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LXXI.—*Two new Dormice of the Genus Eliomys.*

By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

IN working out a Saharan Lerot recently received by the Tring Museum I find the two following new forms in the British Museum collection to need description :—

Eliomys gymnesicus, sp. n.

A small short-eared form, coloured like the European *E. quercinus*.

Size rather less than in the true *E. quercinus*, consequently very much less than in the large *E. Amori* of Spain, which, on the analogy of other members of the fauna, should have been the closest ally of the Balearic Lerot. General colour closely similar to that of ordinary German examples of *quercinus*, the bright rufous of the back similarly becoming greyish on the sides, the grey getting slightly darker where it edges the light colour of the belly. Cheeks, shoulder-patch, arms, inner sides of legs, and whole of under surface dull creamy. Facial markings arranged as in *quercinus*, but less extended, the orbital ring narrower and the black at the roots of the whiskers cut off from the rest by a narrow light-coloured space. Ears decidedly shorter than in *quercinus*. Tail unusually slender, its coloration as in *quercinus*, but the subterminal black is very narrow and surpassed on each side by the fringing edge of the white, which is conspicuously developed.

Skull short and broad, the zygomata boldly expanded. Brain-case narrower than in *quercinus*. Palatal foramina widely open. Bullæ short, highly inflated, more spherical than in *quercinus*. Teeth markedly larger, and especially broader, than in *quercinus*. In these respects the skull is more like that of *E. sardus*.

Dimensions of the type (measured in the flesh by myself):—

Head and body 131 millim. (110–131)*; tail 107 (100–107); hind foot (s. u.) 26 (25·5–27); ear 21 (20–22).

Skull: greatest length 33·5; basilar length 26·1; zygomatic breadth 19·6; nasals, length 11·8; interorbital breadth 4·1; palate length 12·1; diastema 7·2; palatal foramina 4·7 × 2·4; length of upper tooth-row 5·6; breadth of m^2 1·9.

Hab. San Cristobal, Minorca, Balearic Islands. Alt. 100 m.

* Measurements in brackets show the extremes in a series of five.

Type. Old male. B.M. no. 0. 7. 1. 47. Original number 277. Collected and presented by R. I. Pocock and Oldfield Thomas.

Deceived by its close similarity in coloration to *E. quercinus*, I have hitherto assigned the Balearic "*Rata sarda*" to that species; but closer study of the group shows not only that it is distinct, but inclines me to think that it is allied rather to the southern forms of the group—*Amori*, *sardus*, *pallidus*, and *cincticauda*,—all of which differ from it by having a black ring round the tail.

Eliomys lerotinus tunetæ, subsp. n.

A small *Eliomys* with the tail almost wholly black (except the extreme tip); ears of normal size.

Size about as in the typical form. General colour above dull fulvous, about as in *E. quercinus*. Cheeks and under surface uniform cream-colour, almost "cream-buff," not sharply defined laterally. Facial markings about as in the type, the lines on the whole narrower than in *E. quercinus*. Ears of normal size, not enlarged as in *melanurus*. Hands and feet creamy white. Tail rather short, bushy terminally, not distinctly distichous, its basal fourth above grey, heavily grizzled with black, the remainder deep black above and below, except that the hairs of the extreme tip are white or ringed with white. In the typical *E. lerotinus* there is much more white on the tail, whose basal third below is dull whitish, middle third black largely mixed with white, and terminal third pure white.

Skull and teeth as usual in this group; the palatal foramina rather longer and the bullæ larger than in true *lerotinus*.

Approximate dimensions of the type (measured in skin):—

Head and body 120 millim.; tail 83; hind foot (s. u.) 24.

Skull: tip of nasals to back of parietal suture 31; length of upper molar series 5.

Hab. (of type). Karouana, Tunis. Two specimens in the Lataste Collection from Bône, N.E. Algeria, near the Tunisian frontier.

Type. Adult female. B.M. no. 46. 11. 4. 1. Collected by Louis Fraser.

This dormouse had been long supposed to be Wagner's *E. melanurus*, but the recent acquisition of two specimens of that most distinct species from Sinai has enabled me to correct the mistake.

Lataste's "*Bifa lerotina*" is unquestionably an *Eliomys* which has lost its posterior molars. The genus will therefore

fall, but the specific name may be used for the Mزاب *Eliomys*, of which for the present the Tunisian and Eastern Algerian form may be looked upon as a subspecies. It may, however, prove to grade into the still earlier described *E. munbyanus*, Pomel, of Morocco and Western Algeria (typical locality Oran), of which both *lerotinus* and *tunetæ* in that case would have to rank as subspecies.

LXXII.—On the Species of the Genus *Rhinopoma*.

By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

THE Egyptian Pyramids are inhabited by large numbers of bats of the genus *Rhinopoma*, the mouse-tailed bat, first recorded by Belon as long ago as 1554. By Dobson, in his Catalogue, the members of this genus, whether from Egypt or India, were all combined under one heading, *R. microphyllum*, "Geoffroy," although both Peters and Heuglin had pointed out that in Egypt two forms were present, a larger and a smaller, the former having the tail shorter than the forearm, the latter longer *.

But in giving new names the two German authors, misled by their belief that Geoffroy's measurements were the original ones, affixed the names to the larger form. Now, however, that Anderson and de Winton's work † has drawn attention to the fact that it was Brünnich, and not Geoffroy, who first described the species, I am able to state, on measurements kindly furnished me by Dr. Winge, that the type, still preserved in the Copenhagen Museum, is the large form with short tail (forearm 67·5 millim., tail 61). The smaller one, as to whose distinction from the larger no one who had compared the skulls could doubt for one moment, will therefore require a new name, and may be called

Rhinopoma cystops, sp. n.

Size comparatively small (forearm averaging about 52 millim., and rarely attaining 55). Nose-leaf more developed than in *R. microphyllum*. Ears proportionally large, the frontal band joining them particularly high. Tail very long and slender, longer than the forearm.

* *Rhinopoma lepsianum*, Peters, MB. Ak. Berl. 1859, p. 222 (Blue Nile).

Rhinopoma cordofanicum, Heugl. Reise N.O.-Afr. ii. p. 24 (1877). Fitzinger also applied two names—*R. senaarensis* and *longicaudatum*—to members of this genus, but gave no descriptions.

† Mamm. Egypt, pp. 143 & 147 (1902).