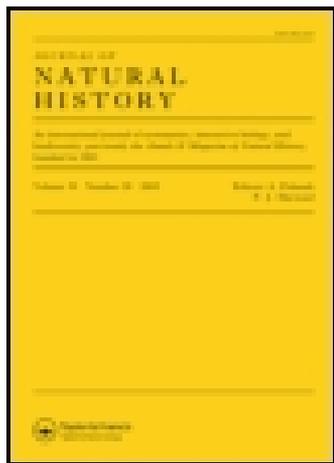


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### XXIX.—New West-African rodents

Guy Dullman

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wide, the width equalling the united length (of the uncovered parts) of tergites 1-11. Posterior angle of the lateral margins of the tergites slightly produced; the uncovered part of them furnished with very numerous minute scales, which are circular in shape and are not in contact with one another; the greater part of the last tergite is concealed by the penultimate one. Outer part of the posterior edge of the pleural plates fringed with hair. Antennæ consisting of eight segments, all of which are very short, the distal one being very minute.

Length of body 4.25, its width 3 mm.

*Remarks.* This species can easily be distinguished from the two species already described by the shape of the body and of the scales of the uncovered part of the tergites.

## XXIX.—*New West-African Rodents.*

By GUY DOLLMAN.

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### *Anomalurus imperator*, sp. n.

Related to *Anomalurus fraseri*, Waterh.; in general appearance rather similar to *A. fraseri nigrensis*, Thos., but without the dark ocular and occipital markings, and with shoulders and flanks strongly tinged with buff.

Size and general proportions as in *fraseri*. General colour of back olive-brown washed with buff, the buff tint most evident on the flanks, hind-quarters, and shoulders, in the latter region appearing as bright orange-buff-coloured areas. Hairs of back with slate-black bases and buffy sub-terminal rings; extreme tips brownish. Head and face ashy grey, the grey colour washed with buff on the posterior part of head. No dark markings on sides of face or around eyes. Dark hairs at base of ears brownish black, forming prominent tufts at insertion of ears, but not spreading on to the head as dark occipital markings such as occur in *A. f. nigrensis*. Sides of face ashy grey; hairs with greyish-white bases, darkening to pale brownish towards the tips, extreme tips yellowish white. Light buff-coloured areas on sides of neck, beneath ears, ill-defined, not nearly so prominent as in *nigrensis*. Backs of hands and feet dark brownish speckled with grey; claws clothed with long stiff

*Ann. & Mag. N. Hist.* Ser. 8. Vol. viii. 17

black hairs, those on the hind feet entirely covering the claws. Under surface of body white, faintly tinted with buff; hairs of belly white throughout. Hairs on throat pale grey tipped with buff. Chin ashy grey. Hairs on underside of interfemoral membrane dark brownish, strikingly different from the white hairs of *nigrensis*. Tail like that of *nigrensis*, basal half brownish speckled with buff, apical region brownish black. Caudal scales as in *fraseri* and allied forms.

The skull of the type is unfortunately badly injured in the nasal and maxillary regions. Cheek-teeth large and massive. Auditory bullæ exceptionally large and inflated.

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

Head and body 330 mm.; tail 244; hind foot 60; ear 35.

Skull: zygomatic breadth 42; occipital breadth 25; interorbital breadth (anterior) 19; interorbital breadth (posterior) 16; postpalatal length 23.5; greatest diameter of auditory bullæ 14; length of upper cheek-teeth 13.

*Hab.* Bibianaha, 60 miles west of Kumasi, Gold Coast. Altitude 700 feet.

*Type.* Old female. B.M. no. 11. 6. 2. 8. Original number 80. Collected on March 7th, 1911, by Dr. H. G. F. Spurrell.

This handsome species is readily distinguished from the allied members of the genus by the entire absence of the black ocular and occipital markings. In addition, the bright buff-coloured tint on the back and shoulders renders this *Anomalurus* quite distinct from all the other members of the *fraseri* group.

Dr. Spurrell is to be congratulated on the discovery of this fine new species, the type of which he has presented, together with a number of other rare and interesting West-African mammals, to the British Museum.

*Cricetomys gambianus olivæ*, subsp. n.

A pale-coloured form, closely related to *C. g. dichrurus*, Osg.

In size and general proportions rather larger than *dichrurus*. General colour of upper surface pale buffy grey, very much paler and lighter in colour than in the southern race. Flanks rather paler than back, gradually fading into the light greyish white of the ventral surface. Hairs of back with pale grey bases, the colour darkening towards the terminal halves; tips buff-coloured or brownish. Interspersed are a number of long, rather harsh, black hairs,

evenly distributed over the whole dorsal surface. Backs of hands and feet brownish; toes clothed with whitish hairs. Ventral surface of body dirty white. Tail with terminal half white, in this respect agreeing with *C. g. dichrurus*.

Skull like that of *dichrurus* but rather larger. Posterior emargination of palate well marked. Auditory bullæ fairly large.

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

Head and body 330 mm.; tail 373; hind foot 65; ear 40.

Skull: greatest length 67; basilar length 55; condylo-incisive length 63; zygomatic breadth 33·5; occipital breadth 25; length of nasals 26; palatilar length 33·4; length of palatal foramina 5·5; alveolar length of upper molar series.

*Hab.* Fika, Bornu, Northern Nigeria. Altitude 1100 feet.

*Type.* Adult male. B.M. no. 11. 5. 12. 9. Original number 35. Collected by P. A. Talbot, Esq., on March 3rd, 1911.

Three specimens of this new *Cricetomys* were collected by Mr. Talbot, and, together with several other mammals, presented by him to the British Museum. The collection was obtained during the journey which Mr. Talbot recently made across Nigeria, in company with Miss Olive MacLeod, and it is after Miss MacLeod that the novelty of the collection is named.

### XXX.—A new Spiny Mouse from Somaliland.

By GUY DOLLMAN.

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*Acomys brockmani*, sp. n.

Allied to *Acomys mullah*, Thos., but very much paler in colour and rather smaller in size.

Size and proportions rather less than in *A. mullah*. General colour of back pale yellowish brown, washed with a light rufous tint, the general effect about as represented in snuff-brown no. 1 washed with yellowish salmon no. 1 ('Répertoire de Couleurs'). Middle of back, in posterior region, slightly darker than rest of dorsal surface, due to the brown tips of the spines being rather richer in colour, but not approaching the dark brownish coloration met with in *A. mullah*. Face, head, and shoulders paler and less rufous