

THE BEHAVIOR OF ARVICOLA RICHARDSONI IN THE LABORATORY WITH  
NOTES ON GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Janice A. Jannett  
Department of Forestry and Zoology  
Syracuse University  
Project Number 187

There is little known about the biology and behavior of the North American water vole (*Arvicola richardsoni*). The purpose of my study is to construct an ethogram of this interesting species including descriptions of maintenance, reproductive, aggressive and marking behaviors. Notes were also taken on litters born in the lab for growth and development data. Additional data were collected on the effects of testosterone on the marking behaviors and the gland sizes.

Animals were live trapped on Togwotee Pass in mid-July and early September. Many animals were returned to the lab and observed as individuals or as small groups. Super 8 movie films were taken of many behavioral sequences for further analysis.

An analysis of the data from the summer of 1973 and 1974 was begun and the writing of a Masters Thesis to be presented to the Department of Forest Zoology, Syracuse University was started. I hope to finish writing by next spring.