

LONGEVITY RECORD FOR *PIPISTRELLUS SUBFLAVUS*

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ABSTRACT.—Longevity record for *Pipistrellus subflavus* extended from 11.2 years to 14.8 years, with remarks on tooth wear.

The longevity of American bats has recently been reviewed by Paradiso & Greenhall (1967) from data compiled by the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service banding returns. Fourteen species, representing six genera are cited. The oldest present known longevity record is for a specimen of *Myotis lucifugus* recovered 24 years after banding (Griffin & Hitchcock, 1965), while Hall, et al. (1957) recorded 18.5 years for *Myotis keenii*. Paradiso & Greenhall (1967) gave equally long dates for *Eptesicus fuscus*, 19 years and 16.5 years for *Plecotus townsendii*.

On 14 February 1971 and again on 25 February 1971, while recording recoveries of *Pipistrellus subflavus* in South Blackball Mine, 1.75 miles west of Utica, LaSalle Co., Illinois, a male *P. subflavus* was found carrying the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service Band Number 57-04984, which was banded on 16 February 1957 at South Blackball Mine, by Dr. Wayne H. Davis. This would give this bat a minimum age of 14.8 years, since the young of these bats are born in June or early July. Paradiso & Greenhall (1967) gave 11.2 years as the greatest age for *P. subflavus*, while Davis (1966) using multiple regression analysis showed that *P. subflavus* could live up to 13 years, but gave no indication of having recovered a specimen of this age.

It is interesting to note that all of the species having exceedingly long life spans (*M. lucifugus*, *M. keenii*, *M. sodalis*, *Plecotus townsendii*, and *Eptesicus fuscus* in

eastern United States) bear only one young. *Pipistrellus subflavus* which is smaller than any of the above noted species has two young, and possibly this could be a major factor in its being shorter-lived.

In examining the canine teeth of this specimen on 25 February 1971, I was surprised to find only slight wear in this individual. This would agree with Twente (1955) for five year old bats. Hall, et al. (1957) have shown that tooth wear in *M. lucifugus* and *M. keenii*, as proposed by Twente (1955) and Stegeman (1956) for other species, is a highly unreliable criterion for age determination. The tooth wear criterion is apparently unreliable for *P. subflavus* also.

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