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First Record of the Freshwater Mussel Lasmigona subviridis in Kentucky

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ABSTRACT

A specimen of Lasmigona subviridis was collected from Tygarts Creek, Greenup County, Kentucky, in September 1978. This species is previously unrecorded in the state and represents a range extension of this typically Atlantic drainage species.

A collection of the mussels of Tygarts Creek, Kentucky, was conducted from May through November 1978. In that collection, a specimen of Lasmigona subviridis (Conrad, 1835) was obtained from a site at 38°37′50"N latitude and 82°55′38″W longitude near Bennet's Mill Covered Bridge, near the intersection of State Route 7 and County Route 1215 in Greenup County.

That specimen represents a range extension, since it is typically an eastern species found in the Atlantic drainage from South Carolina to New York. Occurrence of the species in the nearest vicinity of Tygarts Creek is in the New River, Virginia, and Greenbrier River, West Virginia (Burch 1975). Specimens have also been recorded from the Potomac, Rappahannock, and James river systems in Virginia (Clarke pers. comm.). Stansbery (pers. comm.) has recorded collections from the mountain drainages of the Tennessee River, Tennessee. Other recordings of L. subviridis have been made by Clarke and Berg (1959) and Harman

Lasmigona subviridis is previously unrecorded from Kentucky and represents the only known report of the species from the Ohio River drainage below the mouth of the Kanawha River in West Virginia (Stansbery pers. comm.).

The specimen has been recorded as No. 1280-2 in the Marshall University Malacological Collection and has been accessioned to The Ohio State University Museum of Zoology as a voucher specimen. Confirmation of identification was made by Dr. David H. Stansbery, The Ohio State University.

LITERATURE CITED

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CLARKE, A. H., AND C. O. BERG. 1959. The freshwater mussels of central New York. Memoir 367 Cornell Exp. Sta., Ithaca, N.Y. 79 pp.

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⁽¹⁹⁷⁰⁾ from New York. Blood and Riddick (1974) have also reported the species from Virginia.

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