

Cebus variegatus GEOFFROY, Ann. Mus. d'Hist. Nat. Paris, xix, p. 111, October, 1812.

Cebus xanthosternos WIED, Reise nach Brasilien, I, p. 371, footnote, 1820; KÜHL, Beitr. Zool. vergl. Anat., p. 35, 1820; WIED, Beitr. Naturg. Bras., II, pp. 90-97, 1826—Boca d'Obu, near Belmonte, Bahia, Brazil.

Simia variegata Humboldt, as shown by Sherborn and Thomas (see Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist., (8), xii, p. 567, footnote, 1913), antedates *Cebus variegatus* Geoffroy. It is preoccupied by *Simia* (*Sapajus*) *variegatus* Kerr which refers to an unidentifiable squirrel monkey received from Antigua. The next available name seems to be *Cebus xanthosternos* Wied, 1820.

NOTES ON THE FOX SQUIRRELS OF SOUTHEASTERN
UNITED STATES, WITH DESCRIPTION OF A
NEW FORM FROM FLORIDA

BY ARTHUR H. HOWELL

The fox squirrels, throughout the greater part of their range in southeastern United States, dwell almost exclusively in open pine forests. In the mountainous regions of northern Alabama they are found to some extent in mixed timber (oaks, hickories, pines, etc.), and in central and southern Florida they inhabit also cypress swamps. On the southwest coast of Florida a well marked form has developed in the damp, dark forests of black- and red-mangrove which extend practically without a break from Marco Pass to Cape Sable and around the southern end of the peninsula to the shores of Biscayne Bay on the east coast.

In this region the animal is known as the 'black mangrove squirrel' and is said to be not uncommon. Several days spent in hunting through these mosquito-infested forests resulted, however, in seeing only one of the squirrels, which escaped before I could get a shot at it. The type was secured for me by an Indian boy, who knew where its home tree was located. Another specimen, examined while at Everglade, agreed closely with the type.

The National Museum collection (including that of the Biological Survey) contains a large series of fox squirrels from various parts of Florida and a few from southern South Carolina—the type region of *Sciurus niger*. Through the courtesy of the authorities of the Museum

of Comparative Zoology, I have been enabled to examine, also, a fine series of 12 specimens from the coast region of Georgia (Barrington and Hursman's Lake).

Typical *Sciurus niger* is subject to great variation in color and exhibits three well-marked color phases. These may be called the gray phase, the buff phase, and the black or melanistic phase. The gray phase, in its extreme form (specimen from Georgetown, S. C., in Biological Survey Collection) is pale smoke gray above, including the tail, and white beneath. The crown is black or blackish and the nose, ears, and feet white. Some specimens in this phase have the feet and under side of tail buff, thus approaching the next darker phase. In the buff phase, the general tone of the upperparts is pinkish buff, the underparts, feet, and underside of tail rich cinnamon-buff or clay color. Numerous intermediate specimens connect this phase with the gray phase. The black or melanistic phase—well-known as occurring frequently in many species of squirrels—is wholly or partly black or dark brown, except the nose and ears, which are white. The large series from northern and middle Florida agrees quite closely with the series from South Carolina and Georgia except that the gray individuals are darker above and tinged with buff below. Both the gray and the buff phases are represented, the latter, however, more numerous.

The new race is much deeper colored than any of the series of *niger*; it is apparently restricted in its typical form to the mangrove swamps, for numerous specimens examined from the pine and cypress forests of Lee and Dade counties, Florida, are variously intermediate between *niger* and *avicennia*, many of them indistinguishable in color from *niger*, although always smaller.

*Sciurus niger avicennia*¹ subsp. nov.

MANGROVE FOX SQUIRREL

Type, No. 231498, U. S. Natl. Mus., Biological Survey Collection; ♂ adult, skin and skull, from Everglade, Lee County, Florida; collected March 14, 1919, by A. H. Howell; original number 2325.

Characters.—Similar to *Sciurus niger niger* but decidedly smaller; coloration much darker (more tawny) both above and below; feet clearer white (less tinged with buff).

¹ In allusion to its favorite haunts in forests of black mangrove (*Avicennia nitida*).¹

Description of type.—Nose, lips, and front of face white; ears white, with a patch of cinnamon-buff at base; head and fore back black, sprinkled with cinnamon; hinder back cinnamon, shading on sides to orange-cinnamon; front legs blackish, washed with orange-cinnamon, the feet and toes white, faintly shaded with buff; hind legs orange-cinnamon shaded with black; hind feet blackish, mixed with grayish white and broadly edged with whitish; toes white; thighs with a long black patch on outer side; tail above, orange-cinnamon, mixed with black (the bases of the hairs black) shading on sides to hazel; under surface of tail rich fawny, the hairs with a subterminal band of black; terminal central portion of tail white for about 3 inches; underparts dull orange-cinnamon, washed on throat and breast with black and white.

Measurements.—Type (adult ♂): Total length, 535; tail vertebrae, 260; hind foot, 75. *Skull.*—Occipito-nasal length, 65.5; zygomatic breadth, 37.4; mastoid breadth, 25.4; interorbital breadth, 20.6; least postorbital breadth, 19.5; length of nasals, 25.2; maxillary tooth row, 13.

GENERAL NOTES

THE GEORGIAN BAT, *PIPISTRELLUS SUBFLAVUS*, IN WISCONSIN

Under the name *Scotophilus georgianus*, *Pipistrellus subflavus* (F. Cuvier) was recorded from Wisconsin by Strong who merely listed it without exact locality or date of capture (Geol. Wisconsin, Survey of 1873-1879, vol. 1, p. 438, 1883). In view of the fact that Strong apparently treated in a like manner all the bats known from eastern and northern states without having local records, Hollister rightly considered this one not to be entitled to a place in the Wisconsin list (Bull. Wisconsin Nat. Hist. Soc., vol. 8, p. 31, 1910). It is of more than local interest to place on record a skin and skull (No. 229219, U. S. National Museum, Biological Survey collection) of an adult male of this species collected by the writer, August 29, 1918, at Devil's Lake, in the Baraboo Range, Sauk County, Wisconsin. It was shot in the dusk of late evening as it was flying over a narrow road through heavy deciduous woods at the base of rugged and rocky hills.

—Hartley H. T. Jackson.

IS THE JAGUAR ENTITLED TO A PLACE IN THE CALIFORNIA FAUNA?

Several of the early voyagers who touched in California enumerate the jaguar (*Felis onca*) among the native mammals. Thus, in the early part of the last century Langsdorff mentions it as among the species occurring in the Monterey region (*Voyage and Travels*, II, 213, 1814). And Beechey, in describing the region between San Francisco and Monterey, under date of December, 1826, says: "The lion (*felis concolor*?) and the tiger (*felis onca*?) are natives of these woods, but we never saw them; the inhabitants say they are small, and that the lion is less than the tiger, but more powerful." (*Beechey's Narrative*, Vol. 2,