Fig. 6

Common shrew - S. araneus

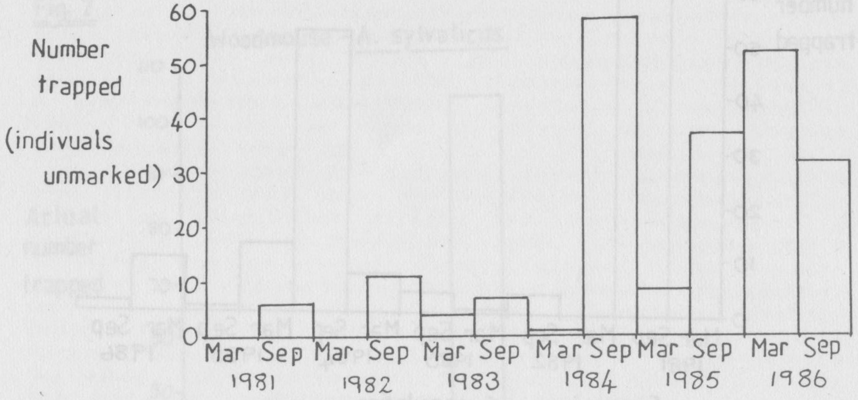


Fig. 7

Pygmy shrew - S. minutus

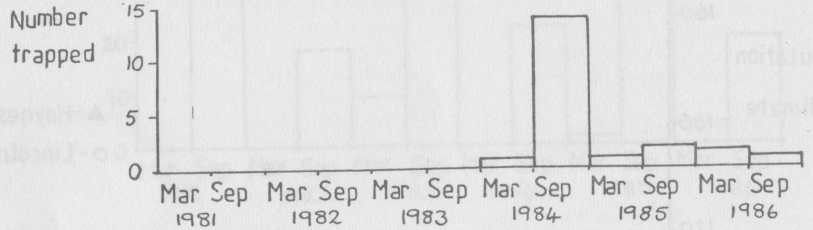


Fig. 8

Harvest mouse - M. minutus

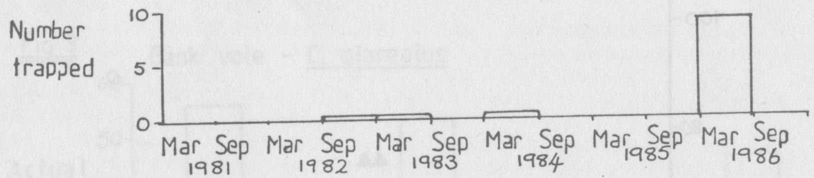


Fig. 9

Water shrew - N. fodiens

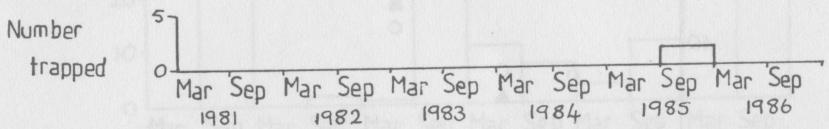
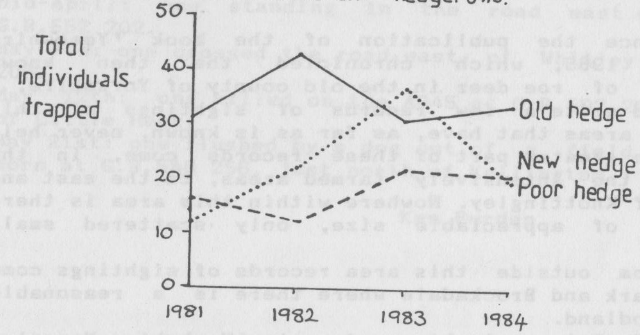


Fig. 10 Numbers of small mammal trapped in three different hedgerows.



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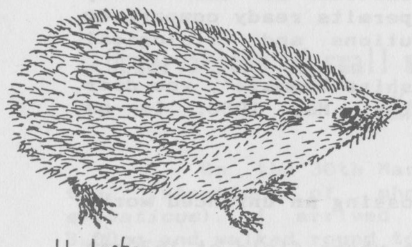

Hedgehog

Hedgehog ramblings.

A question which has often intrigued me is:- how far do small mammals travel during their nocturnal ramblings? Radio-tracking techniques have revolutionised this area of study and a team from Royal Holloway and Bedford New College led by Dr Pat Morris have used such techniques to investigate the activities of hedgehogs *Erinaceus europaeus* on the Isle of Wight (Journal of Zoology 214: p433-449). It was found that the animals took a different route each night and so about six nights of tracking were needed to establish the extent of their home range. Adult males travelled further than females and young males probably because they were searching for females as well as for food. One male, a particularly seasoned traveller, regularly journeyed 2km a night and on one occasion travelled 3.14km. His home range covered over 50 hectares containing at least eight daytime nests in which to rest during his rounds. This study was carried out on farmland with pastures, hedgerows and copses but a previous study on golf course hedgehogs revealed that they travelled over similar distances.

Ed.

Hedgehog footprints