uneventful for the most part. I

caught IBERIA's 0930 hr. flight from Seville to Madrid.

Flight was smooth, nothing was served. Left Madrid at

1330 on ALITALIA bound for Rome arrived in Rome about

1500 and waited, somewhat impatiently in an under-construction  
airport, for the flight to Tunis.

It's 1700 and, at long last, we're boarding.

The long bus arrives, carries us to our plane, and I get  
a "private" seat next to a window over the wing. My

thoughts are anticipatory as we ascend through the clouds.

Every now and then a cloud betrays its shadowed sea  
below and the azure Mediterranean can be seen. It is

calm and still, Spring is about to happen.

11 MAR 72

Sunset is dramatic under those circumstances!

As we approach Carthage airport one sees a gentle blend of old and new. In the bay and along the shore one sailed vessel bearing what I suspect are nets. Further inland, electricity spreads its light upon the darkening land. As I look eastward into the sea, there is an island in the sun which is as orange as a rock could be. It still amazes me to be flying south to Africa on this day I should be flying W. to the U.S.A.

We land perfectly at Tunis-CARTHAGE and I am immediately impressed by the warmth of the air. Arabic writing is all that bespeaks my location: it could be small town Mediterranean and it could be today, tomorrow, or yesterday. A handsome, bronzed man in a grey suit beckons me to approach. He has something in his left hand and I can see that it's probably my letter so I cautiously approach. Dr. George Novikoff thanks me for sending the photograph and says he'll meet me after customs has seen my baggage.

Customs looks at nothing; perhaps it's my pre-contracted list that impresses them. Dr. Novikoff formally introduces himself and we walk to his car. Somehow, I found the Mercedes-Benz with a removable hardtop hard to take! Guess Tunisia provides money for the rich and none for the poor. I'm introduced to Tunis, paid, fed, and settled in the hotel for the night. The hotel is nothing special save expensive. \$5.00 for a room furnished or such in a pitiful amount. I slept well and was called for at 0530 on the 12<sup>th</sup> to start adventure #1.

## TUNISIA

12 MAR 72

## TUNIS - GABÈS

The train to SFAX is leaving at 0600 hr and we arrive at the station early. The city is black around us but the light from the station entrance illuminates one whole city block. It's still this early in the morning.

We board the train and find that I'm first class and sit up behind the controls for the electric locomotive.

Dr. Novikoff assures me that the conductor will assist me in getting to Gabès and leaves. I am cold as the car is unheated but I am also tired and a little apprehensive. As we travel through the city, past saline marshes, and mountains to the W., I watch the rising of the sun across the gulf. About 1000 I fall asleep to awaken about 1130 just N. of SFAX.

SFAX is upon me; it has warmed considerably and I am lost until a man identifies himself as my guide, protector, and friend. My bag is carried to the station and I purchase a <sup>(770 DRAARS)</sup> Third Class Ticket to Gabès.

There's an hour to kill and I begin reading J. A. Michener's CARAVANS while noticing that the Tunisian army travel by train and seem to have no officer. 1220 arrives and I board my train.

As we pull out of ~~Tunis~~<sup>SFAX</sup>, everybody and his cousin boards the train and fills my compartment. I am pushed, shoved, stepped on, leaned on, rested on, and offered an orange. Although I am hungry, I refuse. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  hr. later I should be in Gabès and I'll eat then.

The sun is now hot and we are moving slowly

12 MAR 72

5

southward. We stop, two hours pass, and I get restless. My French is unfortunate but I manage to understand that we have broken down and that it will be another hour before a train arrives from SFAX. Hunger overcomes me but the thirst is worse. Can I drink the water? When I see it's being transported in cans labeled "Soy Bean Oil... donated by citizens of the United States of America" I smile and wonder if the oil has come from lining the can. My thirst disappears but I am still hungry. Hand to left upper jacket pocket where I had stashed some crackers left from Alitissi all too formidable meal. Four crackers form a meal for the day and I return to reading my book.

The train arrives and we start south at sunset. It is dark when we arrive at Gabes and I feel alone at the station. There is nobody waiting for me and I am more angry than frightened. I consider sleeping under a tree for I am so tired and so defeated. A lesson in patience in being deserted in a novel in the middle of Tunisia.

I see a light in the station and use sign-language to communicate with the man who has a telephone. The operator has quit for the night and it's only 2000 km! I'm defeated, I quit.

We leave the station for this man has an idea. we shall go to the Suite Nationale. ah, but I met Jon Ghoshin along the way and all is, apparently, well as we drive to the villa and commence with dinner.

TUNISIA, GOUVERNORAT DE GABÈS

6

13 MAR 72

The day is sunny and mild. We drive N.  
to explore our surroundings early in the forenoon.

Gabès, 2.5 km W. and 6.0 Km. N. in a small  
settlement listed on the map (Transverse Mercator  
Projection, Series P502, Sheet N1 32-11, Edition 1-AMS,  
Gabès, Tunisia from Army Map Service, Washington, D.C.)  
as Rhennouch but which bears the name "Ghanouche"  
by sign on location. Following a dirt track to the  
Gulf of Gabès, we parked about 100 yds from the sea  
and explored the sand dunes. Vegetation less than 12" high  
forms the stabilizing element for the undoubtedly shifting sand.  
The sand are loose but not fluid. Under a large cement  
slab at 1330 I uncovered one ♀ adult Acanthodactylus  
boulengeri ape (CMFS 21602) and later in the low bushes I  
found one Eremias guttulata <sup>o. olivieri</sup> (CMFS 21601) active. The  
air was cool (perhaps < 60°F) and a wind probably kept the  
upper dunes cold. Both specimens were encountered in a  
protected area. An Eremias was seen earlier but not  
collected due to its speed. Both specimens were preserved  
almost immediately upon return to station. In the town  
proper there is a large, circular, cobblestone-like faced  
well. The water is  $\pm$  2' deep and filled with alga of  
a filamentous type which serves the fish as cover. Small  
minnows are active in the early afternoon as we watch.

My population density estimate for inclusive Randa (Rasalts?)  
is  $\pm$  25 specimens. Most of the specimens I saw were  
bright green, a few had mid-dorsal line, and most were  
 $< 8"$  in body (S-V) length. Maybe we can take some later  
for positive work and a possible re-identification.

14 MAR 72

KETTANA, 8 Km. N. on G.P. I at Oued es SOURRAS

from 0930-1030 several Rana esculenta seen in fresh rapidly flowing stream. One Acontodactylus was noted in Eucalyptus grove to S. of Oued. 2 km. SSE at Oued el Ferd on highway G.P. I, water noted to contain minnows and several deep pits (at least 3) which indicate some degree of permanence. One turtle, which may be Emys orbicularis, was seen. Since I have seen many Mauremyx c. lyra but no Emys, I'm insecure in naming a genus on a sight record. From the splasher of color (i.e.: a solitary pattern in yellow on rump), my guess is Emys. The rump length was about 20 cm. and the beast traveled through the deep water as well as among the low reeds growing in the vicinity. Several Rana esculenta were heard calling and two (21603-21604) were collected for study. The day was overcast with some sun.

No real progress on the project was made although the presence of the turtle leads me to believe that this could be an exciting area and I hope to have a vehicle soon.

15 MAR 72

Month, 4 km. ESE at Oued Tizgaou from 0930-1020 several Rana esculenta larvae noted (recent hatchlings) in shallow water. Pond bottom clay w/ vegetation varying from thick to scarce. Water contains salts in small concentration. Overcast, sun, and heavy S E wind.

~~→ Medenine  
saw dunes~~

Medenine, 28 km. ESE, in area of water shed and artificial levee on BP I. 1245-1400. ca. 9 Acontodactylus ~~leopardinus~~ seen in area of Rhantemum suaveolens on both N & S sides of road.

To NE of levee, erosion due to overgrazing is taking place. The sand dune formation in this grazed area is well advanced compared

~~It was definitely  
a mammal~~

15 MAR 72

to the ungrazed portion where drifting sand, although present, is minimal. This area is thought to be one for the IBP's validation areas so no specimens may be taken.

Gabis, 2022 under light rain, one Rana esculenta (CMFS 21605) collected N. of city on BP 1 before city limits had been passed. This rain started earlier (ca. 1500) this PM and, at present writing, 2300, is still falling. If tomorrow is likewise, the amphibians should be very common!! Temperatures are in mid 50s or, unlikely, low 60s.

16 MAR 72

Managed to get a vehicle for my use this morning. I drove <sup>w.</sup> from Gabis on G.P. 16 until it changes to an unmarked road to El Hanna (some 34 km <sup>w.</sup> E). In order of occurrence, I passed ~~out~~ by Bir el Krenzeria (Bir = well), Bir el Midassi, Bir Chenchou, a Fort (on the SW side), and over Ain Sekraa (a spring ca. 2.5 km E El Hanna). The entire road is bordered by desolate, low vegetation areas and occasional palm or Eucalyptus groves. Possibly a good site for night uptake collecting when temperatures permit and I plan on trying for amphibians along part of this road this evening. From El Hanna, I drove to Sembat and noted the road (3 km) from El Hanna to Sembat is well populated and has a few groves of palms to recommend it. 31 km. W of Sembat I turned around and returned to Gabis. The area W. of Sembat also looks to be a potentially good night area for uptake. How much may live in such arid land will be interesting to discover.

From 2025 to 2141 Jon Ghiselin, George Novikoff, and I drove to El Hanna. The rain had become dry (due probably to heavy evaporation from winds) on the roads and the air was cool-cold

16 MAR 72 i.e.: L 60°F. Three (3) Bufo viridis were taken on this trip and the data are as follows:

CMFS 21606, 7 km. W. Gabes on road to El Hamra (<sup>2141</sup>~~2056~~)

21607, 10 km. W. " " (2036)

21608, 20 km. W. " " (2057)

or 13 km. E. El Hamra on road to Gabes. Nothing else of note except one Scopus sp. on road ca. 10 km. E. of El Hamra. I suspect B. viridis' temperature tolerance is rather high as the smallest specimen was taken in area of what ~~still~~ could definitely be called a pre-saharan ecotonal area.

17 MAR 72 Gabes - rain most of day - cold.  
Gabes, 10 km. W. on road to El Hamra at 1 w/ road to Gafsa and Ouedref, one hedgehog seen A.O.R. ca. 2120 hr.  
One Bufo viridis collected (CMFS 21609-611) A.O.R. 2 km SE Ouedref at 2131 hr., another B. viridis taken in OUDREF city limits at 2140 hr. Passed through Methouin and Bou Chemma whereupon I turned NNE to Rhenouch and captured one more adult Bufo viridis within the city limits. (CMFS 21611).

18 MAR 72 Kettara, 2 km. S. on G.P. 1 at Oued el Fend, 1120-1300, 10± Rana esculenta seen in water hole set deep in sand and protected on 3 sides by conglomerate reinforced banks. There are also minnows living in the pond and it appears to be ± deep. Oued is now muddy and turbulent from the runoff precipitated by last two days of rain.

Gabes, 5 km. SW on G.P. 1 (2) Bufo viridis (21612-21613) taken from highway. Specimens were in amplexus at 2034 hr.

Kettara, 2 km. S. at Oued el Fend, 2058 hr., and silence on Oued at the moment. The possibility that Bufo viridis breeds here cannot be overlooked -- one specimen heard calling at 2059 hr.

18 MAR

At 2107 a Rana esculenta (21623-21632) collected in stream  
and from this time till 2150 a series of both Rana esculenta  
(21623-21632) and Bufo viridis (21614-21622) was taken. Both  
species are breeding and 2 eel-like creatures were seen in Oued  
on the E. side where depth is ± 6 feet.

⇒ OUED EL FERD = GABÈS, 10.7 km E and 15 km S, 25M.

19 MAR

Rennouche (= Gharnache), area to E. along shore of Medi-  
terranean Sea 1040 - start 1051: Acanthodactylus boskianus appa-  
juv. seen in ± 500 cm grass west of beach 1100: Chalcides  
ocellatus (pentadactyl species) (CMFS 21633-21643) collected in  
chenopods in beach area. The area by the beach is divided  
into two ecological areas by the drifting sand. Behind (=lee-  
ward) the dunes is an area of silt-laden sand which bears a  
large flora of chenopods and grasses. at the moment there is  
much moisture in the soil and Chalcides appear to be plentiful.  
As you walk E. to the sea from the chenopod area you pass  
thru an ecological area with low (< 2 m) bushes and grasses.  
This area yields both a boskianus appa and Cynodon dactylon.

although the latter appears to be more common where less  
ground cover is evident 1105: Acanthodactylus boskianus appa  
seen in beach. 1117: C. ocellatus (21633-21643) adult collected in chenopod  
1122: C. ocellatus collected in chenopod; 1130: 2 C. ocellatus taken  
in chenopod; 1133: Chalcides ocellatus collected in chenopod.

Sunny w/ haze, slight ocean breeze. C. ocellatus taken  
in chenopod at 1136, 1147, + 1205 (2). At 1210, an adult  
Acanthodactylus boskianus appa seen in low (< 500 cm) shrub.

1220: Adult Cynodon dactylon (21649-21650) collected while sunning  
at base of chenopod 1226: juv. A. boskianus appa (21644-21648)

19 MAR collected in dunes area. Other specimens were collected at 1231 and 1236 with sightings recorded at 1230 and 1237 (tail = 500 cm gross) At 1244, an adult Eremias <sup>O. olivieri</sup> guttulata (21649-21650) was collected in leeward dune area.

#### GOUVERNORAT DE MEDENINE

Medenine, 29 Km. ESE (at Km marker 47), 1552, under overcast skies and w/ a heavy wind, an adult Acanthodactylus pondolicus (21651-21652) was collected from under a tile on desert floor near the dune-levee. At 1622 another A. pondolicus was taken from the area under a tile. Both specimens were cold when captured as was the collector at the time!

#### GOUVERNORAT DE GABÈS

20 MAR Kettara, 2 km. S. on GP 1 at Oued el Fend, 1030 hr, sunny and this is really our first really good day! 25-30 Rana esculenta heard calling from the pond on W. side. 1100: a juv. A. boehmei asper seen on a knoll in center of wheat field. 1109: juv. A. boehmei asper (A. scutellatum 21653-21659 [9]) collected while foraging on a sandy knoll. 1133: juv. A. boehmei asper (A. scutellatum 21659 [9]) collected from a sand bank while running. 1137: Adult A. boehmei asper shot at -- missed and specimen went into a hole beneath a large (> 1 M.) plant. 1141: Adult A. boehmei asper shot at / missed. 1155: Adult A. boehmei asper shot in low (1.5 m.) shrubbery in vicinity of Oued proper. 1158: Adult A. boehmei asper seen in bush. 1202: juv. A. boehmei asper seen running; 1205: juv. A. boehmei asper seen running in low sand area; 1206 - 2 juv. A. boehmei asper collected; 1215 - juv. A. boehmei asper collected near a highway on a sand bank with Juniperus and Juncus like plants. 1224: 2 Adult A. boehmei asper shot in area of Juniperus (?) sp. and low ground cover; 1228: juv. A. boehmei asper

20 MAR taken in area of low ground cover. 1236: juv. A. scutellatum taken in area of low ground cover. 1242: Rana esculenta (21660-21675) collected. 1250: Natrix maura (IBP specimen) collected at bridge on broken concrete. One larger specimen seen in conglomerate but was unable to pass hand through the wire mesh and did not take the specimen. The N. maura collected was in ecdysis (eyes cloudy, presumed just starting). 1302: Adult A. scutellatum (21653-21659[7]) shot and 2 juveniles seen 1304: One juv. A. scutellatum taken running in sand. 1307: juv. A. scutellatum seen but not taken // taken at 1305. 1312: Chamaeleo chamaeleon (IBP) collected on high (> 2 m.) bushes in gulch area. 1321: 2 A. scutellatum adult shot; 1331: A. scutellatum shot in open sand. 1340: 2 Natrix maura seen at concrete bridge but both escaped Rhenouch (= Ghennouche), seaside area of juniper like grass, Chenopodi, and wet sand 1530-1730 hm. 1539: 2 A. scutellatum juv seen in Chenopodi. 1544: Eremias o. olivieri (21681-21685) collected in Chenopodi and at 1546 another E. o. olivieri Gallotula near a fresh-water stream in Chenopodi area. 1553: E. o. olivieri Gallotula caught in low (.5 m.) bush in dry sand 1605: 2 Chalcides ocellatus seen in Chenopodi. 1609: a C. ocellatus (21676-21680) caught in Chenopodi. 1611; 1613; 1616; 1620; 1624; 1627; 1635; + 1640, Chalcides ocellatus (21676-21680) either seen or collected in area. 1650: C. o. olivieri collected along sand area of Juniper (?) - like plant very near the beach. 1656: P. o. olivieri collected; 1704: E. o. olivieri collected in Chenopodi (21681-21685) and at 1713 a Bufo viridis and tadpoles were found in a pond behind the Ghennouche (SOTVR) Hotel which is now under construction. Bufo hatchlings also seen (2).

20 MAR

Kettara, 2 km S. at Oued el Fend. 2030-2130.

Several Rana esculenta (21660-21675) collected in Oued which appear to be settled now after some violent rains. The main pond in which these Rana were calling contains a substrate of clay and/or much soil. When one steps into, or close to, the shoreline or water, traction is difficult to maintain. The pond is  $\pm$  1.0 M. deep and the bottom is lined with a firm (not alga) type plant resembling water cress/chenopods or something of that sort. The calls from the Rana are loud, distinct, and the lack of Bufo on this night in this part of the Oued is noteworthy. Since, however, Bufo were present on the E. side of the highway, one can assume that the species isolation mechanism of the calls is complete and functional. The moving water source (10-15 feet to N.) which feeds the main pond contained not as many Rana but one Clemmys (= Mauremys) caspica (13P specimens) was collected. Nothing much of note here except that the sand substrate of the moving water was firm and relatively easily walked upon. There are, also, leeches noted in the moving stream although more were seen in the quiet pools bearing Rana. While Bufo were calling from afar, none were taken this evening. The eel-like animal of which back was still, apparently, foraging in the deep pit of the Oued. Also in this pool, although on the more shallow N. end, were 3 common Clemmys (= Mauremys) caspica (CMFS 21686-21688) which were collected (2 ♂♂, 1 ♀). On the NE corner, a large Natrix maura (21689) was collected while it was feeding on small minnows in the Oued. It becomes increasingly interesting to me that this one Oued should have such an abundance of herpetological specimens. Hope to do more here later!

21 MAR

changed on  
basis of  
longer series  
+ more observ-  
able species  
thin skin  
limbs rocks

El Hamma, approximately 1 km. E. on road to Gabès, at bridge, stopped and surveyed Dried bottom. At 1054, I collected what I now believe to be an *Acanthodactylus savignyi* <sup>Cremnus</sup> on the basis of 8 rows of ventral plates (mid-body) and a subocular which borders the mouth. At 1100, another specimen of the species was collected and both now bear CMFS #s 21690 - 21691. Under some of the larger rocks (= conglomerate + some gypsum) there is still some moisture present (i.e.: a dampness is present but not to be expected to last too long). At 1104 a *Bufo viridis* (IBP specimen) taken from under a large rock and at 1110 a <sup>smaller</sup> *Bufo viridis* (CMFS 21692) was taken from under a very large rock in damp-wet sand. At 1115, a specimen believed to be *Acanthodactylus savignyi* <sup>Cremnus</sup> *guttulata* (Aubour) took refuge under a rock too large to be moved.

SEMBAT (ca. 3 km. W. El Hamma), 8 km. W. on road to KEBILI and to the S. of that road in area of a large Dried, and, consequently, a bridge and gypsum quarry, I stopped to survey the bed. About  $\frac{1}{4}$  mi. S. of this highway there is a pool encased, in part, in gypsum. This water hole could possibly support turtle life and does, in fact, contain *Lana esculenta*. One would suspect from the depth ( $> 2$  M.) that the water-hole, per se, is permanent and sustains life in addition to the frogs present.

Mouth, 3 km. ESE at Dried Zig Zag, 1537 - 1750 fm., Area of Dried with large stones embedded in sand forming what would be expected to be the main waterway. The pools which are still retained to the W. of the highway are protected on the S. by a conglomerate reinforced (ca. 4 M.) escarpment/precip.

21 MAR

I collected in the area of the one vernal (= clay lined w/ some overhanging vegetation) pond. 1542: One Bufo viridis (21693) taken under a rock in moist sand, the specimen, although obviously moist enough, seemed drier than most I've taken this last week. 1544: An Acanthodactylus <sup>b. open</sup> sauvagii juvenile (21694) taken in open sand to W. of highway. These A. sauvagii appear to prefer a small knoll of sand or habitat when they're not confined to a boulder type environment.

1552: 2 A. sauvagii juv seen under rock in area of one thistle, one captured (21695) and one escaped. 1557: 3-5 Lauda esculenta adults seen along w/ numerous tadpoles in pond of sand substrate. Pond is protected on S. side by a high, natural, wall of conglomerate. 1603: A. sauvagii juv. seen in conglomerate area. 1608, 1614, 1626, + 1630: Acanthodactylus Eumeces <sup>g. guttulata</sup> ~~lebeyai~~ <sup>f.f.</sup> (21696 + 1 for 1BP) taken on conglomerate, seen running on conglomerate, or seen in cover of heavy thorns.

This species seems more like Lauda than Acanthodactylus in the manner in which it climbs upon the rocks. Perhaps I have mis-identified a whole genus (?). 1641: an adult Tarentola mauritanica seen in conglomerate. 1650: another <sup>E</sup> T. mauritanica seen on conglomerate; 1700: one Tarentola mauritanica seen on conglomerate near pond; 1705: one T. mauritanica seen on pond's conglomerate at S. edge; 1712: found several strings (tight woven, narrow strings) of Bufo viridis eggs in shallow water to the E. end of the small pond. 1735: T. mauritanica (21697-21700) shot in bushes on hill to N + E of Oued proper

1745: T. mauritanica (1BP specimen) taken live in "Free French [1943]" bushes and at 1748 another was seen.

21 MAR

Teboulben, 2 km S.E., at Oued es Sourouy (4.00 km E. and 6.50 km S. of Gaber) one *Natrix maura* seen D.O.R. on highway GP 1. (ca. 1800).

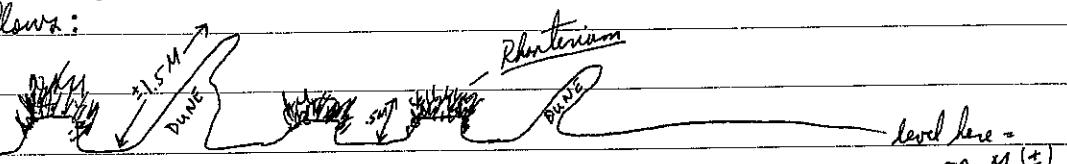
22 MAR

Aouinet, 1 km. N. and 3 km. E. (ca. 15 km. N + 3 km. E. Gaber), on beach area with a ca. 5 mph wind from W. and a clear sunny sky. 1030: 1 *Acanthodactylus boehmei asper* (21703-21714) shot in high ( $\pm$  2 M.) vegetation along coastal dunes. 1032: One *Chamaeleo chamaeleon* (21701-21702) taken from low (< .5 M.) legume (?) in windward sand dune. 1034: 2 juv. *A. scutellatum* seen in sand; 1036: a *A. scutellatum* adult shot in sand; 1041: *A. scutellatum* juv. seen; 1045: 2 adult *A. scutellatum* shot; 1051: *A. scutellatum* adult shot; 1056: *A. scutellatum* adult shot; 1058: juv. *A. scutellatum* seen; 1100: juv. *A. scutellatum* taken in sand; 1104: juv. *Chamaeleo chamaeleon* taken while it was walking across sand; 1109: adult *A. scutellatum* shot in open sand; 1112: *A. scutellatum* adult shot in sand / low shrubby; 1112-1132: juv. *A. scutellatum* seen from 1112-1132. 1135: juv. *A. scutellatum* seen; 1138: small *A. scutellatum* shot in sand; 1142: *A. scutellatum* adult shot in sand; 1150: 2 *A. scutellatum* juv. seen in dune.

23 MAR

GOUV. DE MEDENINE.

Medenine, 28 km. E. at Km. 48 of G.P. 1 (25.6 km. E. + 4.5 km S [50 M]) in area of partial dunes separated from unposed national forest by a sand levee. A typical transect of the terrain is as follows:



and it should be noted that the dunes are of loosely laid down, fine grain,

23 MAR 72 sand. The afternoon was hot w/ a slight breeze and from our arrival at  $\pm 1321$  hr until departure ca. 1700, (6) Acanthodactylus pondolii (cm's 21715-21719) + (71BP specimens) were collected. The exact data are as follows:

1321 - a. pondolii shot; 1357 - a Pondolii seen in dune area near drift fence; 1413 - a Pondolii shot in dunes; 1422 - a pondolii shot under Rhamnus sp.; 1430 - 2 a. pondolii seen; 1434 - a. pondolii shot in sand mound w/ vegetation on top; 1440 - adult a. pondolii seen in open sand; 1446 - a. pondolii seen in sand mound w/ Rhamnus; 1456 - subadult a. pondolii shot under Rhamnus sp.; 1500 - a. pondolii collected in open sand of dune area; 1515 - a. pondolii seen in dune/mound w/ Rhamnus.

24 MAR 72 Medicine, 25.6 km. E. + 4.5 km. S. (50M), from 0700-0800, Jon Ghislain and I checked four trapline. 1 Jaculus deserti ♀ was taken (Rodentia: dipodidae) with <sup>a</sup> trapline of 60 traps on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 50 on the 24<sup>th</sup>. [Circa: 50 trap nights]

Started at 1950 hr on a course to take me from Gabes W. to El Hamma (28 km W. of Gabes), Sembat (31 km. W. of Gabes), Bordj Saidane (74 km. W., 14 km S. of Gabes), and into Linaquess (93 km W., 12 km S). Data to follow are in road kms as measured by Land Rover odometer: 2005 hr, 1 km. NW of Gabes (at Road to Dafra) one Bufo viridis (21722-21730) collected in a light shower.

7 km W at 2014 hr another B. viridis was taken (21722-21730).

18 km W a DOR B. viridis was noted. 26 km W in heavy rain an AOR B. viridis noted and 2 AOR B. viridis were collected.

El Hamma, city limits in heavy rain 2 AOR Bufo viridis were collected and 2 km. W. 2 AOR Rana

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esculentus (CMFS 21720-21721) were collected. 4 km W. in rain another Bufo viridis (<sup>21720-21721</sup><sub>21731-21735</sub>) was taken.

Sembat, 2 Bufo viridis and 1 Rana esculenta were seen at 2110 in rain. Both specimen in road w/ much surface water. 29 km W, 2150 hr, an AOR Bufo viridis (21731-21735) collected and at 2209 hr, 41 km W, another B. viridis was taken AOR.

Bordj Saidane, 2227 hr, 13 km W a Bufo viridis (21731-735) collected AOR.

Senayess, city limits, 2238 hr, 2 Bufo viridis (21731-735) collected AOR and survey terminated

26 MAR 72

Gebir, (2.5 km W, 6.0 km N) at Phnomoch, 1243 - 1430, a series of Chalcides ocellatus (21738-21747), Eremias <sup>o. olivieri</sup> guttulata (21737), and an Acanthodactylus <sup>b. oman</sup> sauvagii (21736) were taken. The following are the times and circumstances as abstracted from original notation:

Chalcides ocellatus collected at 1252 (chenopod), 1256 (chenopod), 1258 (in low L 200 mm. plant), 1300 (in chenopod), 1306 (chenopod), 1309 (chenopod), 1311 (chenopod), 1317 (chenopod), 1336 (sandy soil w/ chenopod ± 100 M. W. of beach), 1339 (juv in misc. small shrubbery ca. beach). C. ocellatus noted at: 1254 (chenopods), 1312 [<sub>±</sub>] in chenopod), 1319 (juv in chenopods), 1341 (juv in misc. small shrubbery ca. beach),

Eremias <sup>o. olivieri</sup> guttulata (21737) taken at 1330 in low ( $\pm$  8 inch) sparse vegetation in sandy soil close to shoreline.

Acanthodactylus <sup>b. oman</sup> sauvagii (juv) (21736) collected in low shrubbery 150 yds. from ocean side at 1350 hrs.

Drove in a N. direction following a dirt path which

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11s the shoreline for much of its distance about 5 km (diameter running) until a dune area with sparse vegetation, shifting sand, and  $\pm$  25 palm trees appeared to the E. While walking through the periphery and center of one dune at 1419 hrs, a juv Acanthodactylus <sup>b. approx.</sup> ~~sauvagii~~ was seen. At 1424 hr, another specimen (juv. also) was noted on leeward side of dune in loose sand. Tall grasses and Juncus (acutus?) are present in this area. Proceeding along the dry lake bed in a  $\pm$  NW direction for ca. 1 km. brought me to a palm grove. At 1442 a Chalcides ocellatus was seen in the oasis area and at 1447 another was seen near a small permanent pond which was inhabited by small minnows. The deep pool (photographed) at the N. most end of the W. side contains Rana esculenta and a dead Natrix maura was found under a fallen palm trunk. At 1455 a Chalcides ocellatus was seen in a low shrub. Driving  $\pm$  WSW, I came back to the Gaber - Ouedet Road at 1 km Post 120 approx. even w/ the RR crossing. 13 km NW Gaber (by road) and just S. of that RR crossing a D.O.R. Natrix maura was seen. Returned to this area to set trap and an Oreamnos (?) was seen in open field to SE of Palm Grove. At 1655 a Chalcides ocellatus (21748) captured under palms in E. end near secondary palm grove. 25 rat and 25 museum species were set out by me.

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Gaber, 11 km N. + 6 km. W at Palm Grove (ibid) at 0815 under sunny and partly overcast skies a Ruby-throated bird collected in one of last night's snap traps. 0840 - a Chalcides ocellatus was seen lying in sun beneath heropod. A Mus musculus (Rodentia) was taken under tamarix in a museum

27 MAR 72 Special. 0852 - a Chalcides ocellatus seen sunning atop tall (~8") grass which may be Juncus acutus and at 0855 another Mus musculus taken in open area of chenopoda. From 0915 - 1410 we remained mired in mud. First tractor arrived at 1410 and became stuck also. It was later than usual when we returned to the villa where Georges Novikoff and Frederick H. Wagner waited for our arrival.

28 MAR 72 Gabès, 10.7 km. E. and 15 km S at Oued el Ferid from 1255 to 1447. ± 20 Rana esculenta seen (and heard) in pond. Another deep pond (there are about 6 W. of the highway) found containing R. esculenta and tadpoles probably of Rana. It impressed me that, since no Bufo were seen here, that perhaps the calls are effective enough to ensure complete species isolation in this area. A young Discoglossum picturatum (CMFS 21750) found in Salicornia (for Ghiselin's identification) [chenopods] at 1316 hr. 2 R. esculenta seen in pond further W. with ± 1,000 tadpoles at 1400. 50 (±) Rana esculenta heard (and seen) calling from a large (ca. 30M x 50M) pond. 1431: a juvenile Natrix maura (21753) taken from beneath a rock along the fast-moving stream to the E. of the road. 1434: Cremisus g. guttulata taken (21751-21752) from along the stream bed while a 2<sup>nd</sup> specimen retreated to Juncus [acutus?] root area. 1439: E. g. guttulata collected in chenopod near the S. conglomerate-faced wall. 1447: left over.

Gabès, 2.5 km W. + 6.0 km N. at Rhensouch. Collected from 1610 - 1655 hr. 1617: 2 C. ocellatus seen sunning in chenopod. 1620: Cremisus o. olivieri captured (CMFS 21754-21756) away from immediate beach area. 1623: E. o. olivieri (21754-756) captured in Salicornia (?) near beach. 1625: E. o. olivieri captured

- 28 MAR 72 in Salicornia (?) in area mixed with Juncus and near sand dune area of beach. 1626: Chalcides ocellatus (21757-21761) captured while sunning in chenopods. 1629: C. ocellatus (21757-21761) taken in chenopod area. 1633: C. ocellatus seen in chenopod/Juncus area. 1638: C. ocellatus captured in Juncus. 1643: C. ocellatus captured in tall Juncus near beach. 1646: C. ocellatus captured in chenopod W. of beach and at 1649 a Sperm sp. was seen in the area of grasses just W. of beach's sand dunes.
- 29 MAR 72 Gaber - El Hamra - Douz - Ksar Ghilane - El Hamra - Gaber.  
 Dr. Ghiselin, Dr. F. H. Wagner (Utah State), Dr. Novakoff, and I traveled on a sort of safari to see the preliminary shifting sand dunes of the Sahara. The trip was adequately covered in Kodachrome II and Black + White (Roll I, 1972). For specimen and relevant herpetological data, the following:  
 Steftimi, 1 km S, 1137, 1 Acanthodactylus boskianus asper (CMFS 21762) collected in arid, raised, well w/ brackish (Wagner) water and tall grasses. The specimen was sunning in low shrubbery within the well compound.  
 Douz, 25 km SE (Gaber, 68 km W + 85 km S) one Acanthodactylus pondolicus (CMFS 21763) collected in association with Antiller aeromissa (Lösemü) in loose, sandy soil at 1325 m.
- 30 MAR 72 Set trapline at 11 km E and 6 km W of Gaber (approx) in Palm grove W. of mapped dune area. 51 traps were set S. and 49 set E.
- 31 MAR 72 Gaber, 11 km E + 6 km W, collected 2 Gerbillus gerbillus (♂ + ♀) in trapline to S. and 2 G. gerbillus (♂♂) to E Jon Ghiselin in taking care of mammal preparation and should

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Have more sufficient data RE: these specimens.

2.5 km W + 6.0 km N at Rhosneigr from 0555-1220  
 another series of specimens was taken. This basic coastal  
 dune area is composed of a brief shoreline (< 50 yds)  
 followed by a series of low (< 5 ft) relatively stable (from  
 vegetation - a not unlikely inference) dunes. The dunes are  
 covered by a grass of some sort and are backed up to the  
 W. by a low area of Chenopodi and Juncus. At the  
 present, the Chenopodi area is extensive and the sand is  
 moist - wet beneath apparently affording some good ground for  
Chalcides which are probably breeding at this time. While  
Chalcides seems to be more common in the Chenopodi, it is  
 in no way restricted to them. Likewise, Cremisus or olivieri  
 which previously had been found between the dunes and the  
 Chenopodi appears to extend onto the dune area and into  
 the periphery of the Chenopodi where they (the Chenopodi) are  
 thinnest. Acanthodactylus boskianus asper, as expected, is  
 almost exclusively found in the tall grasses of the dunes although  
 juveniles do seem to wander as far off or into the outer per-  
 ipheral limits of the so-called (Giliastrum) Salsicornia. A table  
 of collecting data follows:

Chalcides oscillans (+ = captured, - = missed, i.e. seen)

(CMFS 21764-21780)

1009, 2- in Chenopodi; 1011, 2+ in Chenopodi;  
 1015, 1+ in low (< 5") grasses; 1025, 1+ in Juncus; 1027, 1-  
 in Juncus; ~~1055~~ 1055, 2+ in Chenopodi; 1058, 1+ in stream  
 bed area of Chenopodi; 1101, 1+ in Chenopodi; 1104, young +  
 in Chenopodi; 1127, 1+ in Juncus/tall grass area; 1128, 1+ in

31 MAR 72 *chenopod*; 1131, 1+ in *juncus*/chenopod; 1135, 1+ in chenopod  
1137, 2+ in chenopod; 1139, 1- in chenopod; 1141, 1- in chen-  
opod; 1150, 1+ in chenopod; 1159, juv. - in chenopod;  
1217, 1+ in chenopod.

*Cremis o. olivieri* (CMFS 21781-21782): 1109, 1+  
along dirt path; 1215, 1+ in open sand

*Acanthodactylus buskianus asper* (CMFS 21783-21787[8]):  
1032, 1+ in sparse, tall ( $\pm$  12") vegetation on sand near dunes;  
1034, 1+ in *juncus*; 1045, 1- in tall grasses; 1116, 1 adult -  
in low shrubbery; 1118, juv - in open sand; 1119, juv - in  
low (< 4") bush; 1120, juv + in low ( $\leq$  4") bush; 1122, juv -;  
1124, juv - near palms; 1134, ad + in chenopod; 1143, juv -  
in sand; 1147, adult - in chenopod area; 1153, Adult - and  
juv + in sand; 1158, 2 juv + in sand; 1200, juv + in  
sand; 1204, adult + open sand; 1206, adult +, juv - in  
open sand; 1212, 2 juv + in sand.

Small pond to S. of normal area found to be  
lined w/ *juncus* and filled w/ surface alga. Several tadpoles  
seen within the pond and  $\pm$  10 *Rana esculenta* were  
observed within the pond.

10.7 km E + 15 km S of Dabir at Oued el Fend,

1500-1630, 12 *Rana esculenta* in first pond to W. of highway.

Water receding at rate of ca. 6"/day as indicated by shore-  
line. 1530-1545, 2 small *Maurinus capensis leptorn*

seen and 2 *Tarentola mauritanica* (21788-21789) collected  
at pond to S. of the major feeding streams for the Oued. The  
pond is about 4' deep at the center, 6' across and about  
12-15' in length. Lining its southern side is a wall of

31 MAR 72 conglomerate (see photo, roll # 2-72). At 1612 on the E. side of the highway, I was presented w/ an Acanthodactylus boskianus asper (21792) and an Eremias g. guttulata (21791) by local children: the Eremias has a crushed shell so the identification characteristics; i.e. scale composition of orbit, cannot be clearly seen. At 1618, while turning rock in the vicinity of the stream, I upturned a Rana esculenta (21790) under a rock.

01 APR 72 1930 - 2126, Drove the road from Gabes SSW (Rt 17) to Matmata and returned. In spite of a rainfall of moderate proportions, no amphibia were seen on the highways; 2 Jaculus (Rodentia: Dipodidae) deserti (?) were seen A.O.R. on highway about midway between Matmata and Gabes.

02 APR 72 (EASTER SUNDAY) It an intermittently sunny day with high winds. Gabes, 2.5 km. W, 6.0 km N. at Rennouch from 0907-1057 I am surveying the beach to the S for additional habitats while fighting blowing sand and very heavy winds (normally placid sea has white cap and heavy surf). 0916, Chalcides ocellatus seen in Chenopodi while sunning itself. 0923, C. ocellatus seen sunning on a dirt bank ca. small shrub. 0934 - C. ocellatus seen sunning in Chenopodi, 0937 another C. ocellatus seen sunning in Chenopodi, 0938 a C. ocellatus juvenile seen sunning; 0942 a C. ocellatus (CMFS 21793-21794) collected in Chenopodi.

From this point until ca. 1015 hr, I walked the N. bank of a rapidly moving stream emptying into the sea. The pools contain many small (minnow size) fish and an occasional Rana esculenta was seen. Because of the winds (perhaps) nothing else except for 2 swallows was noted.

02 APR 72

1031, an Acanthodactylus boskianus asper juv. was seen running in the sand near the area of high (12"±) grasses close to both the main road to Rhenouch and the beach. 1044 - a C. ocellatus was seen in chenopod and at 1046 a large C. ocellatus (CMFS 21793-21794) was collected in juncus.

Chenini (Bunis in Oasis on NE side of Gabes) yielded one D.O.R. record of a Natrix maura at 1125. The oasis may bear some closer inspection regarding herpetofauna: I suspect Ichthynidae may be rather abundant in the area. The road leading through the Oasis is lined, on alternate sides of the road, with an irrigation stream of sorts. This stream, where it pools - and it appears to pool frequently, has a base of white sand which reveals the water to be very, very, clear.

03 APR 72

Gabes-Mouth-Beni Zellene-Toujone-Matmata-Gabes

Beni Zellene, 2 km. S.E. on dirt path, one juvenile Tarentola mauritanica (CMFS 21795) collected under a rock along exposed road shoulder at 1425. The day was basically clear, sunny, and w/ a high wind for most part later (ca. 1600) the sheer turned cloudy and the cold wind was most distressing. Our trip was over road passable but not what one would care to spend many hours on. The hills in this area are, around Toujone, covered w/ talus and scant vegetation. As you drive to Matmata from Toujone you pass many troglodytes, an occasional olive grove, and much barren, overgrazed, eroded hillside.

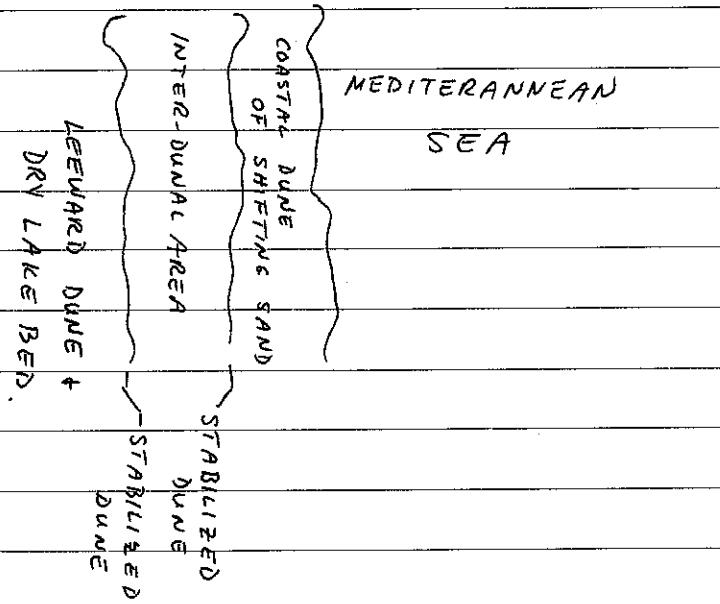
05 APR 72

GABES, 4.4 km W and 12.6 km N (= Rhenouch, 7 km. by dirt road 11 to ocean) surveyed. The area which is to be surveyed as completely as possible has the following constitution:

OSAPR 72

dune =  
Spring

It is bounded on both N. and S. by streams of brackish water, on the W. by the dirt road, and on the E. by the Mediterranean. If my interpretation of the map (see p. 6 this vol.) is correct, this is the Southernmost section of the "SKRET ER RAHIA" (= sand dunes name) which is bounded on the N. by the flow of "Aïne Ghourat" and on the S. by the flow of "Aïne el Kettane" but is not restricted to these borders. I have decided herein to delineate further this "chunk" of coastal dune area and my allocations of habitat type are indicated on the following map:



but are not so clearly delineated in nature (obviously!). The interdunal area is a depression containing some palm trees and much ground cover. Thickets with heavy thorns form the basis, and largest %, vegetation of consequence whereas annual grasses, Chenopodiaceae, and *Zygophyllum* with *Tamarix* are certainly not rare. (see photo). Also noticeable are several, apparently active, rodent burrows in the area (most in mound protected by thickets), several

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mosquitos, and a ground-dwelling (and flying) bee of large numbers.

The stabilized dunes are elevated to form the borders of this inter-dunal area and contain very sparse vegetation, loose sand, and little else. The vegetation is, once again, the thorny thicket type bush and annual grasses.

The Leeward Dune/dry lakebed in a transitional area which contains much of interest. From the bottom of the dune, we see a gradual shift in soil type from basic sand to a silt, mud-like, almost, topsoil with a heavy clay component. Vegetation is, again, Zygophyllum and a few thickets. Palm trees are present, but well scattered.

(Photographic series should have this, see roll # 2-72)

#### NOTES ON SPECIMENS FOR 5 APR 72:

A 3½ - 4' snake of a reddish-brown tint seen retreating into a mammal burrow near a thicket between 1600-1630.

While digging out the burrow used at first, the snake escaped over the top of the mound in the inter-dunal area into another hole from which it could not be collected. On sight identification: Naja h. haje.

Crotalus o. olivieri and Acanthodactylus h. asper were also seen in the area.

6 APR 72

Gabiz, 4.4 km W + 12.6 km N Gabiz (=Rhenisch, 7 km N), from 0940. Today is clear and sunny with a soft E. breeze and in what one could call fairly warm after the cold spell we've seen recently.

0945 - One adult ♂ Naja h. haje. (21805)  
collected in leeward dune/dry lake area while crossing

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the dirt road into the lake area proper. It was shot immediately prior to its descending into a large, mounded, mammal burrow from which it was pulled (by hand), shot again, and bagged. (TL = 1848 mm; Tail = 206.3 mm; SV = 1583 mm)

0948- Acanthodactylus boschmai asper (21796-21802)

taken interdunal area.

0951- a. asper (21796-802) collected on dunes <sup>stabilized</sup> to E.

1030- Shell of Testudo graeca found, but disorded, in thicket. When picked up, the shell disintegrated and was not saved.

1042- Eremias c. olivieri (21803-21804) taken from shifting sand / coastal dune sand at 1044 another E. c. olivieri taken in same area in open sand.

1047- a. asper (21796-802) shot in sand / thicket in inter-dunal area. 1106 - juv. A. b. asper seen in tall grasses in E. inter-dunal area. 1107- a. b. asper (21796-802) adult shot in thicket in sand of leeward/dry lake area.

1120- a. b. asper (21796-802) shot in thicket inter-dunal area. 1123- A. b. asper shot in thicket inter-dunal area, 1125- A. b. asper shot in thicket inter-dunal area, 1135-dug out thicket in search of a Naja which escaped into a mammal burrow -- this time the result was negative. Naja has been positively found in both leeward/dry lake and inter-dunal areas - further research into faunal constitution of this area would be interesting! (deported ca. 1200 N)

1630- returned to area again. 1707- a Notrix maura (21806) collected inter-dunal area in tall grasses. Set 50 snap-traps in this area. At 1830 - Ali Dahri presented me w/ another N. maura (21807) which

- 6 APR 72 had been taken from the leeward - dry lake area. (1900-deport)
- 7 APR 72 Gabis, 4.4 km W + 12.6 km N., 0800 - arrived to check both my trapline. 50 trap set S. of marsh to W. of road in, ca., center of area studied yielded nothing. 0830 - 50 trap set in inter-dunal area yielded nothing. 0845 - A. b. asper <sup>juv.</sup> seen sunning. 0856 - adult A. b. asper (21810-21820) shot inter-dunal area in loose sand on E. side. 0924 - a small snake (probably Natrix maura) disappeared into the under portion of a large Juncus. 0946 - A. b. asper (adult - 21810-820) shot in thicket of leeward / dry lake area. 0957 - juv. A. b. asper seen in thicket; 0958 - adult A. b. asper seen in thicket, 1000 - inter-dunal area - 100s of hrs seen traveling low to ground in area of clover-like purple plant, ± near a palm grove (3 trees!). 1012 - A. b. asper seen in open sand; 1032 - returned to leeward / dry lake area of small pond in ± center of 2 streams' delineation, and one Desbillur (grbillur?) seen and one A. b. asper (21810-820) collected. 1039 - A. b. asper shot in thicket near the marsh, 1047 - A. b. asper subadult shot in thicket, 1050 - A. b. asper taken in tall grasses, 1057 - inter-dunal area; A. b. asper shot, but not saved (too close w/ the .22!), in thicket along N. most end; 1111 - Chamaeleo c. chamaeleon (21821-21822) taken in tall bush in sand dunes, bush ca. 12" high and in stabilizing element for edge of large dune - specimen colored well enough to almost match the plant! 1115 - A. b. asper (21810-21820) adult shot open sand; 1120 - A. b. asper adult seen in mound w/ thicket.

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1129 - A. b. asper adult shot in open sand; moved to leeward / Dry lake area. 1129 - ♂ chamaeleon (21821-21822) taken from small ( $\leq 12'' \uparrow$ ) clump of grass; 1140 - juv. A. b. asper seen in open sand; 1145 - Testudo graeca (21809) collected in low thicket; 1159 - A. b. asper adult shot in low thicket on mound; 1200N - a hissing noise accompanied by movement heard from a low ( $\leq 3' \nearrow$ ) mound covered w/ thicket and  $\pm 4$  rodent burrows. When dug out, a large Vanson g. griseum (cmfs 21808) was collected. The entrance to the first burrow seen was about 12" across and 8" high at maximum  $\overset{0\downarrow}{\leftarrow 12''}$  aperture. The Vanson was uncoiled in about 9" of soft, moist, sandy soil. It is, I think, <sup>YES!!</sup> D. g.

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Gaber, 4.4 km N & 12.6 km N, 0745 - on leeward / Dry lake area. Marsh side trapline yielded a Mus musculus and a Desbillium gerbillum (RE: Jon Ghiselin) in trap. 0754 - a Chalcidea ocellata seen in Salsola area at N. edge of marsh. When approached, it "swam" through about  $\frac{3}{3}$  ft. of shallow ( $\leq 2''$ ) water. 0900 - A. b. asper <sup>adult</sup> seen running; 0902 - A. b. asper adult shot (21824-838) in tall grass on a mound, 0911 - A. b. asper shot in open sand, 0913 - Eremias o. olivieri adult taken on leeward dune in high grass (21839-843); 0922 - A. b. asper (21824-838) shot on side of dune; 0931 - E. o. olivieri (21839-843) taken in Zygophyllum; 0934 - E. o. olivieri collected in tall ( $>12''$ ) grass; 0937 - A. b. asper collected in tall grass; 0940 - A. b. asper juvenile collected on dune;

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0948 - A. b. asper subadult collected on dune; 0958 -

A. b. asper subadult and Cremnor c. olivieri seen in chenopodi along water's edge to S. of dune; 1010 -

A. b. asper adult shot in high grass/sand; 1015-1025 =

dry Vorom g. griseum (21823) from burrow. Thin burrow was not located in a mound, but, rather,  
note =  
hole was  
about  
6" x 4"  
 looked to be self-constructed on flat-plain of dry lake bed. Earth was soft enough to be removed by hand (which it was) and the lizard was collected at a depth of ± 8" from surface level and about 14" back from original hole where sighting was made. 1028 -

A. b. asper juvenile seen in open area of dry lake.

1031 - Cremnor c. olivieri (21839-21843) taken in thicket.

1040 - C. c. olivieri (adult) taken in Juncus area; 1048 -

2 A. b. asper seen, 1 juv. taken (21824-21838) in thicket.

1051 - A. b. asper <sup>juv</sup> taken in grasses; 1059 - Small blackish snake (2½' - 3') retreated to hole in W. wall of large dune w/ thicket stabilization; 1102 - A. b. asper shot under palm;

1107 - A. b. asper taken open area of sparse, but tall, grass;

1110 - A. b. asper juv seen; 1115 - C. c. olivieri seen near marsh in tall grass; 1119 - Para esculetta seen in area of marsh; 1121 - A. b. asper shot in open sand; 1126 -

A. b. asper shot in thicket. Moved to inter-dune  
area.

1130 - A. b. asper juv taken in open sand

1135 - A. b. asper adult shot in open sand

1200 - END : 1745 re-survey from 1530-1745 yielded nothing but a sight record of a Vorom burrow

8 APR 72 to the N. of the marsh ± 500 feet. Appeared to be active (tail impression still in sand).

Gabis, 10.7 km E + 15 km S. at Oued el Fend from 2150 - 2230, immediately upon arrival, 2 small, tannish (w/ white underside and some lateral white) foxes w/ long ears and blue-green eyeshine seen. One Rana esculenta (21844-848) captured in pond on W. side of road and closest to road. It has now increased to the point of being ca. 5' across at widest point and L 3' across at narrowest. Bottom still much soil and w/ algae.

2157 - a large adult Maurinus inspica lyraea (21849-51) collected in widest portion of pond (ibid). From 2205-2230, 2 more M. i. lyraea (21850-51) were collected in thin some pond while a yellow-eyeshined beast seemed to follow my movement about the pond. The E. side of the pond, along the bank of the rapidly moving stream, resulted in the collection of 4 more Rana esculenta (21844-21848). While crossing the stream (more in an effort to clean my sneakers than anything), a Notrix maura (21852) was collected as it lay on a bed of algae // to the direction of flow + w/ its head <sup>pointing</sup> in the direction of flow.

9 APR 72 Gabis, 2.5 km W + 6.0 km N, at Phenach beach.

0945-1056. 0947: Eremias o. olivieri<sup>(21853)</sup>, collected in dunes; 0958: Chalcides ocellatus (21854) adult collected in chenopodi; 1014 - Acanthodactylus boehmei asper juvenile seen in chenopod area; 1016 - A. b. asper, <sup>adult</sup> seen in chenopod area; 1018 - Chalcides ocellatus juv. seen in chenopodi; 1024 - Eremias o. olivieri seen in thickets/dunes; 1026 - C. ocellatus adult seen in dunes;

9 APR 72      1028 - large series Rana esculenta tadpoles seen in deep ( $\pm 6'$ ) pool of brackish (taste) water in dunal area; 1037 - A. b. asper seen in Chenopod area; 1043 - A. b. asper juv (21855-21856) collected in dune area; 1049 - A. b. asper adult taken (21855-21856) in garbage heap w. of coastal dunes.

10 APR 72      Rain most of day: cold & w/ heavy wind.

Chenini at 1945 hrs one Bufo v. viridis collected A.O.R (21857-21859). Drove from Gabès to El Hamra (1945-2024 hr) seeing nothing under cold winds and a heavy rain.

Gabès, 7 km W, A.O.R. on road to El Hamra, the longest of the Bufo viridis (21857-21859) series collected at 2057.

4 km W at 2102 another B. v. viridis taken and returned to Gabès at 2110 hr.

Drove from Gabès, S. to Tebelbon, Kettara, and Mareth (a distance of 33 kms [ $\pm 7$ ]) from 2110-2156 under heavy rains and occasional wind. Mareth, 7 km N. at 2206 a DOR Bufo v. viridis was seen but not collected. 8 km N at 2209 on AOR B. v. viridis (21860-21861) was collected.

Kettara, city limits, at 2223 the final B. v. viridis (21861) was collected AOR and I returned to Gabès at 2245 to end survey. The night was cold and very wet w/ occasional high winds. I suspect the temperature to have been the determining factor in the paucity of Bufo about the evening for it was surely ~~warm~~<sup>wet</sup> enough for them!

12 APR 72      Zarat (26 km E. & 24 km S. of Gabès) 1000-1130.

Jon Ghiselin & I collected in beach area to E. of Zarat.

Grove of Palms located to SE but mostly the area was typical overgrazed area of scanty, low (<18") vegetation and sandy soil

12 APR 72

which varied in texture from fine to coarse. 2 Palm groves are present and surrounded by drifting sand dunes; I spent most time in area of hummock/low vegetation and the following resulted:

- 1000 - 1 Acontodactylus boskianus asper seen low bush;  
 1005 - A. b. asper juv. seen in hummock; 1007 - A. b. asper adult seen in hummock; 1014 - A. b. asper (21863-21865) adult shot under Palm; 1102 - A. b. asper (21863-21865) adult dug from hummock in dune area. 1135 - presented a Chamaeleo c. chamaeleon (21866) by Jon who stated that it came from sedge in the Palm Grove to the S. and E.

Oued Zig Zaou, .6 km S. and 10 km E. by unmapped road to Djerba (via, no doubt, a sonic route). From 1210-1257 hrs, I collected in area of a stream passing under road thru a wadi. While walking N., I noticed that the heavy winds and cool temperatures were probably keeping whatever might be active from being so. The area is basically a stone-bottomed stream which meanders little bordered by wheat fields and w/ the presence of sand-hummocks in excess of 5' from normal ground level. Heavily shrubbed these hummocks may be good habitat for both Chamaeleo and Acontodactylus. A Bufo v. viridis (21862) was collected by Dhar Ali from this area.

Oued Zig Zaou, 1305-1400, surveyed hillsides to N. of Oued in area of WW II bunkers. At 1317 one juvenile Tarentola mauritanica (21867) was collected from under a rock forming the E. reinforcement of the longest (and still free of sand = passage easy) bunker.

12 APR 72

OUDREF, 12 km NW on road to Dajra (= Gabès, 21 km W + 19 km N) in area of ca. 100 m. foothill with several sheep trails and markings for passage of water (back II to and under the highway). From 1615-1700 hr, I turned over rocks and searched the culvert in the vicinity of the Gabès, 29 km mark. Under one rock on the E. side of the stream-bed (now dry) to the E. of the highway and ca. 10 feet N. of the culvert one Chalcides ocellatus subtypicus (21869) was collected. A Tarentola mauritanica was shot (21868) from the brick facing on the E. edge of the culvert and nothing more was seen in the area. These hills are barren or far as vegetation is concerned -- there are few wildflowers growing and grass (=annual grasses) are present but, from afar, the hills give the appearance of rock alone.

13 APR 72

Drove from Gabès - Matmata - 8 km. W. Matmata on un-surfaced road marked to "Kebili - 105 km". The morning is very windy and even the sun from a clear sky cannot bring the chill from the air. I saw nothing of herpetological interest although I did spend some time in an area 14 km. E. (by road) of Matmata. While turning over rocks, I saw only scorpions and theorize that Eremias may live in those hills to the S. of the road. The oasis forms the base for some former wheat field and the stone retaining walls may provide some reptile shelter. 2 Phoxos (Baw) were taken from the S. hill in the area -- if only to show the desolation.

14 APR 72

Rhenouch, 7 km N (= Gabès, 4.4 km W + 12.6 km N) from 1135-1300, windy, and clear. The purpose of this

14 APR 72 visit was to photograph the area. The Land Rover, although taken across the stream forming my S. boundary, was left for the S. due to the wet roads (i.e.: flooded) from the rains of last night and yesterday afternoon. Photo series on B&W roll # 2-72; slides (ca. 4) also taken to use for lecture purposes. In the inter-dunal area, the following:

1207 - Acanthodactylus boskianus asper (21870-21872) adult shot; 1209 - A. b. asper juv. (21870-21872) collected; 1217 - A. b. asper adult taken; 1214 - Eremias e. olivieri (21873) taken on a knoll [W. end of inter-dune].

and, at 1243, a Chamaeleo c. chamaeleon (21874) juvenile was collected in the sea-side, coastal dune area while walking through high grass (>12") on unstabilized sand.

Rhenouch, beach area (= Sabir, 2.5 km W + 6.0 km N) at 1343 a Eremias e. olivieri (21875) was collected in dunal area.

#### ⇒ GOUV. DE MEDENINE

Medenine, 6 km. N. by road (= 4 km W + 3 km N) a D.O.R. Malpolon m. ingens collected at 1545.

Preservation was only of head, tail, and skin. Preparation took, perhaps, more time than the actual specimen was worth but CMFS 21876 was assigned.

Medenine, 26.2 km E and 6.0 km S (= 29 km SE on road to Ben Ghardane) from 1620-1715 the following:

1625 - Acanthodactylus p. pondolicus adult seen;

14 APR 72

1630 - A. p. pondalii (21877-21878) adult collected; 1644-

A. p. pondalii juvenile (21877-21875) or young ♀ collected on stable dune. Third specimen presented to me by Dahir Ali at 1720 but w/ no additional data. Set 180 traps.

15 APR 72

Medenine, 28.2 km E. + 6.0 km S., or approx.

29 km S.E. on GP 1 (Road to Ben Joudane) in area of white house and olive grove (to S. of road which travel almost due E-W). This is the area of IBP's validation site (4) for the Desert Biome Project on Pre-Saharan Ecosystems. The area is one of overgrazed steppe w/ levees having been added to restrict dune formation and soil erosion by wind. The first area I collected was N. of the white house and W. of the dirt road leading past it. Or -- if you will -- W. of the dirt road and N. of the W. portion of the levee. I collected by walking through the area immediately N. of the levee in an E-W direction. (From the road, I collected up to the sand dune / wheat field to the W. end.) My interval of travel was : 200 feet W-E and at 6' N-S interval until I had moved approx. 200' N. of the levee -- a demarcation was present by a plowed field. This first area is one of tightly packed substrate of clay (?) with small stones. Occasional, <sup>small</sup> dunes are present but these are what I prefer to call hummocks as they are stabilized by a mesquite-like plant. From 0907-1000 hr, this is how it went: (app = A. p. pondalii) (<sup>seen = missed</sup> in = caught)

0907 - app. ♂ seen Joyce-like plant; 0910 - app ♀ in low shrub; 0924 - app ♂ shot in low shrub at entrance to burrow;

15 APR 72

0933 - app. ♀ in open area; 0938 - app. ♂ shot under bush; 0940 - app. ♂ shot in open sand; 0944 - app. ♂ under shrub; 0946 - app. ♀ seen open sand; 0950 - app. ♂ (caught, 1 missed) in open sand; 0952 - app. ♂ in open sand; 0956 - app. ♂ seen in shrub; 0958 - app. ♀ under shrub; 1000 - app. ♂ in open sand; 1004 - *Eremias o. olivieri* (<sup>CMFS</sup> 21903) taken under bush; 1006 - app. seen in open sand (adult?); 1012 - app. ♂ in open sand; 1015 - Adult app. seen in tall (18") grass; 1019 - app. adult seen in low shrub; 1021 - app. ♀ in low bush; 1024 - app. ♀ in low bush; 1027 - app. ♀ in low bush; 1032 - app. ♂ seen in low bush; 1036 - app. ♂ in low bush; 1040 - app. ♀ seen in low bush; 1044 - app. ♀ in plowed area (this was shot up badly and will probably be discarded); 1047 - app. ♂ seen in low bush; 1054 - app. ♀ seen in low bush; 1100: End for N of levee, W. of road.

1115 - Begin S. of levee, E. of road for approximately same size plot and under same conditions. 1115 - app. ♂ seen open sun; 1118 - app. ♂ retreated to hole in ground; 1120 - app. ♂ retreated to hummock; 1126 - app. retreated to both hole in hummock; 1136 - app. retreated to hole in ground beneath low bush (< 18"). 1145 = END (Heat beginning to become extreme: pretty early in year for these temperatures?)

1315 - 1330 in Olive Grove to S. of area, 1 app. adult seen in wheat field within general area.

1355 - Return to N. of levee, E. of road in inter-levee area. 1407 - app. seen open dune; 1421 - app.

15 APR 72 seen open dune; 1423 - App. ♂ shot open dune; 1437 - App. adult seen dunes; [1500 - South of levee, E. of road] 1504 - App. ♀ went down hole; 1506 - app. ♀ went down hole; 1508 - App. ♂ in shrub; 1510 - App. seen in open; 1521 - ♂ app taken under bush; 1523 - app. ♀ taken on hummock; 1535 - App. ♀ on hummock; 1536 - App. ♂ under bush; ~~1601~~ 1601 - Adult app seen in bush; 1607 - Adult app seen in bush (went into hole near plant root); 1609 - App. ♀ in bush; [1636 - N. of levee, W. of road] 1636 - App. ♂ in bush and 1640 - END.

It should be noted here that no juveniles of A. c. pondolia were seen whereas A. b. asper juveniles are common in coastal dunes. ♂♂ are longer than ♀♀ or well or being well patterned w/ spots whereas ♀♀ are a light, sandy brown w/ small spots. On the hand, definite sexing can be done using femoral pores (i.e.: See Bons & Sinot, 1957) and basal - tail width. Biomass Data are as follows [CMFS 21878-21879 are from 14 APR, 21881-21888, 21890-902 are from 15 APR 72]:

CMFS NUMBER	SEX	GRAM WEIGHT	S-U (MM) LENGTH	TAIL (MM) LENGTH	TOTAL (MM) LENGTH	NOTES OF IMPORTANCE
21878	♀	3.5	51	86.5	137.5	Immature (tail [ventral] orange)
21879	♂	5.5	60	112	172	
21881	♂	6.5	63.5	115	179	
21882	♂	5.0	57	100	157	
21883	♂	6.5	62	75	137	Regenerated Tail
21884	♂	6.5	60	53	113	Regenerated Tail
21885	♂	6.5	62.5	115.5	178	
21886	♂	7.0	63.5	116	179.5	Shot with .22 dust

#	SEX	WT.	S-U	Tail	TL	NOTES
15 APR 72						
21887	♂	7.0	63	99	162	Regenerated Tail: Shot w/.22
21888	♂	7.0	63	112	175	Shot w/.22 dust
21890	♀	7.0	66	111	177	
21891	♀	5.5	59	81	140	Regenerated tail (?)
21892	♀	4.5	55.5	72	127.5	Regenerated tail (?)
21893	♀	5.0	56.5	92.5	149	Tail broken (but complete) <sup>(NOT SEPARATED)</sup>
21894	♀	4.0	56.5	92	148.5	
21895	♀	4.5	55.5	95	150.5	
21896	♀	4.5	55	95	150	Shot w/.22 dust
21897	♀	4.0	53.5	72.5	126	Broken Tail
21898	♀	3.5	53	92	145	Shot / immature (?)
21899	♀	3.5	53	18	71	Tail incomplete: Shot and in bad condition
21900	♀	3.5	55	77	132	
21901	♂	6.0	62	22	84	Broken Tail
21902	♀	3.0	51.5	76.5	128	

and the activity (on the surface) appear to be bi-modal as that with A. e. erythraeum has proved to be. One should endeavor to get black-body temperature / body temperature on this species as soon as physically possible. A nice comparative study (either between A. b. omani and A. p. pondolic or w/  
A. e. erythraeum) is available for the taking right here in  
⇒ the Gabès - Medenine area!! ⇒ GOUV. DE GABÈS ⇒

16 APR 72      Gabès - Methouia - Oudref - 12 km. NW Oudref  
driven and surveyed from 1330 - 1715.

Gabès, 21 km W. & 19 km N (= Oudref, 12 km NW by road to Gafsa) in area of low (ca. 100M) hills with much talus, many culverts, and little vegetation of consequence. At 1406, a juvenile Tarentola mauritanica

(21910-21915) was collected under a rock on the E. edge of a culvert. 1413 - I. mauritanica (21910-21915) adult taken from culvert. 1420 - Chalcides o. subtypicus (21908-21909) found under large, flat, piece of conglomerate in area of drainage from culvert (on W. side of road). 1437 - I. mauritanica adult collected under rock outcropping in area of stream bed. Followed culvert-channelled stream bed to L intersection w/ what appear to be a much larger temporary body of moving water. Turned in direction of upstream (= uphill). 1450 - 2 Bufo v. viridis seen in small ( $6' \times 3'$ ) shallow ( $\leq 6'$ ) pool in amphitheater. The pool is sheltered on the N. by juniper in heavy concentration, on S. by conglomerate formation  $> 10'$  high, on the W. by a series of large rocks and is shallow and, obviously, fed on the E. by runoff. By 1513, I had arrived at the highway again and another I. mauritanica was collected from a culvert. There

⇒ appear to be, on the average, 2 I. mauritanica / culvert here as opposed to Spain normally 3 or better. Perhaps the species is a communal <sup>nests</sup> ~~nest~~ but in S. Spain only!

1522 - I. mauritanica taken from inside culvert at about midway between E & W edge. 1527 - I. mauritanica adult taken from culvert.

at 1530 - moved approximately 1 km. closer to Oudref (SE) and noted a lizard (Eremias?) on base of a retaining wall. 1534 - 2 I. mauritanica

seen on culvert in sun, 1 subadult, 1 adult. At 1558 the second (and smallest of 2) Chalcides o. subtypicus (21908-905) collected under conglomerate approx. 50 yds. W. of highway.

16 APR 72

At 1608, the first of a series of 4 *Tropiocolotes t. algiericus* (Gekkonidae) (CMFS 21904-21907) collected from beneath a small "chunk" of conglomerate on a talus slope. The slope faces W and S and the habitat under the rock was moist dirt w/ small stones and straw-like dried grass. The additional specimens were taken at 1617, 1618, and 1629. (all, incidentally, from an area about 50' x 100' square) 1648 - departed and returned to Gabès.

Oued el Ferd, 10.7 km E + 15 km S of Gabès, from 2100 - 2130 under partially cloudy sky and w/ cold temps.

A series of 15 *Rana esculenta* (CMFS 21916 - 21930) was collected from the small meander-formed, pond to the S. and W. of the main road/stream I. On the E. side, in the clear pool of  $\pm$  6' of water and alga formations I saw a large (ca. 2'), whitish-grey eel-like animal w/ external gills, a flattened nose and w/ dorsally located eyes. There are 2 in this pool, one of which is smaller and I would, very much, like to have both for Carnegie's collection if a net can be obtained. Incidentally, the water level in the pond is still dropping but the much soil still covers me almost above ankles when the pond is walked across. The algae/pond weed provide no support.

17 APR 72

NOTE: Drove to Medenine and return w/ no noted, significant occurrence.

18 APR 72

NOTE: ibid: trapline of 249 traps yielded 2 *Sericinus* sp. and 2 birds (*Oreothraupis* sp. + a misc. lark). Overcast + cold all day: occasional sun and rain.

19 APR 72

Cold & Rainy: packed specimens for shipment

20 APR 72

Gaber, 4.4 km W. + 12.6 km N. (= 7 km N. Rhonouch),

1045 - 1244. 1102: leeward dune over a Eremias o. olivieri

(21932) collected in low shrubbery. 1109 - skin of Malpolon (?)

[slender, < 1 M, dorsal present, head oblong but median furrow not distinct, opposed patternless, ♂ scales smooth] found in leeward dune/dry lake area. 1150: 1 ♂ Naja h. haje shot in inter-dunal area thicket (cmfs 21931). 1220: Eremias

o. olivieri seen in furans in leeward dune/dry lake.

Gaber, 9 km W + 5 km S at Oued el Beida, 1630-1800.

1645: Eumeus schneideri meridionalis (21934) found under a large rock in a grove of trees (producing a fruit somewhat like a kumquat). Resting on the soft moist soil at the base of a stone retaining wall, this lizard was the only of its genus to have been seen after extensive stone turning. 1730: Eremias

g. guttulata (21933) collected on W-exposed slope of the hill in the same area. The specimen was sunning when collected.

Our preparator (Dahir Ali) says that "Thub" (pronounced borrowing the TH from "although" and the UB from "Tub") are also found on the slopes and, from his description of the animal plus habitat considerations, "Thub" could very well be Uromastyx. I shall try to find one or more with the advent of better weather.

21 APR 72

ibid, 0830-0930, searched rocks and picked up trapline. 2 specimens of "Elephant mice" collected, probably insectivore but with a complete orbit, 34 teeth ( $0-1-4-3$ ,  $1-1-4-3$ ), a long cartilagenous nose, and I have photographed the specimen which was better preserved when we returned. The ♂ appre-

21 APR 72

to have a scent gland on the ventral aspect of the tail. We shall try, also, to obtain a series of these.

Matmata - Toujane. 10 km, by road, SE from

Matmata in a permanent pond bordering the dirt road

From 1130-1200, I listened to the "skull trill" of Rana esculenta while eating lunch but saw nothing of interest in the trek.

Tebelou, 4 km E + 2 km S. Gabès, at 2115 hr.

yielded a Bufo v. viridis AOR (21935).

Oued el Ferd, 10.7 km E. + 15 km S. Gabès, from 2130-2200 yielded a Maurumys capricornus leprosa (21936) and a Natrix maura (21937) from the large spring forming the E. The "salamanders" were not seen.

22 APR 72

Oudref, 12 km NW (= 21 km W. + 19 km N. Gabès) in what can only be called an arroyo with walls reaching a total elevation of  $\pm$  100 M., I collected from 1230-1410 while lifting stones along (= conglomerate) the bed and on the E. hillside, I collected, at 1300, 1 Chalcides o. subtypicus (21945-21946) which was active in shrubbery (tail broken while trying to inject it). At 1314 a smaller C. o. subtypicus was collected under conglomerate. At 1320, the first Tropidocotyles tripolitanus algirus was collected under a rock at base of ficus stand. At 1324, 1334, 1342, and 1353 two additional specimens were taken forming CMFS series 21939-21943. This species appears to be fairly common in this area and lives in dry-moist soil under conglomerate on talus slopes and in retaining walls. At 1333 a large (?) Eremias g. guttulata (21944)

22 APR 72 collected under a rock at the top of the slope. At 1335, a C. o. subtropicus seen in pile of rock. At 1351 another C. o. subtropicus seen in rocks forming a stone retaining wall. At 1407 a small Tarentola mauritanica (21938) taken, while sunning, in a culvert.

23 APR 72 Gabes, 4.4 km W. & 12.6 km N. (= 7 km. N. Chenoue), from 1000-1200, overcast and w/ a heavy E. wind.  
 Leeward/dry lake area - 1017: Premna o. olivieri seen in low bush 1019: Acanthodactylus b. asper (21947-21948) adult ♂ collected in low bush [ $T_B = < 35^\circ C$ ] 1035: A. b. asper seen in open sand. Inter-dunal area: 1050: 2 Naja h. haje (presumed, from size + proximit, to be ♂ + ♀) seen in bush of NITRARIA RETUSA (gypso-calcareous <sup>loess</sup> soil of ground water origin) on a thicket-covered hummock in same locations as the 2 others were initially seen and eventually, at least w/ one, captured. Could NAJA be a COMMUNAL NESTER? If not, what is the Naja attraction at this particular mound?  
 ⇒ 1150: A. b. asper ♂ (21947-21948) collected in open sand [ $T_B = < 35^\circ C$ ].

— Thermometer used for  $T_B$  in TERUMO (Japan) TN-III  
 Normalglass Max.  $110^\circ C$  which is graduated from  $35-42^\circ C$  —

23 APR 72 Gabes, 10.7 km E. + 15 km S. at Oued el Fend, 2100-2200,  
 11 Rana esculenta (21951-21961) collected from pond (now really in danger of drying: H<sub>2</sub>O waist high in center but margins have receded  $\pm 12''$ ) to W. of highway. 2 Maurinus cospica lycosa (21949-21950) taken, 1 from W. pond and one from SW margin of pond to E. a Night Heron was shot W. of road and the "salamander" were not seen.

25 APR 72

Gaber, 4.4 km W. + 12.6 km N., inter-dunal area  
from 0945-1110. The following:

0952 - Acanthodactylus b. asper (21962-21968) adult ♂  
Shot in open sand  $T_B = < 35^\circ\text{C}$ .

1004 - A. b. asper adult ♂ shot in open sand  $T_B = < 35^\circ\text{C}$

1022 - A. b. asper adult ♀ shot in thicket  $T_B \approx 35^\circ\text{C}$

1025 - A. b. asper immature sunning in open sand.  $T_B = 35.75^\circ\text{C}$

1027 - A. b. asper immature in tall grass.  $T_B = < 35^\circ\text{C}$ .

1038 - A. b. asper adult ♀ shot open sand  $T_B = 37.2^\circ\text{C}$

1108 - A. b. asper immature taken in leeward dunes/dry  
lake area.  $T_B \approx 34.8^\circ\text{C}$  ( $= < 35^\circ\text{C}$ ).

#	SEX	GRAM WT	MM S-V	MM TAIL	MM TOTAL	NOTES
21962	♂	13	72	165	237	Shot w/ .22 dust
21963	♂	10	73	154	227	Shot "
21964	♀	9.5	71	137	208	Shot "
21965	young ♀	7.0	69	80±	149	Broken tail; Shot "
21966	imm	3.5	53	112	165	Tail broken after measurement
21967	imm	3.0	47.5	100	148	
21968	imm	5.0	58.5	96	154	Regenerated tail; Tail broken after measurement

26 APR 72

Gaber, 4.4 km W. + 12.6 km N.; Overcast + cool/intermittant sun and slight breeze.

- 0830 - 1 Gerbillus sp. from interdunal area.  
Seaward <sup>area</sup> <sub>dry</sub>
- 0920 - 1 A. b. asper juv. seen in thicket.
- 0924 - Eremias o. olivieri (21978-9) caught while moving thru high grass.
- 0930 - A. b. asper adult ♂ in open sand  $T_B = < 35^\circ\text{C}$
- INTER-DUNAL AREA  
0945 - A. b. asper seen under thicket (juv.)
- 0952 - A. b. asper adult ♂ w/ regenerated tail shot

26 APR 72 on mound.  $T_B = 37.7^\circ C$  (21969-21977)

1003 - juv. A. b. asper seen in thicket.

1008 - juv. A. b. asper seen in open sand

COASTAL DUNES 1012 - juv. A. b. asper seen in open sand

1013 - juv. A. b. asper seen in open sand

1020 - juv. A. b. asper seen in open sand

1024 - juv. A. b. asper seen in open sand

1025 - juv. A. b. asper seen in open sand

$\Rightarrow$  A. b. asper must have  $>1$  breeding cycle/year

The population here is mixed w/ yearlings, new (i.e. recent) juveniles, and adults. Much unlike pardalis data to date but similar to Spain w/ exception of obvious newborn this early in the year!

INTER-DUNES 1032 - A. b. asper juv. seen on N. margin of area

LEeward DUNES/DRY LAKE 1108 - A. b. asper adult ♂ shot in thicket  $T_B = 36.4^\circ C$ .

1111 - A. b. asper adult ♀ w/ rubber band in thicket but w/ exposure to direct sun.  $T_B = 39.2^\circ C$

1127 - A. b. asper juvenile in sand (open)  $T_B = 36.2^\circ C$ .

1130 - A. b. asper adult ♂ shot in sun  $T_B = 37.4^\circ C$

1137 - Testudo graeca (21980) in tall ( $>18"$ ) grass at N. margin.  $T_B = 36.15^\circ C$

1144 - A. b. asper juvenile seen on hummock

1147 - A. b. asper juv. seen near pool

1150 - Natrix maura (21981-21982) juv. captured while it was lying on pond bottom (shallow [ $<3"$ ] water).

1152 - N. maura (ibid) juv. in some pond.

1203 - A. b. asper juvenile in open sand  $T_B = 36.4^\circ C$ .

1207 - 2 A. b. asper immatures seen in grass

26 APR 72

1212 - A. b. asper adult ♀ shot in open  $T_B = 235^{\circ}\text{C}$ .1215 - Eremias o. olivieri adult (21978-21979) taken.1217 - A. b. asper adult ♀ shot in thicket  $T_B = 38.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

#	SEX	GRAM WT	MM S-V	MM TAIL	MM TOTAL	NOTES
<i>ACANTHODACTYLUS BOSKIANUS ASPER</i>						
21969	♂	10.5	72	105	227	Shot
21970	♂	12.0	75	161	236	Shot
21971	♂	12.5	76	156	232	Shot
21972	♀	9.0	72	105	176	Shot; complete regenerated tail
21973	♀	6.5	66	131	197	Shot
21974	♀	8.0	65	139	204	Shot; head severely damaged
21975	♀	9.5	72	152	224	w/ rubber band
21976	JUV.	2.5	46	93	139	w/ rubber band
21977	JUV.	1.5	37	78	115	

*EREMIAS O. OLIVIERI*

21978	♂	1.0	39	72	111	w/ rubber band
21979	?	1.0	39.5	30±	69.5	Broken tail: w/ rubber band

Return ca. 1700 - Testudo g. graeca trochi seen on beach area of coastal dunes. 1756 - Naja h. haje (♂: 21983) shot in thicket on stabilized dunes in inter-dunal area but more of marginal character between inter-dunal and leeward dunes. Specimen was lying in the sand 1 m sun's rays with head on sand and body entwined in thicket.

28 APR 72 Drove from Gabès to Dafsa and ± 40 km NW Dafsa on the road marked to Feriana. This territory looks as if night collecting might prove interesting; nothing was collected as the day was windy and cold.

Gabès, 21 km W + 19 km N, 1400-1630.

28 APR 72

1400, Chalcides o. subtypicus (21994-21995) collected from under rock from E. section of road in stream bed. Over the top of the immediate hill to E. is a pasture which has a rock border from which all specimens were taken w/ exception of the Pseudocordylus which were from the wall of the stream bed proper. 1425-1430 hr, 2 Tarentola mauritanica seen on rock facing dry stream bed and at 1435 2 T. mauritanica (21989-21993) were taken from culvert. 1454 - 2 T. mauritanica (21989-21993) taken from culvert and at 1508 the first Tropidolotes t. algericus (21996-21997) was taken. 1521 hr, a T. t. algericus taken from under a rock and at 1553 another C. o. subtypicus from under a rock. At 1607 a Pseudocordylus algirus was collected from open grass area near dry stream bed. At 1610 another P. algirus (21998-21999) taken in the ravine.

Departed 1630.

29 APR 72

Drove from Gabès to Kebili (74 minutes, 114 km by odometer) and onto the Chott Djérid for 58 kms but had to turn around due to road conditions (water on road and salt not firm enough to support the car). Area photographed but deemed not worthy of collection. Drove back to Kebili and took the road about 5 km N of Kebili (off to N. of Gabès highway) which crosses the Chott el Fedjadj and intersects with the Gabès-Dafsa main road. Nothing of herpetological interest was seen although the rocks look as if they might be of some value for lizard-snake habitat. Scarce vegetation in these hills but beautiful scenery (see slides).

Arrived at Tozeur about 1700 and stayed at the Hotel

- 29 APR 72 de l'Oasis (3,600 dinars / night / single). From 1930 - 2145, I drove the road from TOZEUR to NEFTA ( $\approx 24$  km) and returned in search of reptile life. Specimens # CMFS 22000 and 22865-22876 were collected along this road. Data: TOZEUR-NEFTA Road, GOUV. DE TOZEUR, STENODACTYLUS PETRIEI ANDERSON. Exact localities on the series are:
- TOZEUR, 5, 8, 9, 10, + 11 km (by road) WSW  
NEFTA, 6 + 8 km ENE
- but specimen differentiation is impossible.
- 30 APR 72 TOZEUR, GOUV. DE TOZEUR, 19 km N. on GP 3 (main road to Gafsa) 0940-1020 searched mix of stone building and area under RR bridge. Although moisture present under rocks in both areas, no specimens were taken. Note that very few invertebrates were seen in this area also! 18 km N. is an area where a stream bed and culvert pass under the road. In here, there are juniper and some hummocks of mesquite-like plants. The Cremnocephalus olivieri (22877) was the only specimen taken under overcast skies (sun, when visible, hot) in this area of saline (toxic) water and moist stream bank. 12 km N from 1115-1140 I searched the S. part of the road in the area of Tomanis where only sheep tracks were in evidence. 9 km N. at the Oasis of El Hamma (2 km E + 10 km N of TOZEUR) I collected from 1200-1400 in an area of Palms and many deep irrigation ditches. The soil was, except deep in ditches, dry and the water was stagnant in many places. Through the assistance of several

30 APR 72 local children, I was able to collect Acontiodactylus b. sauteri (22878-22887), Chalcides o. subtypicus (22888), Natrix maura (22889-22890), and Rana esculenta (22891-22892) from this locality. Later that evening (2130-2415) I collected in the area of the Tozeur-NEFTA highway again. Stenodactylus petriei (CMFS 22915-22935) were collected as follows:

Tozeur, 2, 7, 11, 7, 6 km WSW

NEFTA, 12, 11, 3, 1, 3, 10 km ENE

NEFTA, 3, 4, 5, 7, 6, and 4 km WSW on road to Algeria. A Bufo mauritanicus (?) (CMFS 22913) was collected 3 km WSW at 2248 in sand-covered road area w/ irrigation pipe running // on S. side.

Nefta, 7 km ENE, at 2351 an adult ♂ Cerastes vipera (CMFS 22914) collected 40R on paved highway. Habitat photo taken (B&W, II-72)

1 MAY 72 Visited "Zoo du desert" of Sidioui in Tozeur.

Many Malpolon monspessulanum, 4 Cerastes cerastes (photographed), 6 Uromastyx, and many Scincus on display. I purchased 2 Scincus scincus laterimaculatus for the equivalent of \$1.00. They wanted \$4/each for the Cerastes so I just photographed the best of their 4.

Gafsa, 21 km W + 19 km N, at 1446, another Tarentola mauritanica collected from a culvert (22938).

Rental car \$140.00 for 4 days and ± 1200 kms.

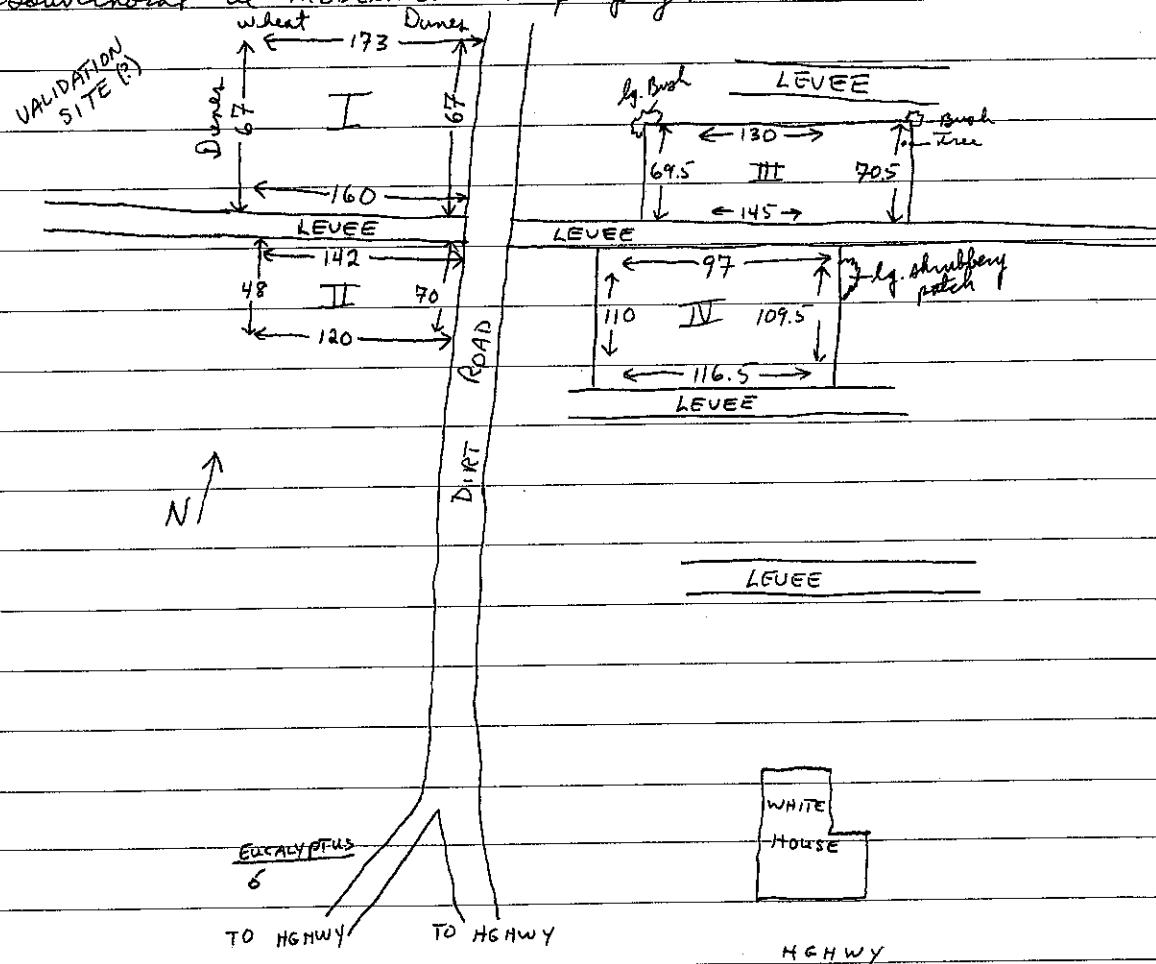
NOTE ⇒ The Stenodactylus which were collected on 29 APR 72 were killed by injection of 10% formalin into the body cavity at 2300 hrs.

on 29 APR 72. At 1500 on 30 APR, I was able to get a definite "traction" response by touching the tail tip on 10 (at least) of the specimens. Just how long does this reflex last in a dead Stenodactylus? The specimens were prepared by body injection and then positioned in an enamel pan cushioned by toilet tissue. Bodies were then covered with tissue and 10% formalin was liberally "squirted" over the covering tissue so as to keep the specimens damp during the time required for proper setting. A curious happening, indeed!

#### Biomass Figures/Data on A. P. PANDALIS

11 MAY 72

Validation site located ca. 28.2 km E. + 6.0 km S. MEDENINE  
in Gouvernorat de MEDENINE. Map of general area below:



11 MAY 72

53

Distances are measured in steps, each side paced 3X and average taken (in all instances for I + II, deviation  $\leq 4$  steps on a side). Perimeters are obvious ones: the levee & the road form natural boundaries, on Area I the NW corner is marked by a large hole and the NE corner by the S. edge of a plowed strip of land. On Area II the NW corner is a large, single plant which lines up w/ a Eucalyptus tree along the highway and the SE corner is the 2<sup>nd</sup> such plant along the dirt road S. of the levee. Areas III + IV are yet to be delineated.

10 steps = 620 cm (as determined in villa by 3X X of pacing on asphalt tile) All distances are measured in single steps!

It was decided that the best method for an accurate Biomass estimate was a destructive/non-replacement survey of each of four areas. Specimens were collected over a 3 day period of intensive collection with elastic bands. The bands reduce physical damage to the animals and leave specimens in good condition for weight + measure along with reducing evaporative water loss while in the field. After collection, the specimens are removed to the white house and placed in the larger chamber where the temperature is ca.  $25^{\circ}\text{C}$  in mid-afternoon.

Black-Body temperatures are taken with an unlabelled (as to mfg.) glass, alcohol-filled (?), thermometer graduated from -10 to  $154^{\circ}\text{C}$  which has had the bulb wrapped in black electrical tape. Body temperature thermometer is described on p. 45 of this volume and is lubricated w/ glycerine before insertion thru cloacal opening into body cavity. Deep-Body

11 MAY 72

temperatures should result from this method. Care is taken not to exert any influence on thermometer readings from my hands or sunlight. The data from today are as follows:

0800 - Start AREA I

0830 - Aporodalin seen in bush - not on site0838 - Aporodalin ♂,  $T_B = 35.6^\circ C$ , taken while sunning.0923 - A. p. pondalii ♂ ~~at 1100-1110~~,  $T_B = 35^\circ C$ , from open shade of Rhantrium.0938 - A. p. pondalii ♂,  $T_B = 34.8^\circ C$  ( $= 35^\circ C$ ), from beneath Rhantrium1012 - Aporodalin ♂,  $T_B = 35^\circ C$ ;1015 - A. p. pondalii ♀ adult seen.1024 - A. p. pondalii ♀ adult seen.1030 - A. p. pondalii ♀,  $T_B = 35^\circ C$ , in Rhantrium1035 - A. p. pondalii adult ♀ seen in Rhantrium1045 - A. p. pondalii ♂ from N. of levee, E. of road  
in unpoised area,  $T_B < 35^\circ C$ .1056 - A. p. pondalii ♀,  $T_B < 35^\circ C$ , from Rhantrium1058 - A. p. pondalii adult ♂ seen in Rhantrium1100 - A. p. pondalii ♀,  $T_B = 35.9^\circ C$ , in Rhantrium1106 - A. p. pondalii ♀,  $T_B = 36.7^\circ C$ , in low shrub.1114 - A. p. pondalii ♂,  $T_B = 37.2^\circ C$ , in open sand1120 - A. p. pondalii adult seen in open sand.1125 - A. p. pondalii ♀,  $T_B = 37.4^\circ C$ , in open sun.

1200 - END

1500 - Begin AREA I again.

1514 - A. p. pondalii ♀,  $T_B = 35.55^\circ C$ , in Rhantrium

11 MAY 72

1518 - A. p. pondalini ♂,  $T_B = 35.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ , in Rhamnus1524 - A. p. pondalini ♀ adult seen.1547 - A. p. pondalini ♀,  $T_B = 35.7^{\circ}\text{C}$ , in Rhamnus.1612 - A. p. pondalini adult ♀ seen in bush.

1700 - END for 11 MAY 72

Block-Body Temperatures for 11 MAY 72 ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )

TIME	OPEN SHADE	SUN	WEATHER
0600	22° 23.8	26° 27.4	Clear, Slight Breeze
0830	24° 25.6	29° 30.2	Clear, Slight Breeze
0900	24° 25.6	30° 31.2	Clear, Slight Breeze
0930	26° 27.4	31° 32.6	Clear, Slight Breeze
1000	29° 30.3	36° 37.0	Clear, Slight Breeze
1045	32° 33.2	37° 40.0	Clear, Slight Breeze
1100	33.5° 34.6	38° 39.0	Clear, Breeze
1130	35° 36	40° 40.8	Clear, Breeze
1200 N	35.5° 35.4	39° 40.0	Overcast, Sun
1500	30° 31.2	37° 38.0	Clear, Breeze
1530	28.5° 29.8	37.5° 38.4	Clear, Breeze
1600	28 29.3	35.5° 36.4	Clear, Slight Breeze
1630	26 27.4	37° 38	Clear, Breeze
1700	26 27.4	34° 37.2	Clear, Breeze

35

CMFS NUMBER	SEX	GRAM WT	MM S-V	MM TAIL	MM TOTAL	NOTES
<u>AREA I</u>						
22940	♂	82.0	66.5	102	168	Broken Tail
22941	♂	7.91	67	23	90	Partial Regenerated Tail
22942	♂	9.08	67	93	161	Regenerated Tail
22943	♂	5.91	59	31	90	Partial Regenerated Tail

3  
N

11 MAY 72	22944	♀	<sup>1.71</sup> 5	57	95	152	Broken Tail
	22945	♀	<sup>1.76</sup> 5.5	60	92	152	
	22946	♀	<sup>1.82</sup> 6	59.5	82	142.5	
	22947	♀	<sup>1.65</sup> 4.5	58	90	148	
	22948	♀	<sup>1.59</sup> 4.0	56	88	144	
	22949	♀	<sup>1.65</sup> 4.5	60	16	76	Broken Tail
	22950	♀	<sup>1.82</sup> 6	61.5	100	161.5	Preserved Alive
	AREA II						
	22951	♂	<sup>1.76</sup> 5.5	60	42	102	Partial Regenerated Tail
	22952	♂	<sup>1.82</sup> 6.0	62	37	99	Partial Regenerated Tail
	UNDESIGNATED AREA						
	22953	♂	<sup>2.00</sup> 8.0	65	76	142	Regenerated Tail Tip

CMFS 22940 - 22953 = ACANTHODACTYLUS P. PARDALIS

12 MAY 72      0755 - A. p. pardalis adult ♂ seen S. of Area II.

0910 - AREA I - A. p. pardalis ♀,  $T_B = 35^{\circ}\text{C}$ , while sunning near tall grasses ( $\approx 36''$ ).

NOTE → ♂ escape by running from bush to bush, ♀ retreat to one plant and run around its base

0930 - BEGIN AREA II.

0937 - A. p. pardalis ♂,  $T_B = 35^{\circ}\text{C}$ , in Rhamnium

0940 - Cremis o. olivieri, in molt, collected in Rhamnium  $T_B$  not available (thermo. too large).

0945 - Adult A. p. pardalis ♂ + ♀ seen in open sand.

0952 - A. p. pardalis ♂,  $T_B = 35^{\circ}\text{C}$ , in open sand.

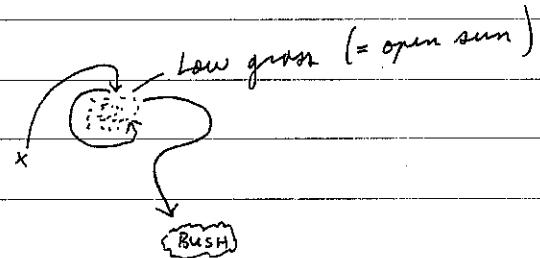
1009 - A. p. pardalis ♀ adult seen, escaped into beetle (Tenebrionidae) hole at base of dead plant.

1013 - A. p. pardalis ♀,  $T_B = 35^{\circ}\text{C}$ , in open sand

12 MAY 72

- 1028 - A. p. pondalii ♀,  $T_B = < 35^\circ C$ , in Rhantemum  
A. p. pondalii ♂ adult seen, mated pair (?)
- 1031 - A. p. pondalii adult ♂ seen in open sand
- 1039 - A. p. pondalii ♂,  $T_B = 37.9^\circ C$ , in open sand
- 1116 - A. p. pondalii ♀,  $T_B = < 35^\circ C$ , in Rhantemum  
A. p. pondalii adult ♂ seen
- 1122 - A. p. pondalii ♀ adult seen in Rhantemum
- 1130 - Sternodactylus petriei collected in open sand.
- 1133 - MOVE TO AREA I.
- 1144 - A. p. pondalii adult ♀ seen in low shrub.

Path of escape:



Interval between changes of direction  $\pm$  2 seconds, entire maneuver took less than 10 seconds, movement to escape heat ??

1200 - MOVE TO AREA II

- 1203 - A. p. pondalii ♂,  $T_B = 35.5^\circ C$ , in Rhantemum
- 1208 - Adult A. p. pondalii (♂?) seen in open sand
- 1220 - A. p. pondalii ♀,  $T_B = < 35^\circ C$ , seen in Rhantemum

→ and ran to 3 bushes before stopping.

1300 - END AREA II

- 1458 - A. p. pondalii adult ♀ seen. S. of area II
- 1501 - A. p. pondalii ♀,  $T_B = 36.6^\circ C$ , S. of area II  
in open sand
- 1517 - area II - A. p. pondalii ♂,  $T_B = 36.1^\circ C$ , in Rhantemum

12 MAY 72

1530 - MOVE TO AREA I

1547 - A. p. pondalii ♀,  $T_B = 36.0^\circ\text{C}$ , in open sand

1600 - RETURN TO AREA II

1602 - A. p. pondalii ♂,  $T_B = 36.5^\circ\text{C}$ , in open sand.1604 - A. p. pondalii adult seen in open sand.1611 - A. p. pondalii ♀,  $T_B = 38^\circ\text{C}$ , in Rhamnus1634 - A. p. pondalii adult ♀ seen in tall grass1648 - A. p. pondalii adult ♀ seen in tall grass

1700 - END 12 MAY 72.

Black-Body Readings, for 12 MAY 72 ( $^\circ\text{C}$ )

TIME	OPEN SHADE	SUN	WEATHER
0900	23° 24.6	34° 35	Clear, wind
0930	22° 23.8	35.5° 36.4	Clear, wind
1000	23° 24.6	39° 40.0	Clear, wind
1033	24° 25.6	37.5 38.7	Clear, wind
1100	27° 28.1	41° 42	Clear, wind
1132	29° 30.3	42° 43	Clear, wind
1200	27.5 28.8	44° 49.8	Clear, wind
1230	29° 30.3	45° 48.8	Clear, wind
1300	31° 32.2	51° 51.8	Clear, wind
1500	? 39° ? 35.0	41° 42	Clear, wind
1530	27° 28.4	44° 44.8	Clear, wind
1600	30° 31.2	47° 47.8	Clear, wind
1630	29° 30.3	41° 42.0	Clear, wind
1700	29° 30.3	37° 38.0	Clear, wind

12 MAY 72	CMFS NUMBER	SEX	GRAM WT	MM S-V	MM TAIL	MM TL	NOTES
	AREA II 15						
	22954	♂	7 <sup>1.91</sup>	64	96	160	Regenerated Tail Tip
	22955	♂	6.5 <sup>1.87</sup>	62	89.5	151.5	Complete Regenerated Tail
	22956	♂	7 <sup>1.91</sup>	61.5	116	177	
	22957	♂	7 <sup>1.91</sup>	67	55	122	Partial Regenerated Tail
	22958	♂	8 <sup>2.00</sup>	66	126	192	Preserved alive
	22959	♂	7 <sup>1.91</sup>	64.5	91.5	156	Preserved alive Complete Regenerated Tail
	22960	♀	4.5 <sup>1.65</sup>	55	80	135	
	22961	♀	3.5 <sup>1.52</sup>	53	59	112	Complete Regenerated Tail
	22962	♀	4.5 <sup>1.65</sup>	54	84.5	138.5	
	22963	♀	4.0 <sup>1.59</sup>	54	92	146	
	22964	♀	5.0 <sup>1.71</sup>	56.5	89	146	Preserved Alive

## AREA I

22965	♀	6 1.82	60	79	139
22966	♀	6 1.82	59	90	149

S. OF AREA II

22967 ♀ 5.5 1.76 61.5 104 165.5

-NOT A. P. PARADIS- AREA II

22968	♂	1.5	39	92.5	132
22969	juv.	1.5	40	23.5	63.5

CMFS 22954-22967 = *ACANTHODACTYLUS* sp. *PARDALIS*

22968 = EREMIAE O. OLIVIERI

22969 = STENODACTYLUS PETRIEI

13 MAY 92 Today will be ± for final "cleanup" and notation of remaining specimens on Areas I + II. 0647- One Sphenops boulevarensi taken from loose sand of stabilized dune in Area I. 2 Spermophilus (?) sp. collected in dunal area of Area I.

13 MAY 72

0900 - Start Survey Area II

0902 - A. p. pondalii ♂ adult seen on E. periphery of  
Area I.0911 - A. p. pondalii ♀,  $T_B = 35.8^\circ\text{C}$ , open sand0927 - A. p. pondalii ♀,  $T_B = < 35^\circ\text{C}$ , open sand

0935 - MOVE TO AREA I

0942 - A. p. pondalii ♀,  $T_B = < 35^\circ\text{C}$ , open sand0956 - A. p. pondalii ♀,  $T_B = < 35^\circ\text{C}$ , open sand

1005 - RETURN TO AREA II

1007 - A. p. pondalii adult ♂ seen on NW corner(non-resident? should average in 1/2 wt of adult ♂  $\bar{x}$ ?)1013 - Adult A. p. pondalii ♀ seen in low shrubbery ( $< 36''$ ).1017 - A. p. pondalii ♀,  $T_B = < 35^\circ\text{C}$ , in shrub ( $\approx 36''$ ), and  
chest cavity damaged by rubber band.1030 - A. p. pondalii adult ♀ seen on NE corner. (resident?)1043 - Adult A. p. pondalii ♀,  $T_B = 36.3^\circ\text{C}$ , open sand.1052 - Adult A. p. pondalii ♂ seen on NW corner again

1100 - END.

1300 - Begin survey (activity purposes only) on non-  
collected area to S. of area II.1320 - A. p. pondalii ♂,  $T_B = 37.2^\circ\text{C}$ , in Rhamnium.

1400 - END.

1600 - Begin Area II final survey.

1600 - A. p. pondalii ♀,  $T_B = 37.4^\circ\text{C}$ , in tall grass NE corner  
(see 1030 entry!)

1630 - Begin AREA I final survey.

1700 - END w/ nothing seen.

Black-Body Readings for 13 MAY 72 (°C)						
	TIME	OPEN SHADE	SUN	WEATHER		
	0900	23° 24.6	32° 38'	Clear, wind		
	0930	24.5° 26	36.5° 37.5	Clear, wind		
	1000	27° 28.4	41° 42	Clear, wind		
	1030	29° 30.3	42.5° 43.2	Clear, wind		
	1100	28° 29.3	46° 46.8	Clear, wind		
	1300	35° 36	46° 46.8	Clear, wind		
	1330	32° 33.2	44.5° 45.4	Clear, wind		
	1400	38° 39.0	47° 47.8	Clear, Breeze		
	1600	34° 35	42° 43	Clear, Breeze		
	1630	32° 33.2	44° 44.8	Clear, Wind		
	1700	31° 32.2	39° 40.0	Clear, wind		
CMFS NUMBER	SEX	GRAM WT	MM S-V	MM TAIL	MM TL	NOTES
AREA II N						
22972	♀	6.5 <sup>1.87</sup>	64.5	102	166.5	
22973	♀	6.0 <sup>1.82</sup>	58.5	94.5	153	
22974	♀	4.0 <sup>1.59</sup>	50	69	119	Regenerated Tail Tip; Damaged chest
22975	♀	4.5 <sup>1.65</sup>	57	95	152	Preserved Alive
22976	♀	4.0 <sup>1.59</sup>	53	77	129	Broken/complete Tail; Pres. Alive
AREA I						
22977	♀	5.0 <sup>1.71</sup>	56.5	97.5	154	
22978	♀	5.0 <sup>1.71</sup>	54	73	127	
S. OF AREA II						
22979	♂	6.5 <sup>1.87</sup>	6.0	119	179	
AREA I - NOT A. P. PARDALIS -						
22980	?	10 <sup>8.15</sup>	99	78	177	Preserved Alive

X

13 MAY 72

CMFS 22972-22979 = ACANTHODACTYLUS p. PARDALIS22980 = SPHENOPS BOULENGERI

15 MAY 72

Gabier, Sout. de Gabier, 4.4 km W &amp; 12.6 km N (at Rennouch)

from 0745 to 1130. Overcast and very windy

0900 - Acanthodactylus boskianus asper (22986-22988)subadult ♂,  $T_B = < 35^\circ\text{C}$ , in dunes with NITRARIA RETUSA (see p. 45)  
in Leeward dune/dry lake area.0919 - A. b. asper juvenile seen in beach dunes (= COASTAL DUNES)0928 - Varanus g. griseus (22989-22990),  $T_B = < 35^\circ\text{C}$ , while  
sunning in open sand in leeward dune/dry lake area.0930 - Varanus g. griseus (22989-22990),  $T_B = < 35^\circ\text{C}$ , extracted  
from hole in stabilized dune of leeward dune/dry lake area.0935 - A. b. asper juvenile (22986-22988),  $T_B = 34.8^\circ\text{C}$  ( $< 35^\circ\text{C}$ )  
in leeward dune/dry lake area at N. periphery.NOTE  $\Rightarrow$ 

River which forms N. boundary is now dry!

1010 - A. b. asper juvenile seen in coastal dunes.1031 - A. b. asper adult ♂ shot,  $T_B = 35.5^\circ\text{C}$ , in inter-  
dunal area.1047 - Testudo g. graeca (22992-22993) collected from  
Mitraria retusa in leeward dune/dry lake area.1058 - Chamaeleo c. chamaeleon (22991) collected on sand  
in leeward dune/dry lake.1101 - A. b. asper juvenile seen in leeward dune/dry lake.1107 - I. g. graeca (22992-22993),  $T_B = < 35^\circ\text{C}$ , (?), in  
leeward/lake area. Dead Natrix maura adult seen in same  
immediate area - decapitated! (By whom and for what?).BIOMASS FIGURES / A. PARDALIS cont'd.

16 MAY 72

Area located on G.P. I between Medinine and Ben Gourane

16 MAY 72

between km. markings 510 and 511 approximately 30 km from Medenine. The white house is located close to km 511.

As I arrived ca. 0700 hrs, there were camels grazing on site (= area) I. It is cloudy and the wind is quite strong.

~~0815~~ - Start Area III at 0800

0815 - 2 A. p. pondalii <sup>adult</sup> ( $\sigma^+$  +  $\varphi$ ) seen at NW corner.

0825 -  $\sigma^+$  adult A. p. pondalii seen in loose sand

~~0905~~ 0910 - A. p. pondalii  $\varphi$  in Rhantium,  $T_B = < 35^\circ C$ .

0921 - A. p. pondalii  $\varphi$  in open sand  $T_B = < 35^\circ C$ .

0927 -  $\sigma^+$  A. p. pondalii in Rhantium,  $T_B = < 35^\circ C > 34^\circ C$ .

0932 -  $\varphi$  A. p. pondalii from hole in open, hard-packed,

clay  $T_B = < 35^\circ C > 34.5^\circ C$

0939 -  $\varphi$  A. p. pondalii adult seen in Rhantium

0946 -  $\sigma^+$  A. p. pondalii in Rhantium  $T_B = < 35^\circ > 34^\circ C$

0950 -  $\sigma^+$  A. p. pondalii adult seen in open sand

0956 - A. p. pondalii  $\sigma^+$  in open sand,  $T_B = 36.35^\circ C$

0959 - A. p. pondalii  $\varphi$  in open sand,  $T_B = 35.2^\circ C$

1000 -  $\varphi$  adult A. p. pondalii seen ( $\approx$  0939 entry)

1007 -  $\sigma^+$  A. p. pondalii in open sand,  $T_B = < 35^\circ \approx 34^\circ C$

1012 -  $\varphi$  adult A. p. pondalii seen on SE corner

1015 -  $\sigma^+ + \varphi$  adult A. p. pondalii seen in area of large

bush

1027 -  $\varphi$  A. p. pondalii in Rhantium,  $T_B = < 35 > 34^\circ C$ ,  
body damaged by rubber band

1037 -  $\varphi$  A. p. pondalii in Rhantium,  $T_B = 37^\circ C$

1040 -  $\varphi$  A. p. pondalii adult seen in Rhantium

1048 -  $\varphi$  A. p. pondalii in Rhantium,  $T_B = 36.9^\circ C$

1122 -  $\sigma^+$  A. p. pondalii in Rhantium,  $T_B = 35^\circ C$

16 MAY 72	1129 - ♀ adult <u>A. p. pondalii</u> dug from hole beneath <u>Rhantenum</u> $T_B = < 35^\circ C \approx 34^\circ C$		
	1140 - ♂ adult <u>A. p. pondalii</u> disappeared into (Beetle?) hole under <u>Rhantenum</u>		
	1200 - END.		
	S. OF AREA II (uncollected area, activity check)		
	1410 - Start		
	1422 - adult <u>A. p. pondalii</u> seen on <u>Rhantenum</u> stabilized mound, disappeared immediately, into hole at plant's root		
	1437 - adult <u>A. p. pondalii</u> seen in tall ( $\approx 36''$ ) shrub, disappeared into hole at root system.		
	1444 - <u>A. p. pondalii</u> adult ♀ seen in <u>Rhantenum</u>		
	1500 - MOVE TO AREA III		
	1512 - <u>A. p. pondalii</u> adult seen in tall grass-like plant.		
	1521 - ♀ <u>A. p. pondalii</u> in open sand, $T_B = < 35 > 34^\circ C$ .		
	1528 - Adult <u>A. p. pondalii</u> ♂ (?) disappeared into root of tall plant		
	1529 - Adult <u>A. p. pondalii</u> ♂ seen on NW corner		
	1550 - <u>A. p. pondalii</u> ♀, $T_B = 36.6^\circ C$ , open sand.		
	1600 - END		
	Black-body readings for 16 MAY 72 ( $^\circ C$ )		
TIME	OPEN SHADE	SUN	WEATHER
0930	21 22.8	36 37	Overcast, wind
1000	21 22.8	38 39	Overcast, wind
1030	21.5 23.8	37.5 38.4	Overcast, Breeze
1100	23 24.6	44 42	Overcast, Breeze
1130	24 30.3	42 43	Overcast, Slight Breeze
1200	24 25.6	48 48.8	Overcast, Slight Breeze

16 MAY 72	1410	24 25.6	<del>36</del> 35/Cloud	Overcast, wind
	1430	24 25.6	<del>38</del> 37	Overcast, wind
	1500	23 24.6	38 37	Overcast, wind
	1530	27 28.4	39 40	Clean, Breeze
	1600	25 26.6	35 36	Clean, Breeze

## AREA III N

CMFS #	SEX	GRAM WT	MM S-V	MM TAIL	MM TL	NOTES
22994	♀	5.0	58	84	142	Body damage
22995	♀	6.5	63	100	163	
22996	♀	5.5	57	65	123	Regenerated Tail
22997	♀	5.0	56	86	142	
22998	♀	4.5	58	92	150	
22999	♀	5.5	58.5	96.5	155	
23000	♀	4.5	56.5	15	71.5	Broken Tail; alive
23101	♀	4.5	55	71.5	125	alive
23102	♀	4.5	57.5	75	132.5	alive
23103	♂	6.0	59.5	86.5	146	Regenerated Tail Tip
23104	♂	7.5	63.5	91	154.5	Broken Tail
23105	♂	7.0	62.5	109	171.5	Regenerated Tail Tip
23106	♂	11	71	133.5	204.5	alive
23107	♂	8	64.5	84.5	148.5	alive; Regenerated Tail
23108	♀	6	58	94	152	alive

Medenine, 4 km E. by road, a D.O.R. Malpolon monspessulanus insignitus was collected at 1630.

17 MAY 72 Continue on Area III, Start ca. 0815 hr.

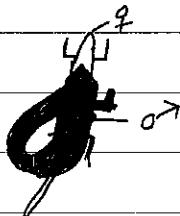
0824- ♀ A.p.pondolia,  $T_B$   $\sim$  35-34°C, taken from

17 MAY 72

NW corner of Area III, not on area, but probably the ♀ often seen on NW corner - use 50% Total Mass ??

0843 - A. p. pondalii ♀,  $T_B = 35 \pm 34^\circ C$ , from sand dunes.

0857 - A. p. pondalii ♀ + ♂ in copulation,  $T_B = 35 \pm 34^\circ C$  for both specimens, in open sand (= direct sun) beneath Rhantenum. ♀ w/ venter entirely on sand, ♂ mounted above as diagrammed:



The exact positioning of the ♂ tail is left out for I do not remember and did not note whether it was wrapped around the ♀ or simply lifted up over her body on the left (or facing) side. Hind feet on ♂ also not recorded, collection made to avoid losing the specimen as both had noted my presence.

0911 - ♀ adult A. p. pondalii seen on knoll w/ Rhantenum and tall grass.

0915 - ♀ adult A. p. pondalii,  $T_B = 35 \pm 34^\circ C$ , open sand w/ Rhantenum (broken tail)

0922 - ♀ A. p. pondalii,  $T_B = 35 \pm 34^\circ C$ , dug from hole in Rhantenum (broken tail - tail saved) and in some as 0911 entry.

0928 - ♂ A. p. pondalii in Rhantenum,  $T_B \approx 34^\circ C$ .

1000-1010 = went to house, 2 A. p. pondalii seen S. of area IV

1019 - ♀ A. p. pondalii, open sand beneath Rhantenum,  $T_B = 35.5^\circ C$  35.8

17 MAY 72

1025 - A. p. porcellum ♀, open sand near tall grass, $T_B = 35^{\circ}\text{C}$ , Neck damaged in capture

1100 - END (heavy wind &amp;索罗科 coming in)

## Black-Body Temperature for 17 MAY 72 (°C)

TIME	OPEN SHADE	SUN	WEATHER
0830	22 23.8	31 32.2	Overcast, wind
0900	24.5 23.8	35.5 36.4	Overcast, wind
0930	25 26.6	35 36	Overcast, wind
1000	26.5 28	—	Heavy Overcast, wind
1010	—	32.5 33.6	" "
1030	26.5 28	36 37	Heavy Overcast, Wind
1100	26 27.4	35 36	Heavy Overcast, Wind

N

CMFS #	SEX	GRAM WT	MM S-U	MM TAIL	MM TL	NOTES
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## NW PERIPHERY AREA III

23110	♀	5.5 <sup>1.76</sup>	57	72	129	Regenerated (forked) tail, damaged head
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## AREA III

23111	♀	4.0 <sup>1.59</sup> 1.59	58	97.5	155.5	
23112	♀	4.0 <sup>1.59</sup>	52.5	74.5	127	
23113	♀	4.0 <sup>1.59</sup> 1.76	55.5	76.5	132	Tail tip broken, neck damage
23114	♀	5.5 <sup>1.76</sup>	59	24	83	Broken Tail, Alive
23115	♀	5.0 <sup>1.71</sup>	58.5	22	80	Broken Tail, Alive
23116	♀	5.5 <sup>1.76</sup>	59.5	77	137	Alive - PHOTO
23117	♂	8.0 <sup>2.03</sup> 2.03	67	85	152	Regenerated + Broken Tail, PHOTO
23118	♂	8.5 <sup>2.04</sup>	66.5	125	191.5	

Tail from ♀ (23115), 70 mm (tip to point where broken)

long, 3.5 mm diameter at severed end, weigh 0.3 grams.

17 MAY 72  $\Rightarrow$  NOTE  $\Rightarrow$  Could A. p. pardalis be an "aggregate breeder"?

If so, what effect would this have on Biomass Data?

Data would then be valid only for month of MAY. At any rate, before the entire picture can be described, a year study of populations would be necessary.

18 MAY 72 0600 - Sorocco coming in from S.; trip to Area III postponed. Have no idea as to effect of postponement but tomorrow will tell. As there were no sightings at last port of 17 MAY survey, I anticipate <5 specimens will be seen next time. More than that would indicate (probably) immigration?

19 MAY 72 Area III (ca. Medenine, see 17 MAY)

0805 - Start

0854 - A. p. pardalis adult ♀ (?) on NE corner - resident?

0903 - A. p. pardalis adult ♂ w/ broken tail seen on NW corner

0920 - A. p. pardalis adult ♂ on center of E. border.

0935 - A. p. pardalis adult ♂ seen ca. 10 M. W. of NW corner (broken tail)

0958 - A. p. pardalis adult ♂ w/ broken tail dug from hole in Rhantenum to SE of NW corner.  $T_B = ?$

1007 - A. p. pardalis ♂ taken in area W. of III and E. of road.  $T_B = 36.8^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

1010 - START AREA I

1017 - A. p. pardalis ♂ adult seen in Rhantenum

1033 - START AREA III

1043 - A. p. pardalis ♂,  $T_B = 35 \approx 34^{\circ}\text{C}$ , in Rhantenum and dug from hole - tail complete (probably from 0920)

1047 - ♂ young Agama mutabilis,  $T_B = 39.45^{\circ}\text{C}$ ! in

19 MAY 72

Rhantinium

1050 - A. p. pondalii ♂,  $T_B = 35.2^\circ C$ , on E. perimeter  
inside Area III, in Rhantinium

1101 - START AREA II

1110 - Adult ♀ A. p. pondalii seen in Rhantinium  
along E. border. Tail broken + saved.

1118 - Adult ♀ A. p. pondalii seen in open sand on  
W. border

1125 - Adult ♂ seen in E. border

1130 - Adult ♂ A. p. pondalii,  $T_B = 35-34^\circ C$ , in area  
ca. 20 M. W. of area III, from Rhantinium

1135 - Start Area III

1144 - A. p. pondalii, ♀, open sand on S. border,  
 $T_B = 35.7^\circ C$ . (Heavy body damage)

1150 - A. p. pondalii ♂ on E. border,  $T_B = 35-34^\circ C$ .

1200 - END

Black-Body Data for 19 MAY 72 ( $^\circ C$ )

TIME	OPEN SHADE	SUN	WEATHER
0830	18 ?	36 37	Clear, slight Breeze
0900	20 ?	40 40.8	Clear, slight Breeze
0930	20 ?	46 46.8	Clear, slight Breeze
1000	22 23.8	50 50.8	Clear, slight Breeze
1030	23 24.6	54 51.8	Clear, slight Breeze
1100	24 25.6	47 47.8	Clear, slight Breeze
1130	25 26.6	47 47.8	Clear, Calm
1200	23 24.6	46 46.8	Clear, Calm

19 MAY 72	CMFS #	SEX	GRAM WT	MM S-U	MM T	MM T-L	NOTES
AREA III							
	23119	♀	5.0 1.71	57	99	156	Body damage
	23120	♂	6.0 1.82	64	35	99	Alive, Broken Tail
	23121	♂	8.0 2.00	64.5	125	189.5	Alive
	23122	♂	9.5 2.12	70.5	102	172	Alive, Regenerated Tail
	23123	♂	8.0 2.00	64	116	180	Alive

## W. PERIPHERY OF III

23124	♂	<sup>2.04</sup> 8.5	67.5	90	157.5	Alive, Regenerated Tail, EC DYSIS
23125	♂	<sup>1.96</sup> 7.5	64.5	117	182	Alive

AREA III      AGAMA MUTABILIS

23126	♂	10 <sup>2.15</sup>	65	116.5	181	Alive
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Tail (♀) = 69 mm x 3 mm WT = 0.3 grams.

CMFS 23119-23125 = Acanthodactylus p. pondolicus

$$23/26 = \underline{\text{Agama}} \underline{\text{ mutabilis}}$$

20 MAY 72 Gabès, 9 km W + 5 km S at Oued el Beida, SABUROCK +  
Dahri Ali from 0830-1200N. From along stone retaining  
walls under a clear blue sky and temperatures ca. 80°F, we  
collected: 0854 - Eremias g. guttulata; 0936 - Pseudodromus  
algirus, and 0957 - Tarentola mauritanica. CMFS 23127-23130  
assigned.

21 MAY 72 Babès, 21 km W + 19 km N, in area of a valley w/  
much talus a series of Chalcides o. subtypicus (23131-23132)  
and Tropidolotus t. algerium (23133-23135) were taken  
as follows: 0945: C. o. subtypicus, 0952 - C. o. subtypicus seen in  
rocks, 0959 - C. o. subtypicus from under rock in moist grass  
(in ecdisis), 1006 - T. t. algerium under conglomerate in dry  
soil, 1012 - T. t. algerium under conglomerate in dry soil; 1050 -

21 MAY 72

T. t. algerium taken from hillside of talus where it was under a large piece of conglomerate in dry soil.

15 km SW of Gabès at Zembet ed Deurant,

a Uromastyx aegyptia was collected by an anonymous Arab and purchased for D 0.800 (= \$1.60) on 22 MAY 72. Preserved, in life, on 22 MAY 72.

23 MAY 72

4.4 km W. + 12.6 km N Gabès, 0850 - Malpolon m. monspessulanus

(23141) found S. of area both already dead. stomach contents = one dead Lepus (young). 0935 - A. b. asper seen in Nitraria.

0945 - Testudo g. graeca (23139-23140) found feeding on a yellow composite in See/lake area to N. of normal site. 1007 - Testudo g. graeca in Nitraria of See/lake area. 1010 - A. b. asper

(23137-23138) juvenile,  $T_B = 35.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ , collected in inter-dunal area. 1030 - A. b. asper ♂ collected,  $T_B = 35.95^{\circ}\text{C}$ , in See/lake area.