

Writing of this species in *Fishes of North Carolina*, Smith says: "While it is occasionally taken as far north as Massachusetts, it is not ordinarily numerous north of Chesapeake Bay." In *Fishes within Fifty Miles of New York City*, 1913, the writer listed it as "Rare September." It appears that the information at his command at the time was imperfect and that the Croaker occurs in New York Harbor with sufficient regularity to be known to local anglers, and to give the name of "Croaker Grounds" to Flynn's Knoll a couple of miles towards Staten Island from Sandy Hook. At times they are caught at Huguenot, about two miles off shore at Can Buoy No. 3.

According to Messrs. Andrew Johnstone and P. McCabe the fish occurred this year in much greater numbers than usual, so that four men in four hours' fishing from one boat took as many as 120 individuals. According to the same gentlemen the Croaker was present in late July, August and a part of September, 1915; they were taken at the bottom with shedder-crab and white-worm bait, also with parts of Spots (*Leiostomus*), pieces of Weakfish and clams. They ran from 1½ to 4 lbs. in weight and 12 to 16 inches in length, or about the same size as "school" Weakfish, and resembled Weakfish in habits, taking the hook in the same vigorous manner; so that some of the less well-informed fishermen did not distinguish them from Weakfish.

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AQUATIC HABITS OF THE BOX TURTLE

The Box Turtle (*Cistudo carolina*) of the middle section of Long Island has a habit of partly burying itself in the moist sand or mud along the edges of ponds on hot days. Specimens are frequently seen swimming in the water, or resting in the shallows with only the head protruding above the surface. When alarmed, the turtles often leave the land

and enter the water voluntarily. They usually swim beneath the surface, but come up readily to breathe and to take observations. They seem to be familiar with the water, and in their ease and rapidity of swimming they compare favorably with the pond turtle (*Chrysemys picta*).

On July 31, 1910, I took a photograph of nine box turtles in a group in the edge of a pond at Middle Island, where they had lain for hours. On August 15, 1915, I photographed one at the same pond nearly submerged in the water at the end of a log, and four others were in sight partly buried in the mud. I have never failed to find the turtles in that pond in midsummer whenever I have looked for them.

The amphibious nature of the Long Island box turtle is so well known to the native inhabitants that records of the fact seem commonplace. But a note in the September COPEIA, and statements in many standard natural histories, render it worth while to record the aquatic habits of the species.

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A NOTE ON TWO INTERESTING NEW JERSEY AMPHIBIANS.

For several summers past trips to Lakehurst, N. J., in search of the Sphagnum Frog, *Rana virgatipes* Cope, and Anderson's Hyla, *Hyla andersoni* Baird, have afforded some pleasant outings for my brother, F. K. Barbour, and myself. We have usually left our home at Rumson, N. J., in a machine, and reached Lakehurst in something less than two hours. The afternoons we have usually spent in wandering about the sphagnum bogs and along the cold spring branches which run into the lake, searching for the sphagnum frogs, which we have found at times in considerable numbers. Our observations have con-



Overton, Frank. 1916. "Aquatic Habits of the Box Turtle." *Copeia* 26, 4-5.

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