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# The Systematic Relationship of *Hipposideros Commersoni Matungensis* to Other Species of Rhinolophoidae

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Koneval, Maureen and Griffiths, Faculty Advisor, Dr. Thomas, "The Systematic Relationship of *Hipposideros Commersoni Matungensis* to Other Species of Rhinolophoidae" (1993). *John Wesley Powell Student Research Conference*. 27.  
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THE SYSTEMATIC RELATIONSHIP OF HIPPOSIDEROS  
COMMERSIONI MATUNGENSIS TO OTHER  
SPECIES OF RHINOLOPHOIDEAE

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The hyoid morphology of Hipposideros commersoni matungensis was dissected and compared to the morphology of other bats in the family Rhinolophidae. Several significant differences in morphology were found: a modified stylohyal, fused to the auditory bulla; retention of an omohyoid; loss of the stylohyoid; addition of a new muscle, possibly from the stylopharyngeus; insertion of the jugulohyoid onto the thyrohyal; and insertion of the ceratohyoid onto only the stylohyal. Cladistic analysis suggests that of all bats examined, H. commersoni and H. armiger are most closely related. This result is unexpected because the ranges of the two species are geographically distant: H. commersoni is an African bat, whereas H. armiger is from East Asia.