

TABLE 10. DURATION OF TIME SPENT IN ONE MARSH BY *T. coahuila*.<sup>1</sup>

Month in Which Turtle Captured for First Time	Number of New (unmarked) Turtles Captured in Month	Number Subsequently Recaptured	Number Recaptured in Same Marsh After 1 Yr.	Mean Number of Months Elapsed Between First & Last Captures
December 1964	13	9 (69%)	4	11.1 (4-19)
April 1965	11	5 (45%)	5	9.6 (4-12)
July 1965	61	20 (33%)	5	7.8 (1-12)

<sup>1</sup>Data are from 34 turtles recaptured at least once in a later sampling period.

sometimes seen on land on overcast days. Webb et al. (1963) noted that *T. coahuila* moved overland during rainy periods.

About one-fifth of the *T. coahuila* recaptured in more than a year and a half had made intermarsh movements. This suggests that some individuals are either transients or shift their home ranges. Howard's (1960) hypothesis of innate vs. environmental dispersal could be readily tested in this species. It should also be possible to determine what environmental factors are used in orientation during intermarsh dispersal. Experiments of Gould (1957, 1959; see also Lemkau 1970) suggest that *T. carolina*, when removed from their normal home range, employ sun orientation possibly similar to the mechanism occurring in birds and anurans. But Emlen (1969) reported that land-displaced *Chrysemys picta* used visual recognition of local topographic landmarks to return to their home pond; celestial navigation was all but totally discounted over the short (100 m) experimental homing distances.

#### POPULATION

COMPOSITION.—Through July 1966, 164 adult *T. coahuila* of known sex were captured. Only three were juveniles, less than 2% of the sample from the study tract population. This probably reflects their cryptic coloration, small size, and possibly more secretive habits. For example I discovered one juvenile only after seeing a slight movement when it pulled its head into the mud beneath the water surface. Stickel (1950) and Legler (1960b) found many fewer juveniles than adults in populations of *T. c. carolina* in Maryland and *T. o. ornata* in Kansas.

Mean carapace length of 70 male *T. coahuila* (108.9 mm) is significantly ( $P < 0.01$ ) larger than that of 94 females (100.9 mm) (Brown 1971). A comparison of carapace lengths of field-caught turtles with