This article was downloaded by: [University of Toronto Libraries]
On: 03 February 2015, At: 08:32
Publisher: Taylor & Francis
Informa Ltd Registered in England and Wales Registered Number:
1072954 Registered office: Mortimer House, 37-41 Mortimer Street,
London W1T 3JH, UK

Annals and Magazine of Natural History: Series 8

Publication details, including instructions
for authors and subscription information:
<http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/tnah14>

LXVI.—A new genus for *Dactylopsila palpator*

Oldfield Thomas

Published online: 11 Sep 2009.

To cite this article: Oldfield Thomas (1910) LXVI.—A new genus for
Dactylopsila palpator, *Annals and Magazine of Natural History: Series 8*, 6:36,
610-610, DOI: [10.1080/00222931008692892](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222931008692892)

To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00222931008692892>

PLEASE SCROLL DOWN FOR ARTICLE

Taylor & Francis makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of all the information (the "Content") contained in the publications on our platform. However, Taylor & Francis, our agents, and our licensors make no representations or warranties whatsoever as to the accuracy, completeness, or suitability for any purpose of the Content. Any opinions and views expressed in this publication are the opinions and views of the authors, and are not the views of or endorsed by Taylor & Francis. The accuracy of the Content should not be relied upon and should be independently verified with primary sources of information. Taylor and Francis shall not be liable for any losses, actions, claims, proceedings, demands, costs, expenses, damages, and other liabilities whatsoever or howsoever caused arising directly

or indirectly in connection with, in relation to or arising out of the use of the Content.

This article may be used for research, teaching, and private study purposes. Any substantial or systematic reproduction, redistribution, reselling, loan, sub-licensing, systematic supply, or distribution in any form to anyone is expressly forbidden. Terms & Conditions of access and use can be found at <http://www.tandfonline.com/page/terms-and-conditions>

matic breadth 14·6; breadth of brain-case 13; palatilar length 12·8; palatal foramina 5·3; upper molar series 4·2.

Hab. South Queensland.

Type. Adult male in spirit. B.M. no. 92. 8. 7. 2. Presented by the Brisbane Museum. A second specimen, without exact locality, in skin.

This is evidently an eastern representative of the beautiful little West Australian *Ps. albocinereus*, with which it shares the general characters and blue-grey colour, but from which it may be readily distinguished by its much greater size.

LXVI.—A new Genus for *Dactylopsila palpator*.

By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

(Published by permission of the Trustees of the British Museum.)

THE British Museum owes to Mr. Walter Goodfellow a skin with skull of the remarkable marsupial described by Milne-Edwards as *Dactylopsila palpator**, and a careful study of it leads me to think it should be separated generically from true *Dactylopsila*.

DACTYLONAX, gen. nov.

Type. *Dactylonax palpator* (*Dactylopsila palpator*, M.-Edw.).

General characters as in *Dactylopsila*, but fourth finger much lengthened, very slender, its claw much smaller than those of the other digits.

Skull more bowed and more heavily built than in *Dactylopsila*; muzzle shorter, the zygomata more boldly expanded; posterior nares narrower.

Anterior incisors, both above and below, very much stouter and heavier. Molars more disproportionate in size, the anterior larger and the posterior smaller than in the allied form; last upper molar with three cusps only.

This animal has become specialized in a closely similar way to what has taken place in the Aye-Aye (*Daubentonius*), a single finger lengthened and made slender (presumably for searching for grubs in wood), combined with powerful rodent-like incisors for gnawing the grubs out when found. The ends of the upper incisors in *Dactylonax* are worn off abruptly at the end by friction, not with the lower incisors, which touch them in quite a different part, but with some outside objects, such as tree trunks or boughs.

* Mém. Cent. Soc. Philom. p. 173 (1888).