

ARVICOLA DEKAYI.—AUD. and BACH.

GLOSSY ARVICOLA.

(Not figured.)

A. Corpore longo ac tenui : naso acuto ; auriculis et pedibus longis ; vellere tereti ac nitente ; supra fusca, subtus cano-fusco.

CHARACTERS.

Body long and slender ; nose sharp ; ears and legs long ; fur smooth and lustrous ; dark brown above, hoary brown beneath.

SYNONYMES.

ARVICOLA FULVA, Glossy Arvicola.—Aud. and Bach., Jour. Acad. Nat. Sciences, Oct. 5, 1841.

ARVICOLA ONEIDA, Oneida Meadow Mouse.—De Kay, Nat. Hist. State of New York, 1842, pt. i. p. 88, plate 25, fig. 1.

“ “ Le Conte, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sciences, Phil., Oct. 25, 1853, p. 406.

DESCRIPTION.

This species presents more distinctive markings than any other of the American Arvicolæ ; its body is less cylindrical, and its nose less obtuse than any of our other species ; its ears are prominent, rising two lines above its smooth, compact fur ; its lower incisors are very long, and much exposed, considerably curved ; tail longer than the head, thinly covered with short hairs ; legs long and slender, giving the animal that appearance of lightness and agility observable in the mouse.

COLOUR.

Incisors yellowish white ; the hairs, which are very short, like those on the pine mouse of LE CONTE, are at the roots, on the upper surface, plumbeous, broadly tipped with brown, giving it a bright chestnut colour ; the hairs on the legs and toes are a little lighter, on the under surface the colour is cinereous.

DIMENSIONS.

							Inches.	Lines.
Length of head and body, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	9
“ tail, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4
Height of ear (posteriorly),	-	-	-	-	-	-		2½
Length of tarsus, -	-	-	-	-	-	-		7

HABITS.

We have obtained no information in regard to the habits of this species. DE KAY, who obtained a specimen in the neighbourhood of Oneida Lake, in the state of New York, says that it prefers moist places.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION.

This Arvicola, according to DE KAY, exists in the western part of the state of New York. Our specimen was received from Mr. FOTHERGILL, who procured most of his specimens, we believe, from St. Lawrence county, New York.

We, however, understood that this individual came from Illinois.

GENERAL REMARKS.

It will be perceived, from the dates of our several publications, that we described this species a year previous to DE KAY; the name we gave it, however (*Arvicola fulva*), is pre-occupied by *Lemmus fulvus*, Geoff, which is an arvicola found in France.

As DE KAY described the same animal, without a knowledge of our previous publication of it, we have named it after that naturalist, and have given his name (*A. Oneida*) as a synonyme.



Audubon, John James and Bachman, John. 1854. "Arvicola dekayi, Glossy Arvieola." *The quadrupeds of North America* 3, 287–288.

<https://doi.org/10.5962/p.322361>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/108515>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.322361>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/322361>

Holding Institution

Duke University Libraries

Sponsored by

Duke University Libraries

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Not provided. Contact Holding Institution to verify copyright status.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.