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NOTE

FIRST RECORD FROM NEBRASKA OF THE CLAM SHRIMP
***EULIMNADIA DIVERSA* (CRUSTACEA: BRANCHIOPODA: CONCHOSTRACA)**

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This paper reports the first record from Nebraska of the conchostracan *Eulimnadia diversa* (Crustacea: Branchiopoda), which was collected in a shallow pond in Thomas County, Nebraska, USA.

During the summer of 1998, I collected larval amphibians across Nebraska as a means of testing for declines in historical populations. While collecting amphibians, particularly in ephemeral and seasonal pools, I commonly encountered representatives of the three orders of branchiopods (Conchostraca, Notostraca, and Anostraca). On 10 July 1998, I sampled a small Sandhills stock pond 12.8 km north of Halsey in Thomas County, Nebraska, for invertebrates and larval amphibians. The collection site measured 34 × 12 m (widest point) and had a maximum water depth of 15 cm. Water was clear and contained emergent vegetation. The mud substrate was undisturbed, suggesting no recent use by cattle. I acquired the location data using a hand-held Global Positioning System unit and county maps (sw¼ section 36, T24N R6W: N 42° 00.473', W 100° 16.048'). I obtained samples with a 25-cm diameter fine-mesh dip net and preserved them in 10% formalin. Denton Belk (Research Associate, Department of Invertebrate Zoology, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.) identified all my branchiopod specimens. Voucher specimens (NMNH # 243769) are at the National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D. C.

I collected *Eulimnadia diversa*, a conchostracan not previously recorded from Nebraska, from the site described above. Clam shrimps, of the order Conchostraca, are generally described as being encased in a bivalved carapace (Fig. 1) and possessing sessile, compound eyes, a laterally compressed body, and 10–28 pairs of legs (Fig. 2) (Belk 1982; Pennak 1989). The genus *Eulimnadia* belongs to the family Limnadiidae and is separated from other conchostracans by a frontal-organ character (Fig. 2) unique to this group (Belk 1982). Belk (1989) discussed the species-specific nature of the surface structure of resting eggs for *Eulimnadia* (Fig. 3).

I found *Eulimnadia diversa* with other common ephemeral aquatic inhabitants, such as insects of the orders Hemiptera and Coleoptera. The only vertebrate found was an Ornate Box Turtle (*Terrapene ornata*).

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during the preparation of this work. John D. Lynch encouraged me to look for the fascinating creatures while I collected tadpoles.

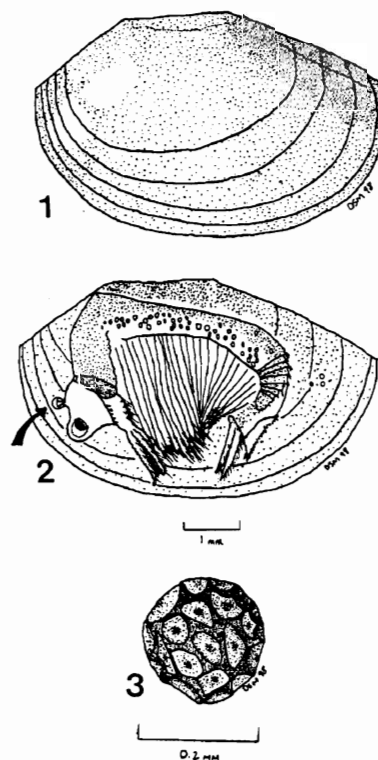


Figure 1–3. 1. External carapace anatomy of *Eulimnadia diversa*. 2. *Eulimnadia diversa*: one valve removed. Arrow indicates frontal organ characteristic of the genus *Eulimnadia*. 3. External resting-egg shell morphology.

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