



FIG. 1. Albino (leucistic with xanthophores) *Notophthalmus perstriatus* larva from One Shot Pond, Putnam Co., Florida. Photo by Barry Mansell.

Two leucistic efts were also captured at One Shot Pond. The first was caught on 8 November 1996 in a bucket trap at a drift fence 60 m from the pond (UF111291, sex unknown, SVL = 20 mm). The second eft (UF 111292, female, SVL = 22 mm, 0.2 g) was captured on 2 December 1997 in a bucket trap on the inside of a drift fence that encircled the pond. Based on the presence of gill buds, it had recently metamorphosed and was moving into the uplands. Both efts lacked integumentary pigmentation although the eyes appeared normal. The stripes, which are characteristic in transformed individuals of *N. perstriatus*, were visible as distinct light lines. Both efts are described as leucistic with xanthophores (Dyrkacz, *op. cit.*).

We have conducted regular sampling in One Shot Pond since July 1995, usually examining about 50 individuals each month. Since October 1996, we individually marked more than 4000 striped newts caught in pitfalls at the drift fence that encircled the pond. We also have observed hundreds of striped newts at numerous breeding ponds throughout the geographic range of the species; however, these four individuals are the only *N. perstriatus* we have encountered with abnormal pigmentation. Additionally, in over 2500 captures at a breeding in north-central Florida, as well as numerous individuals observed throughout the species range in Georgia, USA, Dodd never encountered an albino striped newt (C. K. Dodd, Jr., pers. comm.).

We thank C. Kenneth Dodd, Jr., Richard D. "Bubba" Owen, and Dale A. Johnson for reviewing earlier drafts of this note. Barry Mansell took the photograph in Fig. 1.

Submitted by **STEVE A. JOHNSON**, Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611, USA, and **RICHARD FRANZ**, Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611, USA.

NOTOPHTHALMUS PERSTRIATUS (Striped Newt).

COLORATION. Occurrence of albinos has been reported for numerous species of salamanders (Dyrkacz 1981. SSAR Herp. Circ. 11. 31 pp.). Here we report observations of four albino striped newts encountered over a three-year period at One Shot Pond, a seasonally-ponded isolated wetland located on the Katharine Ordway Preserve-Carl Swisher Memorial Sanctuary, Putnam Co. Florida, USA. This is the first published account of albinism for *Notophthalmus perstriatus* and apparently the first for the genus *Notophthalmus*.

The first albino observed was a larva captured by dip net on 11 July 1995. This animal lacked normal integumentary pigmentation (Fig. 1) but had a yellowish cast throughout its body. Shiny bluish flecks were present along the dorsal and ventral margins of the tail fin (these appear as white spots in Fig. 1). The eyes appeared to be normally pigmented. Using the terminology of Dyrkacz (*op. cit.*), this animal is described as leucistic with xanthophores. The larva was maintained in captivity until its death on 6 August 1995 at which time it measured 23 mm SVL. We were unable to determine its sex. Although its tail fin and gills had atrophied considerably, it failed to complete metamorphosis. The specimen and a color slide of it in life were deposited in the Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida (UF102170). A second larva closely resembling the above was collected by dip net on 17 August 1996 (UF111290, sex unknown, SVL = 21 mm, TL = 43 mm).