

American Museum Novitates

PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
CENTRAL PARK WEST AT 79TH STREET, NEW YORK 24, N.Y.

NUMBER 1871

FEBRUARY 26, 1958

Two New Mammals from México

BY GEORGE G. GOODWIN

In a collection of bats recently made by Mr. Thomas MacDougall in southeastern Oaxaca there is a medium-sized *Pteronotus* of the *suapurensis* group. This specimen not only extends the range of the species much farther north than was originally known but differs so markedly from described forms that it seems advisable to recognize it as a new subspecies.

A study of the cotton rats collected in Chiapas, eastern Oaxaca, and southeastern Veracruz by the students of Walla Walla College, Washington, under the direction of Dr. E. S. Booth has disclosed some interesting data on the range of *Sigmodon hispidus saturatus* in this region and revealed what appears to be a new subspecies of *hispidus* from the mountains of southeastern Chiapas. This new cotton rat and the bat mentioned above are described below.

Pteronotus suapurensis calvus, new subspecies

ZAPOTEC NAKED-BACKED BAT

TYPE: A.M.N.H. No. 175100, skin and skull, adult male, Tehuantepec, Oaxaca, México; altitude 150 feet; collector, Thomas MacDougall; August 15, 1956; original no. 1729. The type skin is in good condition, and the skull is complete. The type and only known specimen was taken in a bat net set along the banks of the Rio Tehuantepec.

GENERAL CHARACTERS: A rather small, dark brownish, naked-backed bat, larger than *Pteronotus davyi fulvus*, closely allied to *Pteronotus suapurensis* but smaller and differing from both forms in distinctive cranial characters.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE: Color of fur on top of head and neck to

shoulders Mummy Brown,¹ flying membranes and naked back blackish brown; under parts Mummy Brown, the hairs finely tipped with Light Ochraceous Buff on chin and throat and becoming heavily washed with Pale Buff on abdomen and in inguinal region. Face hairy as usual in the genus, chin with three evenly spaced rows of papillae. Skull high and narrow; braincase small, globular, and sharply elevated above rostrum; rostrum relatively long and narrow, with a broad sulcus on upper surface, the sulcus considerably broader than in *fulvus* and not quite so broad as in *suapurensis* but extending farther back posteriorly than in either form; molariform teeth and especially the canines large, equaling those of *P. suapurensis* in size.

MEASUREMENTS OF TYPE: Total length, 71.3 mm.; length of tail, 20; free tip, 5.4; hind foot, 11.5; ear from notch 15.5; tragus, 5.0; forearm, 46.5. Skull: greatest length, 16.4; palatal length, 7.3; zygomatic breadth, 8.6; breadth of braincase, 8.1; interorbital breadth, 3.9; height of braincase over bullae, 8.6; width of rostrum over canines, 4.7; width of palate across molars, 5.9; upper tooth row, C-M³, 6.7.

REMARKS: While actual measurements of *Pteronotus suapurensis calvus* would seem to suggest a large individual of *P. d. fulvus*, the cranial characters are definitely those of *suapurensis*. But *calvus* differs in subspecific characters from the typical Central American form.

***Sigmodon hispidus villae*,² new subspecies**

VILLA COTTON RAT

TYPE: A.M.N.H. No. 174799, skin and skull, adult male, 5 miles southeast of Teopisca, Chiapas, México; altitude about 6000 feet; collector, John R. Marcus, February 26, 1952; original no. 129. The type skin is well made and in good condition, and the skull is complete except for a break in the occipital region.

GENERAL CHARACTERS: A medium-sized cotton rat with a relatively long, well-haired tail and long soft pelage. The guard hairs on rump measure 22.5 mm. in length, and the buffy-tipped under fur is 17 mm. long. Superficially *S. h. villae* resembles *Sigmodon hispidus saturatus*, but it has a decidedly longer and more hairy tail, much longer and softer pelage, and differs in cranial details.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE: General color of upper parts Cinnamon Buff mixed with black, darkest on top of head, neck, and rump; ears black-

¹ Capitalized color terms are after Ridgway, "Color standards and color nomenclature," Washington, D. C., 1912.

² Named in honor of Bernardo Villa R. in recognition of his cooperation with college students visiting México.

ish and sparsely covered with short buffy hairs; fore feet and hind feet buffy white; the hairs on tail completely covering the scaly annulations, black on upper side, soiled whitish on under side, the line of demarcation sharply defined; under parts of body Pale Pinkish Buff. Skull of type long, narrow, and high, with a narrow braincase, relatively long narrow rostrum, and a well-developed, supraoccipital, median ridge; interparietal relatively broad; bullae of medium size; zygomatic arches rather slender and not sharply angular; posterior lateral pits of palate shallow; anterior palatine slits long and narrow; molariform teeth rather narrow, the tooth rows long and in straight lines that converge strongly anteriorly.

MEASUREMENTS OF TYPE: Skin: total length, 270 mm.; length of tail, 122; hind foot, 32; ear, 20. Skull: greatest length, 33.6; basal length, 29.0; length of nasals, 12.4; zygomatic breadth, 18; interorbital breadth, 5.0; greatest breadth of rostrum, 6.0; at antorbital notch, 4.4; diastema, 8.5; mastoid breadth, 13.1; width of braincase in front of occipital ridges, 11.8; width of palate across anterior molars, 6.3, across posterior molars, 7.5; length of upper molar series (alveoli), 6.3.

REMARKS: *Sigmodon hispidus villae* apparently belongs in the *hispidus* group of cotton rats. It differs from *S. h. zanjonensis* Goodwin from Guatemala in smaller size, more slender form, and in having much longer and softer pelage. It needs no comparison with the large, buffy-colored cotton rat *S. h. tonalensis* Bailey from southwestern Chiapas. Typical examples of the short-tailed, coarse-pelaged cotton rat *S. h. saturatus* are available from across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec from the lowlands of Veracruz to the highlands in southeastern Oaxaca, and none in the Isthmus series shows any tendency to intergrade with *S. h. villae*. A series from the mountains 35 miles southeast of Comitán cloud forest, 5000 feet elevation, have moderately long tails and relatively soft pelage, but these characters are not so strongly developed as they are in the type, and the cranial characters are near those of *saturatus*. A small series with relatively long tails and harsh pelage from the semi-arid country east of Comitán, on the Pan American Highway 15 miles north of the Guatemala border, are intermediate between *S. h. saturatus* and *S. h. zanjonensis* but closer to the former. Some individuals from high elevations in the vicinity of San Cristóbal, Bochil, and Pueblo Nuevo Solistahuacán are moderately long-tailed, soft-pelaged specimens, while others from the same localities have the short tail and close pelage of *S. h. saturatus*.

