A LEUCISTIC LITTLE BROWN BAT (*MYOTIS L. LUCIFUGUS*)

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ABSTRACT.—Review of the known records of albinism and leucism in Chiroptera, with remarks on a specimen of leucistic Little Brown Bat (*Myotis l. lucifugus*) from Illinois.

Few records of albinism and leucism of bats have been recorded. Allen (1940) and Setzer (1950) in reviewing the literature cited few instances, listing species of only nine genera. Since that time only twenty-three reports of albinism and leucism in bats have been published. This is a small number when one considers several million bats having been handled during banding operations (Table 1).

While recording recoveries of bats at Blackball Mine, 1.75 miles West of Utica, LaSalle Co., Illinois, on 9 January 1971, an unusual leucistic male, Little Brown Bat, (*Myotis l. lucifugus*) was taken from a cluster of 107. The aberrant individual

TABLE 1.—Records of albinistic and leucistic traits cited in bats. Numbers represent individuals.

Species	Albinism	Leucism	Author
Nycteris nana	1		Verschuren (1955)
Rhinolophus euryale	1		Dorst (1957)
Anoura caudifera		1	Linares (1967)
Glossophaga longirostris	1		Setzer (1950)
Antrozous p. pallidus	1		Setzer (1950)
Barbastella barbastellus		Numerous	Palasthy (1968)
Eptesicus capensis	1		Allen (1940)
Lasiurus borealis	2		Allen (1940)
Miniopterus schreibersi	1	1	Hamilton-Smith (1968) Dorst (1957)
Myotis daubentoni		1	Haensel (1968)
Myotis grisescens		3	Tuttle (1961)
Myotis lucifugus	1	1	Dubkin (1952) and this report
Myotis sodalis		Numerous	Metzger (1956) Barbour and Davis (1970)
Myotis velifer incautus		1	Rogers (1965)
Nyctalus noctula	1		Dulic and Mikuska (1968)
Nycticeius humeralis		1	Easterla and Watkins (1968)
Pipistrellus pipistrellus	1		Allen (1940)
Pipistrellus s. subflavus		1	Blair (1948)
Mollossus fortis	1		Heatwole et al. (1964)
Molossus tropidorhynchus	1		Allen (1940)
Tadarida b. mexicana	1	Numerous	McCoy (1960) and Glass (1954), Herreid and Davis (1960)
Tadarida (Chaerephon) plicatus	3		Allen (1940)
Tadarida femorosacca		1	Mitchell (1963)

(Figure 1) exhibited a completely snow white ventral coloration, with an extensive white patch extending up over the right shoulder and covering approximately half the dorsal surface of the body. The interfemoral membrane, head, and wings are of normal pigmentation. The eyes of this individual are black. The specimen is preserved as a skin and skull (HDW 1102). Standard measurements (mm) 80; 33; 10; 14.

I have been unable to find any similar reports for *Myotis l. lucifugus*, although Dubkin (1952) cites a completely albinistic specimen. Of some 20,000 *M. lucifugus* handled in northcentral Illinois, only one individual exhibited this trait.

It is interesting to note that leucism occurs rather frequently in three species, *Tadarida brasiliensis mexicana* (Glass, 1954); *Barbastella barbastellus* (Palasthy, 1968) and *Myotis sodalis* (Barbour & Davis, 1970).

FIGURE 1. Leucistic Little Brown Bat (*Myotis l. lucifugus*).

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