

TWO NEW MAMMALS FROM NORTH SUMATRA.

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The following short descriptions are published as a preliminary to a more detailed paper on the mammals collected by Mr. A. HOOPERWERF at various places in the environs of Mt. Leuser, and on the mountain itself in the Government of Atjeh, North Sumatra, in 1937. I am grateful to the Director of the Zoological Museum, Buitenzorg, for the privilege of examining this very interesting collection.

Rattus hoogerwerfi sp. nov.

Characters. — A brightly coloured, brown rat of medium size, with long soft pelage. The tail is longer than the head and body, and white for the distal half. The nasals and the interorbital region of the skull are unusually flattened.

Type. — Adult female, skin and skull, collected at Blang Kedjeren, Atjeh, North Sumatra, 800 metres (c.), on 29th January, 1937. Mus. Buitenzorg, No. 311.

External measurements (taken in the flesh). — Head and body, 189; tail, 257; hind-foot (s.u.), 37; ear, 26 mm.

Skull. — The skull has the brain case much inflated as in the *surifer* rats: the interorbital region is slightly hollowed between the supraorbital beading, and the region about the posterior end of the nasals is quite flat. *Measurements.* — Total length, 41.6; condylo-basilar length, 36; palatilar length, 19.5; zygomatic breadth, 20.4; greatest breadth of brain case (base of zygomata), 18; median length of nasals, 14.5; breadth of combined nasals, 5; least interorbital breadth (inside beadings) 3.8; length of anterior palatal foramina, 7.8; upper molar row (alveoli), 7.5 mm.

Pelage. — The fur is very soft and long, and excluding the numerous long, projecting black piles, is about 20 mm thick on the rump. Upper parts, rich, bright brown, sprinkled with black, becoming paler on the flanks and paling to rufous-buff on the under parts with no sharp line of demarcation. Base of the fur everywhere, broadly grey. Under side of the head, grey. Whiskers, long and black. Feet, blackish, but the digits of the forefeet, white. The juvenile is much duller in colour and nearer to liver-brown on the upper parts. Tail with about ten rings to the centimetre.

Mammae. — The unusual formula of $1 - 3 = 8$.

Specimens examined. — Four females (one juvenile) from Blang Kedjeren, and Mts. Leuser and Ngo Lemboeh.

Remarks. — This very distinct species of rat seems to require no close comparison with any other Malaysian form. In its parti-coloured tail and in the trough-like frontal region of the skull it bears some resemblance to *Rattus (Lenothrix) canus*, but this latter form is a grey rat with short, harsh pelage, and the skull seen from below presents many important points of difference when compared with that of *hoogerwerfi* (shorter and differently shaped palatal foramina, larger teeth, narrower palate, smaller and differently shaped bullae; rounded and encroaching interpterygoid space etc.). Perhaps the nearest relative of *R. hoogerwerfi* is *Rattus baluensis korinchi*. If consideration of the tail is excluded, the two forms have some superficial resemblance to each other, and the peculiar characters of the skull of *hoogerwerfi* are to some extent adumbrated in adults of *korinchi*.

***Rattus bukit lieftincki* subsp. nov.**

Intermediate in characters between typical *bukit* from the Malay Peninsula, and *treubii* from West Java. In colour much brighter than *bukit*, and nearer to *treubii*, but with the insides of the thighs mostly white, not coloured. The skulls of adults average smaller than in *bukit*, but larger than in *treubii*.

Type. — Adult female, skin and skull, collected at Atang Poetar, Atjeh, North Sumatra, 1000 metres (c.). Mus. Buitenzorg, No. 478.

Measurements. — Head and body, 150; tail, 194; hind-foot (s.u.), 29; ear, 19 mm. *Skull.* — Total length, 37; condylo-basilar length, 30.8; diastema, 9; upper molar row (alveoli), 6.3; length of palatal foramina, 6.1; zygomatic breadth, about 17 mm.

Remarks. — Fourteen examples of this new form have been compared with good series of the allied Malaysian races. The first, and hitherto only record of the species from Sumatra is of a skin without skull referred to "*Rattus bukit*" by ROBINSON and KLOSS in Journ. Fed. Malay States Mus. VII, 1919, p. 317.

I have associated this interesting new form with the name of the courteous acting Director of the Zoological Museum at Buitenzorg in recognition of helpful collaboration with the Raffles Museum.