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SPAWN AND LARVA OF AMBYSTOMA JEFFERSONIANUM

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SPAWN

AMONG the various accounts of the habits and spawn of *Ambystoma punctatum* occasional mention may be found of *Ambystoma jeffersonianum* but always in such connections as to suggest that *A. jeffersonianum* is by far the less common species in the locality. This along with the considerable similarity existing between the spawn of the two species may explain why no account of the spawn of *A. jeffersonianum* has as yet appeared. Descriptions of the spawn of *A. tigrinum* sufficient for distinguishing it from that of the other two species is given by B. G. Smith (1907).

In most localities near Toronto *A. punctatum* is a much more common species than *A. jeffersonianum*, however in one piece of woodland that is quite isolated from all the others examined, the former species is rarely to be found, while the latter is very abundant. This woodland contains four pools that last throughout the year, although they become heavily choked by vegetation during the late summer and autumn. The value of these pools as a collecting ground for spawn, *Branchiopus*, etc., was discovered some years ago by my colleague, Dr. Huntsman and his observations on the *Ambystoma* spawn suggested to him the possibility of distinguishing in it two kinds. Later the writer also became familiar with this woodland in connection with observations on *Plethodon* and with the consent of Dr. Huntsman undertook also the investigation of the *Ambystoma* spawn of the pools.

The writer first visited these pools in spawning time