

After about 15 minutes, she succeeded and the pair separated. Whether intromission had occurred is not known.

W. L. Minckley saw copulations between captive *T. coahuila* in the artificial pond on 10 dates between 16 September 1965 and 11 June 1966. No matings were recorded in October, January, and February. Minckley saw two different copulating pairs on 4 March 1966 at 7:40 AM, and three pairs on the mornings of 17 March 1966. Most pairs were in shallow water and in all cases males were lying on their backs.

On 1 November 1965 a male in shallow water "butted the female's shell twice" (presumably with his shell) before mounting the submerged female. On 23 March 1966 a male followed a female with his head extended, pushing the back of the female's carapace. The male then retracted his head and "bumped the female with his carapace." Two hours later these individuals were found in copulation. Two copulations were timed at approximately 2 hours, and 2 hours and 20 minutes (W. L. Minckley, unpublished).

The first of three phases of mating in *T. carolina* observed by Evans (1953, 1968) consisted of the male pushing, circling, and biting at the female's carapace and striking it with the anterior portion of his plastron. The entire courtship of *T. carolina* lasted up to 6 hours with up to 2 hours in copulation (Evans 1953). Brumwell (1940) recorded a 30-minute copulation time in *T. ornata* and saw a male of that species striking the carapace of a female with his plastron and biting at her carapace before mounting.

Copulating pairs of *T. coahuila* were found several times under natural conditions. On 31 December 1964 at midday, a pair was discovered at the edge of a dense growth of *Baccharis* along the edge of a marsh in the study area. The substrate was soft and muddy, with shallow water nearby but not directly under the turtles. The weather was slightly overcast, air temperature 26.7°C. Temperature of the mud directly beneath the turtles was 17.2°C. The female was partially hidden by overhanging vegetation and the male lay on his carapace. When disturbed, cloacal contact was broken and both individuals withdrew into their shells, remaining in their original location. Two other turtles, a male and a female, were found 1 m and 3 m, respectively, from the copulating pair.

Copulation was recorded on 8 April 1966 at 4:30 PM in marsh 5. The central and eastern parts of the basin had received light rain 2 hours earlier, but the study area received only a trace. Weather was clear and humid, air temperature 29.0°C. Water temperature near the marsh inlet was 22.6°C. Both turtles were in shallow (2-5 cm) water. The male