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A NEW SUBSPECIES OF THE RED-BELLIED TERRAPIN
***PSEUDEMYS RUBRIVENTRIS* (LE CONTE).**

BY H. L. BABCOCK.

***Pseudemys rubriventris bangsi*, subsp. nov.**

Type.—Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, no. 16,778. An adult from Boot Pond, Plymouth, Massachusetts, collected by H. J. Thayer, 1912.

Paratypes.—M. C. Z. no. 7047. Boot Pond, Plymouth, Mass. Collected by F. A. Lucas, 1912. M. C. Z. no. 16,777. Boot Pond, Plymouth, Mass. Collected by H. J. Thayer, 1912. B. S. N. H. no. 1100. Hillfield Pond, Plymouth, Mass. Collected by H. L. Babcock, 1916. B. S. N. H. no. 1202. Boot Pond, Plymouth, Mass. Collected by W. G. Reed, 1919. B. S. N. H. no. 1210. Island Pond, Plymouth, Mass. Collected by H. L. Babcock, 1919.

Diagnosis.—This group has long been isolated, being restricted in distribution to a few ponds located in Plymouth County, Massachusetts. The area constitutes one of the "southern islands" which are to be found as far north as Nova Scotia and contain southern forms of plant and insect life. The highly arched carapace and black color of these terrapins is very marked. Fortunately Le Conte in his original description gave the length and height of the type which shows a markedly flatter carapace than in the Plymouth group. Eight examples of the Plymouth form and twelve of the typical form have been examined.

Carapace high, the greatest height of shell being included in its greatest length 2.4 times. (Plymouth County, Massachusetts.) . . . *P. r. bangsi*

Carapace lower, the greatest height of shell being included in its greatest length 2.63 times.¹ (Atlantic coast from extreme northeast Florida to New Jersey and southern Long Island.) *P. r. rubriventris*

Remarks.—The ponds from which this terrapin has been recorded are, Gunner's Exchange, Hoyt, Island, Nigger, Hillfield, Boot, Upper West, Micajah, Great South, Crooked, and Billington Sea. These turtles are not abundant, are very shy and are difficult to capture. In proposing subspecific distinction for this isolated group I associate the name of my friend the late Mr. Outram Bangs who first called my attention to this unique New England colony.

¹In Le Conte's type specimen (from the Delaware River) the greatest height of shell is included in its greatest length 2.75 times.