Basicladia) was on the carapace of an individual in the preserved series from near the study area. In 1956 John M. Legler first noted algal growth on *T. coahuila*. *Basicladia chelonum* and several blue-green algae, including *Pleurocapsa* sp., were identified from a specimen in the type series E. G. Marsh, Jr. collected in 1939.

One individual from the study area had six small round pits about 1 mm deep and a larger pit about 7 mm in diameter and 2 mm deep on the second right lateral scute. Pitting and eventual erosion of the shell in aquatic turtles could be caused by certain algae or fungi penetrating under the epidermal laminae (Hunt 1957, 1958). Potter (1887) described the penetation of wedge-shaped masses of the green alga *Dermatophyton radicans* into the carapace of *Clemmys* (=*Mauremys*) *caspica* of Europe. Jackson (1964, 1969) noted carapace erosion in *Sternotherus m. minor* from Florida, and suggested injuries from intraspecific aggression as a possible cause. Carpenter (1956) recorded carapace pits in *T. carolina triunguis* in Oklahoma and speculated that parasitic fungi, among other factors, might have caused the shell erosion.

Seven of 169 (4%) *T. coahuila* in the field harbored 1 to 4 small unidentified leeches (Hirudinea) attached to the skin at the base of the tail or to the posterior ventral margin of the carapace. Leeches did not exceed a length of approximately 1 cm when quiescent, and did not appear to discomfort the turtles; they were easily detached.

Of 48 dissected *T. coahuila*, 46% contained from 1 to 5 small, unidentified nematode worms in the stomach, some of which were imbedded in the lining. A total of 68 nematodes was in 22 stomachs, and averaged 2.4% of the volume of material in stomachs possessing them. Nematodes were in 42% of the intestines examined; one individual contained 104 and another 41. Nematodes in the latter turtle were matted together in two compact aggregations. Esch and Gibbons (1967) studied nematode parasitism in *Chrysemys picta*, reporting infection rates of 31 to 78% in mature individuals. Sex and age of the host, water temperature, and season of the year influenced the rate of infection.

Injuries and Predation

Injuries were noted in 24 of 218 (11%) *T. coahuila* examined in the field and in the laboratory. Of these 7 (3%) were burn scars, 6 (3%) were limb amputations, and 6 (3%) were scars on the shell.

Grass burning is practiced in the basin of Cuatro Ciénegas. M. A. Nickerson (pers. comm.) reported considerable burning in the basin in late March and early April 1969. On 28 March three small 100–400 m^2 areas that were charred black by recent burning were noted, one of which was at the *T. coahuila* study area (see "Mortality and Replace-