

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

A NEW SQUIRREL FROM LOWER SIAM.

BY GERRIT S. MILLER, JR.

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Five small lineated squirrels collected by Dr. W. L. Abbott in Trong, Lower Siam, differ markedly from the Burman *Sciurus barbei*. So far as can be judged from descriptions they are identical with the Malaccan *Sciurus macclellandi leucotis* of Bonhote*, though without actual comparison of specimens this question must remain open. They are, however, very doubtfully the same as the *Tamias leucotis* of Temminck†; and the name adopted by Mr. Bonhote is certainly invalidated by Gapper's earlier use of *Sciurus leucotis* for an American squirrel‡. The animal occurring in Trong may be known as:

***Sciurus novemlineatus*, sp. nov.**

Type.—Adult male (skin and skull), No. 84,403, United States National Museum. Collected at 1500 ft. elevation in heavy forest among the hills of Trong, Lower Siam, February 19, 1897, by Dr. W. L. Abbott.

Characters.—Externally similar to *Sciurus barbei* Blyth, but ear smaller and with the hairs of the white tuft scarcely, if at all, blackish at base.

*Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., 7th ser., V, p. 53, January, 1900.

†Esquisses Zoologiques sur la Côte de Guinée, p. 252, 1853. "Peninsula of Malacca."

‡Zool. Journ., V, p. 206, 1830. Ontario.

Skull smaller than that of the Burman animal, the rostrum relatively shorter, and region between anterior zygomatic roots proportionally broader.

Color.—Type: sides of body and outer surface of legs hair-brown faintly tinged with yellowish, particularly on flanks. Back with nine longitudinal stripes as follows: a median black stripe 3 mm. in width is succeeded by a slightly broader stripe of dull ochraceous-buff; beyond this lies a black stripe 7 mm. wide followed by one of clear buff of similar width; this in turn is bordered on the outer side by a black line about as broad as the median stripe, extending from shoulder to rump. Except this short outermost band and the buff stripe, these longitudinal markings extend from middle of neck to rump. The buff stripe is continued forward along side of neck and under ear to cheek, where it spreads so as to surround eye, muzzle and lips. Behind eye there is a faint dusky line, and still more faint dusky wash extends over lower part of cheek and along side of neck between buff stripe and the darker color of the underparts. Ears tawny-ochraceous internally, black externally except for the conspicuous white tuft at tip; many of the hairs of this tuft white to extreme base. Whiskers black. Feet dull ochraceous. Underparts and inner surface of legs clear ochraceous-buff, slightly more yellow than that of Ridgway, the hairs slaty at base. Hairs of tail black at base and at extreme tip, the intermediate region occupied by a broad band of dull ochraceous, another of black, and a narrow subterminal area of yellowish-white. Pencil black slightly grizzled by numerous small yellowish annulations.

Skull and teeth.—The skull is smaller than that of *Sciurus barbei*, the diameter of the orbits and audital bullæ is less, and the rostrum is shorter. On the other hand, the interorbital width is fully as great as in the larger animal, and the lachrymal breadth is distinctly greater. The increased breadth of the region between the anterior zygomatic roots contrasted with the shorter rostrum gives the skull a very distinctive appearance as compared with that of *Sciurus barbei*. Teeth as in the Burman animal, but smaller throughout.

Measurements.—Measurements of type: total length, 210; head and body, 115; tail vertebræ, 95; hind foot, 30 (28); ear from meatus, 12; ear from crown, 8; width of ear, 8; skull, greatest length, 31 (33)*; basal length, 25 (27.8); length of nasals, 8 (9.4); interorbital breadth, 12 (12); lachrymal breadth, 16 (15.6); mandible, 17.4 (19).

Specimens examined.—Five, all from Trong, Lower Siam.

Remarks.—That this is not the same as the *Tamias leucotis* of Temminck is shown by the stress laid in the original description of the Malaccan animal on the presence of only one black longitudinal stripe. In one of Temminck's specimens the underparts were white slightly washed with reddish; in the other they appear to have been essentially as in the species found in Trong.

*Cranial measurements in parenthesis are those of an adult male *Sciurus barbei* from Yado, Burma (No. 36,044).