INTRODUCTION

The *body length* database contains three files in addition to this introduction. Because some of the body weights were not derived from the same sources as the body lengths, I have included two *reference* files, one for body weights (12 references) and one for body lengths (10 references). (See General Introduction above, Table 1, row two, column four). A third file (in Excel format) contains numerical data for body lengths and weights.

The Excel dataset for body lengths consists of seven columns. The first column assigns a consecutive number to each record. There are 1,266 records in this dataset. The second column assigns a unique number to each species (see General Introduction above). Column three gives the binomial name for each species and column four identifies the taxonomic order to which each species belongs. Column five gives the common name, where available. Columns six and seven specify body weight and body length, respectively.