

season, 18.1% in the third, etc.). Ernst (1971b) recorded a mean plastral increase of 111% in *Chrysemys picta* following hatching, but that figure includes growth of hatchlings that overwintered in the nest and whose growth began early the following year (called the "first season" by Ernst). As hatchling *T. coahuila* may emerge earlier from the nest and remain active longer than more northern species of *Terrapene*, growth in the season of hatching could be considerably greater. Two juveniles (ASU 8001, UU 3646) increased an estimated 25% and 28% of their original plastron lengths in the season of hatching. Three juveniles (ASU 8001, field 66, UU 3646) made calculated increases of 20%, 28%, and 49% of previous estimated plastron lengths (attained by the end of the hatching year) in their first full year of growth.

BIOTIC ASSOCIATES

Some *T. coahuila* had compact deposits of algal marl on the carapace, most commonly on the anterior or posterior edges, or both. Two individuals collected in December 1965 had algal encrustation on the five posterior marginal scutes of each side, the posterior portion of the third laterals, and all of the fourth laterals on both sides of the carapace; one had coatings on the first two marginals anteriorly. Color of these deposits on *T. coahuila* ranged from a pinkish hue to green.

In December 1965 and January 1966 samples were scraped from carapaces of five individuals from marshes in or near the study area. Six genera of blue-green algae (Cyanophyta) were identified from these samples: *Anacystis*, *Gloeotheca*, *Lyngbya*, *Oscillatoria*, *Pleurocapsa*, and *Spirulina*. Diatoms (genera unknown) occurred on two of the turtles together with blue-green genera. No green algae (Chlorophyta) were in any of the samples from turtle carapaces, but a sample of algae collected from a marsh in January 1966 contained the green algae *Spirogyra* and *Mougeotia*. A blue-green alga (*Gloeotheca*) and diatoms (*Synedra* and others) were also present in the marsh sample. A. T. Hotchkiss (pers. comm.) believed that the blue-green algae were on *T. coahuila* shells largely by chance, and that they might well have occurred on any other solid substratum. Except for one unidentified blue-green alga, none of the forms was an attached alga to the extent of having a hold-fast.

Many species of aquatic turtles support florae of epizoic green algae, mainly the genus *Bacillaria* (Edgren et al. 1953; Proctor 1958; Gibbons 1968a; Moll and Legler 1971). *Bacillaria*, a genus restricted mostly to turtles, was not found on any of the *T. coahuila* sampled, but a filamentous algal growth that was not identified (but which may have been