

TABLE 4. SIZE RANGES OF OVARIAN FOLLICLES IN SEVEN FEMALE *T. coahuila* (UU 12551-12557) IN AUTUMN 1967.¹

Date of Collection	Enlarged Follicles	Small Follicles
2 October	5.2-5.6 (2)	3.9-4.2 (3)
"	7.2 (1)	3.6 (1)
"	4.6 (1)	3.3-4.1 (6)
18 October	7.1-9.1 (5)	(0)
"	(0)	2.5-4.0 (8)
20 October	(0)	3.0-4.0 (4)
12 November	5.7-7.2 (2)	3.2 (1)

¹ Measurements in mm; number of follicles in parentheses.

could have been ovulated later that season, or they may have been held over until the following spring.

In autumn seven mature females had a total of 34 follicles >2 mm. Mean size of the follicles was 4.6 mm (range 2.5-9.1). Of these, 11 (32%) were in the 5-9 mm size range and occurred in five of the seven females (Table 4). Enlarged follicles in this small autumn sample averaged 6.9 mm. No corpora lutea were discernible macroscopically.

T. coahuila remains active throughout the year except for short periods of environmental extremes. Sexual activity occurs mainly from September to June. Follicular enlargement occurs between late August, when ovarian weights are low, and early April when ovaries are heavy and when nearly all mature females have one or more enlarged follicles (Tables 3 and 4, Fig. 7). Follicles of females that deposit clutches in late summer may undergo enlargement in late winter and the following spring.

Follicular atresia in *T. coahuila* is not great. Only two slightly enlarged, discolored follicles were considered atretic. Both were in the same ovary of a female containing oviducal eggs on 9 July 1965. Altland (1951) observed follicular atresia most frequently in August in *T. c. carolina*, but he indicated that atresia did not account for a complete loss of enlarged follicles over the winter in that species. Legler (1960b) observed brown, orange, or purplish atretic follicles in ovaries of "many" female *T. o. ornata*.

Ovaries of *T. c. carolina* were heaviest in May when they contained 2 to 8 enlarged follicles (Altland 1951). Ovulation usually occurred in June and July with a corresponding decrease in ovarian weight, but ovulation could occur as late as August 15. Follicles began to enlarge in July and August, following ovulation. Altland suggested that some of the enlarged follicles formed prior to hibernation were held over to the next reproductive season. Likewise, follicles of *Chrysemys picta* in Pennsylvania remained in an enlarged, quiescent state through winter