A TEN-YEAR-OLD SKINK?—On April 11, 1956, I caught an adult male five-lined skink, Eumeces fasciatus, which had been captured, marked (as "1LH 3-4RH") and released on April 7, 1950, at the "Rat Ledge" study area on the University of Kansas Natural History Reservation. This lizard had not been recaptured in the six years intervening; although the area had been searched intensively several times each year. At its second capture the skink was approximately 30 feet from the original location. It was then 82 mm. in snout-vent length—within 1 mm. of the maximum recorded in hundreds of individuals from the same locality. At its original capture in 1950, this skink was 80 mm. in snout-vent length and weighed 11.5 grams, thus it was already an exceptionally large adult.

Because individuals differ greatly in growth rate, age cannot be determined in medium-sized to large adults. One male marked while still a little short of small adult size (65 mm.) at an age of one year, had grown to 80 mm. two years later, but ordinarily four years or more would be required to attain a length of 80 mm. In any case the large male recaptured in 1956 must have been in his ninth year at least, and may have been several years older.

Since more than 50 per cent of the adults in a stable population are eliminated through normal turnover from year to year, probably less than one per cent of those that reach adult size survive to be ten years old. The old recaptured skink seemed fully active and vigorous, but it died two days later, of unknown causes.—Henry S. Fitch, University of Kansas Natural History Reservation, Lawrence, Kansas.