

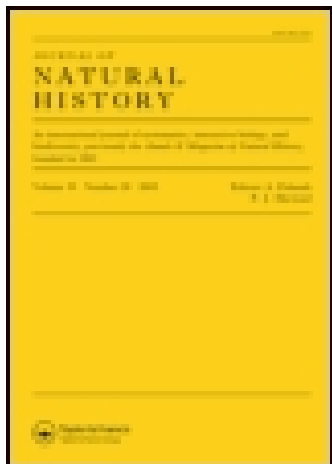
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### XXII.—List of small Mammals obtained by Mr. A. E. Pease, M.P., during his recent Expedition to Abyssinia, with Descriptions of Three new Forms of Macroscelides

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29. *Marmosa Klagesi*, Allen.

Skin. No. 120. 240 feet. 29th October, 1900.

I have fortunately been able to compare this opossum with one of Dr. Allen's original specimens from Ciudad Bolivar brought over by him. Mr. Quelch's specimen is younger, and therefore smaller, but there is no difference between the two which might not be explainable by age. *M. Robinsoni*, Bangs\*, is also no doubt closely allied.

This identification is another indication of the faunal affinity between the Lower Orinoco and the Kanuku Mountains.

XXII.—*List of small Mammals obtained by Mr. A. E. Pease, M.P., during his recent Expedition to Abyssinia, with Descriptions of Three new Forms of Macroscelides.* By  
OLDFIELD THOMAS, F.R.S.

IN the course of a sporting expedition through Abyssinia during the past winter Mr. A. E. Pease collected a number of small mammals which, in addition to some heads and horns of larger animals, he has been good enough to present to the National Museum. Among them is a new *Macroscelides*, and in describing it I have taken the opportunity to describe two other members of that genus in the Museum collection.

There are also examples of the rare and interesting species *Dendromys Lovati* and *Lophuromys flavopunctatus*.

1. *Macroscelides Peasei*, sp. n.

*α. ♂.* Hoolul, Abyssinia, 4000 feet. December 2, 1900.  
*Type* (B.M. no. 1. 7. 6. 1).

Most closely allied to *M. pulcher*, Thos., but greyer in colour.

Size and general characters very much as in *M. pulcher*. Fur about 9–10 millim. in length on the back. General colour above a soft vinaceous grey, resembling to a certain extent Ridgway's "vinaceous buff," distinctly paler than in *M. pulcher*; the dorsal area is more vinaceous and the flanks more grey. Viewed from behind the colour is a paler edition of Ridgway's "ecru drab." Muzzle grey, the dorsal dark line well marked; crown like back. Light orbital rings narrower than in *M. pulcher*; light and dark patches behind eye larger and less intensely contrasted than in *M. pulcher*.

\* P. Biol. Soc. Wash. xii. p. 95 (1893).

Ears large, with well-marked postauricular fulvous patches. Metatragus low, simple, triangular. Hairs round naked pygal patch tipped with fulvous. Under surface pure white, not sharply defined, the bases of the hair everywhere slaty grey. Hands and feet white. Tail thinly haired, brown above, whiter below.

Skull and dentition closely similar to those of *M. pulcher*. Upper canines unicuspid, but this character seems variable.

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

Head and body 130 millim.; tail 130; hind foot (s. u.) 35; ear 24.

Skull: greatest length 38; basal length 32.6; greatest breadth 21.3; length of nasals 13.8; interorbital breadth 5.8; breadth of brain-case 15.2; palate length 19.5; length of upper tooth-row 18.1.

This species differs from *M. pulcher* by its paler colour and the more diffuse character of its postocular markings<sup>2</sup>.

\* In working out this *Macroscelides* the three specimens obtained by Lord Delamere have been more closely examined. Two of them may still continue to bear the name *pulcher*, but the third seems to represent a new form, which may be called

*Macroscelides Delamerei*, sp. n.

Allied to *M. pulcher*, but without postocular markings.

Size rather less than in *M. pulcher*. General colour pale vinaceous grey, intermediate between *M. pulcher* and *Peasei*. Muzzle greyish, the mesial dark line scarcely perceptible. White orbital rings present, but no black and white postocular markings, the white rings incomplete behind, but the gap not darkened, nor is there any posterior extension of the white. Ears as in *M. Peasei*, but the metatragus rather higher and the postauricular patches paler and less prominent. Colour of under surface, of hands, feet, and tail as above described in *M. Peasei*.

Skull as in *M. Peasei*, but smaller throughout. Upper canines bicuspid.

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

Head and body 110 millim.; tail 100; hind foot (s. u.) 29; ear 20.

Skull: basal length 31.3; greatest breadth 20; length of nasals 12; interorbital breadth 5.6; breadth of brain-case 15.5; palate length 18.0; length of upper tooth-row 18.

*Hab.* Athi River, British East Africa, alt. 6000 feet.

*Type.* Female. B.M. no. O. G. 21. 4. Collected November 18, 1899, and presented by Lord Delamere. "Caught on open grass-land. Native name *Enderrene*."

I may also take this opportunity to describe

*Macroscelides Rozeti deserti*, subsp. n.

Essential characters, size, proportions of ears and tail, absence of eye-markings, and other details as in the true *M. Rozeti*, but the general colour is a sandy desert colour, something like Ridgway's "pinkish buff," but with a slightly vinaceous tinge in it. Postauricular region and flanks clear buffy.

On the other hand, an example from Oran, therefore a topotype of

2. *Dendromys Lovati*, de Wint.

*a. ♂.* Addis Abeba, 8000 feet. January 13, 1901.

Since the first description of this rare and beautiful tree-mouse, the British Museum has received a perfect specimen of it in spirit from Capt. Harrington, the British Resident in Abyssinia.

3. *Mus macrolepis*, Sund.

*a. ♂.* Balchi, Abyssinia, 7000 feet. December 27, 1900.

4. *Mus albipes*, Rüpp.

*a, b. ♂ & ♀.* Lake Zuai. February 6, 1901.

This is the long-tailed species with  $3-2=10$  mammae, the preceding one being multimammate, with a comparatively short tail.

5. *Arvicanthis abyssinicus*, Rüpp.

*a, b. ♀ & young.* Lake Zuai. February 5, 1901.

6. *Lophuromys flavopunctatus*, Thos.

*a. ♂.* Lake Zuai. February 5, 1901.

7. *Leggada minutoides*, Smith.

*a.* Harar. November 22, 1900.

8. *Pectinator Spekei*, Bly.

*a. ♂.* Lasmahan, Somali, 1500 feet. November 12, 1900.

*M. Rozeti*, is very near Ridgway's "ecru drab," and consequently very different from the Biskra form. Indeed, the difference is so great that I should have considered the latter as a separate species, had it not been for the probability that an intermediate coloration will be found in the intervening districts.

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

Head and body 97 millim.; tail 113; hind foot 32; ear 28.

Skull: basal length 28.5; greatest breadth 19.5; interorbital breadth 6.2; length of upper tooth-row 17.3.

*Hab.* Near Djebel Hourzel, Biskra.

*Type.* Female. B.M. no. 97. G. 9. 2. Collected March 10, 1897, and presented by the Rev. A. E. Eaton.

Five specimens examined, four obtained by Mr. Eaton, the fifth by Sir Edmund Loder.