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TERRAPENE CAROLINA TRIUNGUIS (Three-toed Box Turtle).

DIET. *Terrapene carolina* is considered omnivorous, eating a wide variety of plant and animal foods. Mammals documented as food items, typically as carrion, include mice (*Mus musculus*, *Peromyscus leucopus*, *P. maniculatus*), voles (*Microtus pennsylvanicus*), shrews (*Blarina* sp., *Cryptotis parva*, *Sorex* sp.), and a bovine (*Bos taurus*) (Ernst and Lovich 2009. *Turtles of the United States and Canada*. 2nd ed. Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, Maryland. 827 pp.). On 19 August 2012, on the Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center, Forrest Co., Mississippi, USA, a female *Sigmodon hispidus* (Hispid Cotton Rat) was found dead (of unknown causes) in a box trap and was discarded ~5 m away from the trap. The next day we observed an adult male *T. c. triunguis* eating the carcass and entrails of the *S. hispidus*. As we approached, the turtle took a bite of the entrails and then started to slowly walk away from us, at which time the turtle was captured and processed (i.e., sexed, measured, and marked).

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TERRAPENE CAROLINA TRIUNGUIS (Three-toed Box Turtle).

DIET. *Terrapene carolina triunguis* is the western-most subspecies of *T. carolina* and has a range that stretches from southeast Kansas and central Missouri south to the Gulf Coast (Conant and Collins 1998. *A Field Guide to Reptiles and Amphibians of Eastern and Central North America*. 3rd ed. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, Massachusetts. 616 pp.). Three-toed Box Turtles are omnivorous and consume a wide variety of food items (Ernst et al. 1994. *Turtles of the United States and Canada*. Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C. 578 pp.). It has been suggested that *Terrapene carolina triunguis* may be a seed disperser for some plants (Braun and Brooks 1987. *Amer. Midl. Nat.* 117:31–318).

On 6 April 2012, we observed a *T. carolina triunguis* eating a berry of an exotic invasive *Nandina domestica* (Berberidaceae; *Nandina*, Sacred Bamboo) plant (Fig. 1) in the yard of a residence



FIG. 1. *Terrapene carolina triunguis* eating a berry of an exotic invasive *Nandina domestica* plant.

in Nacogdoches Co., Texas, USA (94.668382°N, 31.592993°W; WGS84). *Nandina* naturally ranges from central China to India and has been cultivated in Japan for many centuries (Chongxi and Foster 1985. *Herbal emissaries*. Healing Arts Press, Rochester, Vermont. 356 pp.). *Nandina* was introduced into the United States in 1804 for use as an ornamental plant (Wyman 1969. *Shrubs and Vines for American gardens*. Revised ed., Collier-Macmillan, Toronto, Ontario. 613 pp.). It is naturalized in North Carolina (Radford et al. 1964. *Guide to the Vascular Flora of the Carolinas*. University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill. 383 pp.) and is suspected to have invaded nine states throughout the southeastern United States, including Texas (Miller 2003. *Nonnative Invasive Plants of Southern Forests: a Field Guide for Identification and Control*. USDA Forest Service Gen. Tech. Rep. SRS-62. USDA Forest Service Southern Research Station, Asheville, North Carolina). It has been suggested that *Nandina* is dispersed by birds and mammals (Ludlow 1995. *Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Resource Management Notes* 6:4–5). In this note we document a previously unknown food item for *T. carolina triunguis* as well as an additional possible species for seed dispersal of invasive *Nandina domestica*.

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TERRAPENE ORNATA LUTEOLA (Desert Box Turtle). NESTING/ HATCHLING OVERWINTERING/ HATCHLING DIET.

Hatchling *Terrapene ornata ornata* are known to either emerge from the nest cavity during the fall of the year they hatched, or to spend the winter beneath the nest cavity after hatching (Doroff and Keith 1990. *Copeia* 1990:387–399; Costanzo et al. 1995. *Ecology* 76:1772–1785; Converse et al. 2002. *Am. Midl. Nat.* 148:416–422). However, no published information exists on the emergence behavior of hatchling *T. o. luteola*, the westernmost subspecies of *T. ornata*. The following observations were made ca. 2 km E of US Hwy 54, ca. 20 km S of Alamogordo, New Mexico, USA (32.69611°N, 105.98053°W, WGS84; 1225 m elev.).

On the evening of 14 July 2002, a gravid female *T. o. luteola* was observed in the early stages of digging a nest. Earlier in the day, the region had received its first monsoonal rain of the year, and puddles of water were evident. Approximately 2 h before sunset this turtle was observed in the open, digging with its forelimbs into a small depression. My presence disturbed the animal, which retreated to a nearby mesquite bush. The animal was left, but checked on again immediately before dark. It had returned to the same depression, and was in the process of burying itself, which typically precedes construction of the actual nest cavity.

The site was re-visited on the morning of 15 July, and an empty hole was observed. The recent rainfall had only moistened the soil to a depth of several cm, beyond this depth a clear demarcation was visible between the wet surface, and the powder-dry subsurface, and it was assumed that moisture was insufficient to complete the nest. The site was re-visited on 19 July, after more rain had fallen. At 1045 h during overcast and humid conditions, I observed the same female about 50 m from her original nesting attempt on a slightly raised patch of bare ground next to a small depression with a scraped over appearance. It was clear that she had just finished covering a nest. The nest was excavated to ascertain the presence of eggs. At least one egg was noted at a depth of 25 cm, and the nest was immediately reburied. The nest was securely protected with a cage made of hardware cloth and rebar, and camouflaged with woody debris. On 4 October,