

## AN ADULT ALBINO *AMBYSTOMA*.

While collecting Ambystomid salamanders 3.4 miles north of Ithaca, Tompkins County, New York, on the evening of April 11, 1960, an albino male was collected which measured 166 mm. total length and 64 mm. body length. In the field there were no behavioral differences observed between this specimen and normally pigmented ones, even though it was very conspicuous against a mud bottom. Both *A. jeffersonianum* and *A. maculatum* were breeding in the ponds, but the latter outnumbered the former in our collection by twenty-four to three. In body form the albino resembled the larger *A. maculatum*. The appressed limbs were separated by one intercostal ridge.

In 1959, Max Hensley (*Albinism in North American Amphibians Reptiles*. Michigan State University, Biological Series 1:4) lists two adult albino specimens for *A. maculatum*.

The specimen differed from the others as follows: Body color entirely light pink except for a three-millimeter diffuse grey patch on left side, thirty millimeters posterior to the cloaca; digits of left fore limb shortened with the third and fourth fused; eyes of living animal when parallel to a light beam, reflected pink with sclera coat dark as in normal *Ambystoma*.

The feeding behavior in captivity was more aggressive than that of a similar-sized normal male with which it was kept for four months. The albino would lunge several inches at earthworms presented manually even when quite full of food, while the normal male would ingest worms only when they settled before him on the bottom.

The albino died unexpectedly in transit during hot weather and is preserved in the Cornell University Museum: catalogue number 6704. -- PETER B. SMITH AND MARTIN C. MICHENER, *Department of Conservation, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York*.

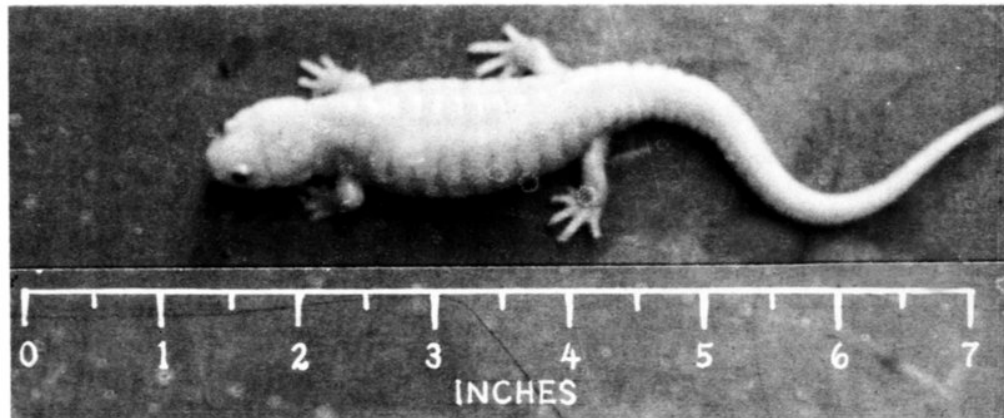


FIG. 1.—Dorsal view of an adult albino *A. maculatum*. CUM 6704.