

Sexton (1959b) described foraging of *Chrysemys picta* on pond surface vegetation mats in which their carapaces remained above the water and their heads extended forward beneath the water. Patterns of foraging of these two species are notably like those of *T. coahuila*, which appears, on this basis, to be as well-adapted as do these, and possibly other, aquatic emydids.

On 22 December 1965 at 2:35 PM, a female *T. coahuila* was feeding at the basal portion of an *Eleocharis* clump that was raised above a small pool of shallow water. This turtle pawed and bit at the roots and mud of the clump apparently eating plant material. Cloacal temperature was 23.1°C, water was 22.7°, and air 21.4°C.

Between 21 and 29 July 1965 I made 10 observations of foraging turtles; 4 were between 6:30 and 7:30 AM and 6 between 4:45 and 7:25 PM on different days. Morning and evening foraging patterns did not seem to differ. Cloacal temperatures varied between 26.3° and 32.3°C.

A female moved in shallow water, pushing with its forefeet at the edges of clumps of vegetation and biting at the base of *Eleocharis* and mats of *Chara*. Several times she climbed partly out of water, pulling apart plant material and muddy debris with her forefeet, biting at sedge stalks thus exposed. For approximately 20 minutes this individual foraged in an area of only 25–30 cm on a side. Another individual moved approximately 3 meters in 45 minutes while foraging among clumps of *Eleocharis*. A male climbed partly out of water onto a raised patch of *Eleocharis* and stalked and suddenly lunged at an unseen object in the vegetation. This individual foraged with its head extended underwater for periods up to a minute, largely motionless. One individual snapped and tugged on plant material with such force that the body jerked with each effort to pull the material free. Frequent turns while following narrow channels through the vegetation, use of the forelegs to expose places for feeding, and occasional pauses to survey the surroundings typified all observations of foraging *T. coahuila*.

DIET.—Literature references to the food of *T. coahuila* are few. Williams (1960) noted that captives ate dead or live sunfish and roaches. Webb et al. (1963) stated that *T. coahuila* are omnivorous and scavengers on the basis of a wide variety of foods consumed by captives.

Food items were identified to order and family, and, where possible, to genus and species. Plant material was lumped into a single category for volume determination. Because items were often partially digested and fragmentary, no attempt was made to count individuals or measure volumes of organisms from the intestines. Methods of presentation of data follow Larimore (1957): (1) percentage of stomachs in which each kind of food occurred (frequency of occurrence); (2) mean of the