



LXVI.—Three new S.-American mammals

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is readily distinguishable by its cinnamon-washed sides and rump and the more blackish backs to its ears. Mr. Caruthers's Karakoram specimens of *macrotis* are, like these, in full winter pelage, and have afforded good material for comparison.

LXVI.—*Three new S.-American Mammals.*

By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

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Pseudalopex smithersi, sp. n.

Ps. culpæus group, but the body reddish throughout.

Size apparently rather less than in *culpæus*. Fur soft and thick, not very long. Colour wholly unlike that of any known *Pseudalopex*, owing to the black on the tips of the hairs, which forms so prominent a feature in the colouring of other species, being here replaced by rich ochraceous red, the underfur being still creamy buff terminally and slaty basally. On the tail alone the terminal brush is, as usual, black, the bases of the hairs buffy, and the hairs of the caudal gland are black terminally and white for their basal two-thirds; the hairs of the rest of the tail tipped with rich ferruginous. As a result we have an animal which is bright reddish, head, body, and limbs, though, owing to the buffy underfur, the colour is not as strong as in some of the purely red Canidæ. Under surface dull buffy whitish on throat and lower belly, deeper and more pinkish buffy on the chest and sides of belly. Chin with a slight darkening, as in *culpæus*, not a definite black patch as in the *azarica* group; nor is there any trace of a dark patch on the back of the thighs.

Dimensions, owing to the specimen being a made-up tanned skin, not able to be taken, but the size appears to be somewhat less than in *Ps. culpæus*.

Hab. Sierra de Cordoba, Argentina.

Type. Adult skin, without skull. B.M. no. 14. 3. 18. 1. Obtained and presented by W. A. Smithers, Esq.

This most remarkable mountain-fox is closely related to *Pseudalopex culpæus*, but is at once distinguished from that and every other member of the genus by the replacement of the grizzled black and white of the body by rich ferruginous.

Mr. Smithers had heard of this interesting inhabitant of the Cordoba highlands for some time, and has at last been able to obtain a hunter's skin of it. Though without a skull, there can be no doubt whatever either as to its affinities or of its distinctness from any previously described species.

It has been to Mr. Smithers that we already owe the specimens of Azara's fox which I took as typical of *Pseudalopex azarica*, and I now have great pleasure in connecting his name with the present striking animal, in whose discovery he has been instrumental.

Microsciurus avunculus, sp. n.

Closely similar to *M. napi*, but markedly larger throughout.

Size a little larger than in any described species. General colour above finely grizzled olive-brown, the fore back slightly greyer, the hind back warmer. Chest greyish "cinnamon-buff," not such a bright ochraceous as in *M. rubrirostris*; belly and inner sides of hind limbs dull tawny, toned down by the slaty bases of the hairs. Crown finely ticked with ochraceous, a little warmer than nape, more like hind back, not so ochraceous as in *rubrirostris*. Ears with their inner surface grizzled ochraceous; outer surface grey anteriorly, with a large whitish patch posteriorly, the upper part of this patch buffy. Hands and feet grizzled ochraceous. Edges of tail pale buffy.

Skull conspicuously larger than that of *M. napi*, about as in *M. rubrirostris*.

Dimensions of the type:—

Hind foot, s. u. 39, c. u. 42 mm.; ear 15.

Skull: tip of nasals to front of interparietal 35.5; condylo-incisive length 34; zygomatic breadth 23.3; nasals 11 × 4.8; interorbital breadth 14.2; breadth of brain-case 19; palatal length 16; tooth-row (exclusive of p^3) 6.2.

Hab. Oriente of Ecuador. Type from Gualaquiza; alt. 2500'.

Type. Young adult male. B.M. no. 14. 4. 25. 53. Original number 312. Collected 31st November, 1913, by Gilbert Hammond. Presented by Oldfield Thomas.

This species is in colour quite like *M. napi*, which occurs in the same region, but is so much larger, as evidenced by its skull- and tooth-measurements, that it is clearly different. It is probably most nearly related to *M. rubricollis*, the species I have always regarded as *M. peruanus*, Allen, but is distinguished from both by its much duller and less contrasted under surface.

Dr. Allen, in his recent paper, considers his *M. peruanus* as only doubtfully distinguishable from Gray's "*Macroxus kuhlii*," said to have been collected by Castelnau, and therefore thought by Dr. Allen to have come from somewhere on the Upper Amazons. But Dr. Allen has quite misunderstood the characters of *kuhli**, which is beyond question the "*Sciurus pusillus*" of Guiana, whence the type must have come—probably accidentally mixed with Castelnau material by the dealer (Paizudaki) from whom it was bought. The fact that the hind foot of the type of *kuhli* is only 26 mm. in length would alone distinguish it from any of the Andean *Microsciuri*.

Most opportunely three specimens of the Guianan pigmy squirrel have just been received from the late Mr. McConnell's collector Cozier, one of them having a perfect skull, and I am now able to state that this animal is not a *Microsciurus* at all, but represents a new genus allied to the Malayan and W.-African pigmy squirrels. Its description is given elsewhere, but a new subspecies of it may be here described:—

Sciurillus pusillus glaucinus, subsp. n.

Like *S. pusillus*, but much paler throughout.

General colour above "neutral grey" instead of greyish hair-brown. Under surface pale grey washed with light buffy, instead of dark grey washed with fulvous. Crown, muzzle, and inner side of ears pale grizzled buffy, many shades lighter than the almost ferruginous colour of *pusillus*. Back of ears and patches behind them prominently snowy white. Feet grizzled buffy. Tail-hairs tipped with whitish, a number of hairs in the terminal pencil black, a line along the centre below also black.

Skull apparently rather smaller than in *pusillus*, but the type is not as old as the available examples of that animal.

Dimensions of the type (measured on the skin):—

Head and body 104 mm.; tail 113; hind foot 27·7.

Skull: greatest length 27·5; condylo-incisive length 25; zygomatic breadth 20; nasals (on outer edge) 7 × 4·7; inter-orbital breadth 12·5; breadth of brain-case 15; palatilar length 10; upper tooth-series (exclusive of *p*³) 3·8.

Hab. Great Falls of Demerara River, British Guiana.

Type. Adult mal. B.M. no. 14. 4. 21. 1. Collected by Cozier in August 1913, and presented by Mrs. F. V. McConnell.

* If this has been at all due to any statement or omission in my letters to him on the subject, I must ask his pardon.