

PROCEEDINGS
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A NEW SPECIES OF MOUSE (*PEROMYSCUS*) FROM
NORTHWESTERN VERACRUZ, MEXICO

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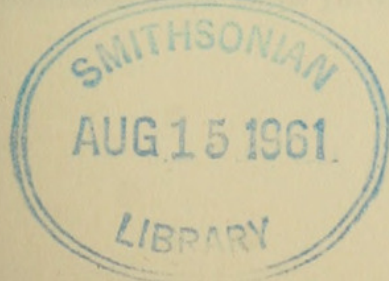
Several species of *Peromyscus* are included among mammals recently collected in the northern part of the Mexican state of Veracruz by M. Raymond Lee. One of these species proves to be without a name. The new species is related to *Peromyscus latirostris* Dalquest known from areas farther northwest and to *Peromyscus fuvvus* Merriam known from areas to the southward. These relationships, coupled with the intermediate geographic position of the area from which Dr. Lee obtained his specimens, caused us initially to suppose that his specimens were intergrades between the two named species. But, the specimens are not intermediate in several morphological features and consequently are not intergrades. Furthermore, the specimens in question differ from both of their relatives to so great a degree that we here accord specific, instead of subspecific, status to the unnamed mouse.

Peromyscus boylii (subspecies *levipes*) was taken in the same trap lines that yielded the new species. According to the field notes of the collector, the area where the mice were trapped supports long-needled pine. Individuals of the new species were caught most commonly around rocks and water seeps.

The new species may be named and described as follows:

***Peromyscus angustirostris*, new species**

Type: Male, old adult, skin and skull, No. 83226 Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas; from 3 kilometers west of Zacualpan, 6,000 feet, Veracruz; obtained on 12 April 1960 by M. Raymond Lee, original number 1886.



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Range: Known only from Zacualpan and 3 kilometers west thereof.

Diagnosis: Dorsum near (*n*) Mummy Brown (capitalized color terms after Ridgway, Color Standards and Color Nomenclature, Washington, D.C., 1912); sides approximately (16) Cinnamon; venter whitish; size large (see measurements); tail longer than head and body; nasals posteriorly acuminate, and anteriorly narrow; in M_1 , internal terminus of first primary fold (terminology of teeth after Hooper, 1957, Misc. Publ., Mus. Zool., Univ. Michigan, 99: 9) deep and persisting as island when tooth greatly worn, mesostyle prominent, and cingulum only slightly developed.

Comparisons: From both *P. latirostris* and *P. furvus*, *P. angustirostris* differs in whitish underparts (near (*g*) Pale Smoke Gray in *latirostris*, and Pale Smoke Gray in *furvus*), lesser zygomatic breadth, narrower nasals, larger mesostyle on M_1 , and smaller cingulum on each molar, especially on M_1 . From *P. latirostris*, *P. angustirostris* further differs in: upper parts near (*n*) Mummy Brown instead of near (16 *l*) Prout's Brown; sides approximately (16) Cinnamon instead of near (16) Ochraceous Tawny; linear measurements less except length of tail that averages more, and in males ear that is approximately the same; nasals not expanded anteriorly as in many specimens of *latirostris*; posterior margin of palate rounded in most specimens instead of almost always truncate; in M_1 , enamel island representing inner end of primary fold deeper. From *P. furvus*, additional differences in *P. angustirostris* are: upper parts less brownish; linear measurements approximately the same except that nasals average longer; tail averaging longer, instead of shorter, than head and body; nasals more acuminate posteriorly; longitudinal, dorsal outline of skull convex instead of almost straight from anterior part of cranium through interorbital region; tympanic bullae larger; in M_2 , first secondary fold deeper and broader; in M_3 , second primary fold prominent instead of almost absent; in m_1 , second secondary fold absent, as also is opposite fold, with result that mesostylid and entoconid are almost united, and ectostylid and hypoconid are nearly united; in m_2 , ectostylid better developed.

Measurements: Four old males (KU 83225–83228) and two old females (83231 and 83223), respectively: Total length, 267 (251–275), 275, 270; length of tail, 139 (132–145), 126, 140; length of hind foot, 29.5 (29–30), 28, 29; ear from notch, 21.2 (21–22), 21, 20; greatest length of skull, 34.9 (34.4–36.2), —, 35.0; zygomatic breadth, 16.5 (16.0–17.5), 16.7, 16.5; interorbital constriction, 5.0 (4.8–5.3), 5.2, 4.8; nasals (length), 14.4 (13.4–15.3), 14.3, 14.8; (length of) maxillary tooth-row, 5.0 (4.9–5.1), 5.2, 4.9.

Remarks: Comparison with the two known specimens of *Peromyscus nelsoni* from Jico, Veracruz, reveals that it differs greatly from the three species so far mentioned. *P. nelsoni* lacks the white tip on the tail that each of the three species has, is larger (maxillary tooth-row 6.6 and 6.7 instead of less than 5.4 mm), has the premaxillae extending posterior to nasals instead of vice versa, and mesostyle of M_1 larger anteroposteriorly.

The resemblance is greater between *Peromyscus angustirostris* and *P. latirostris* than between *P. angustirostris* and *P. furvus*, especially in form of the teeth.

For comparison we have used the original series of 32 specimens of *P. latirostris* and 31 recently (1946) collected specimens of *P. furvus*. Of the 31, all from Veracruz, five are from 5 km north of Jalapa, and the other 26 are from 2 km west of Jico, Veracruz. Each of these two series, as well as the series of *P. angustirostris*, contains individuals ranging in age from young having only a slight amount of wear on the teeth to old individuals having most of the crowns of the teeth worn away. There are fewer (6) old individuals of *P. angustirostris* than there are of *P. latirostris* or of *P. furvus*.

In order to accommodate *P. angustirostris*, the key to nominal species of subgenus *Peromyscus* (pp. 609-612, in *The Mammals of North America*, by E. Raymond Hall and Keith R. Kelson, The Ronald Press, New York, March 31, 1959) needs modification on page 611 of the line reading "46'. Total length more than 240; tail more than 120 *P. furvus*, p. 648." New lines can be substituted as follows:

46'. Total length more than 240; tail more than 120.

- a. Tail averaging shorter than head and body; longitudinal dorsal outline of skull almost straight from anterior part of cranium through interorbital region; second primary fold of M_3 almost absent *P. furvus*, p. 648.
- a'. Tail averaging longer than head and body; longitudinal dorsal outline of skull convex; secondary primary fold of M_3 prominent *P. angustirostris*.

Specimens examined: Total, 31, all from Veracruz, as follows: 3 km west of Zacualpan, 6,300 feet, 24; Zacualpan, 6,000 feet, 7.

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Hall, E. Raymond and Álvarez, Ticul. 1961. "A new species of mouse (*Peromyscus*) from northwestern Veracruz, Mexico." *Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington* 74, 203–205.

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