

hind feet entirely hairy, like the *Viverricola*; but it differs from that animal in having no lunate mark on the front of the chest; and the tail is only marked with a series of spots on each side of the upper part, very unlike the distinct rings of *Viverricola*. It ought to be arranged in the tribe Viverrina, next to *Viverricola*, and not, as placed in the Catalogue, after *Genetta*, in the tribe Genettina.

FOSSA, Gray, P. Z. S. 1864, and Cat. Carn. Mam. Brit. Mus. p. 52.

Head tapering. Throat pale, without any lunate bands. Body elongate; back not crested. Legs moderate, equal. Tail shorter than the body, grizzled, with a series of dark spots on each side of the basal half, and very indistinct interrupted dark rings on the hinder half; underside not ringed or spotted. Soles of the hind feet entirely hairy, without any naked streak, extending from the base of the toes to the heel.

1. *Fossa Daubentonii*, Gray, P. Z. S. 1864, p. 518; Cat. Carn. Mam. B. M. p. 62.

Fossane, Buffon, Hist. Nat. xiii. p. 163, t. 21.

Viverra fossa, Schreb. Säugeth. t. 114 (from Buffon).

Hab. Madagascar. B.M.

I will on a future occasion give a longer description, with an account of the dentition and skeleton, of this long-lost and much misunderstood beast.

Buffon and Daubenton described a specimen brought home by M. Poivre in 1761, which was afterwards in the Museum of the Jardin des Plantes. When I have been in Paris I have searched for it two or three times without being able to discover it; so that I fear the original specimen has been lost; and I regard the rediscovery of the animal as quite as important as the finding of a new species. Daubenton's description is very accurate. It is at once known from *Viverricola malaccensis* and *Genetta*, with which some zoologists have confounded it, by having no lunate bands on the throat.

XXX.—On the double-horned Asiatic *Rhinoceros* (*Ceratorhinus*). By Dr. J. E. GRAY, F.R.S. &c.

THE Zoological Society has, within this last year, received two specimens of the double-horned Asiatic rhinoceros (*Ceratorhinus*). They are very unlike one another, and come from different but neighbouring parts of South Asia, both being females and nearly adult. There is every reason to suppose

that they are distinct species. Both have been called the hairy rhinoceros, or *Rhinoceros sumatrensis*. The one comes from Chittagong, and the other from Malacca; and Mr. Blyth supposes that the one inhabits the east coast of the Bay of Bengal and the series of islands extending to Sumatra, and the other the Malay peninsula and Tenasserim, separated in Burmah by the Irrawaddy river.

The one from Chittagong is covered with soft hair, and the ears are surrounded by a fringe of long hairs; I have no doubt this is the double-horned rhinoceros of Sumatra, described by W. Bell in the 'Philosophical Transactions,' January 10, 1793. Mr. Bell describes the "general colour as brownish-ash. Underside of belly between the legs and folds of skin dirty flesh-coloured. Ears small and pointed, lined on the edge with short black hair. Upper lip pointed and hanging over the under. Whole skin rough, and covered very thinly with short black hair."

The figure represents the ears fringed with longer hair, and the tail covered with longer hair and reaching two thirds of the distance to the hocks.

The following names have been applied to this species:—

The double-horned Rhinoceros of Sumatra, Bell. Phil. Trans. 1793, p. 3, t. 2 (animal), t. 3 & 4 (skull); Home, Phil. Trans. 1821, p. 270, t. 21 (skeleton), and t. 22 (skull).

Rhinocéros bicorné de Sumatra, Cuvier, Oss. Foss. vol. ii. p. 27, t. 4, vol. iii. p. 49, t. 7 & t. 8. f. 8 (skull, from Bell).

Rhinoceros sumatranus, Raffles, Linn. Trans. xiii. p. 268; Müller, Verh. t. 35 (old and young); Blyth, P. Z. S. 1861, p. 306, 1862, p. 1; Journ. Asiat. Soc. of Bengal, xxxi. 1869, p. 151, t. 3.

Rhinoceros sumatrensis, Cuv. R. A.; Blainv. Ostéogr. t. 2 (skull), t. 7 (teeth); Anderson, P. Z. S. 1872, p. 129; Selater, P. Z. S. 1872, p. 185.

Ceratorhinus sumatranus, Gray, P. Z. S. 1867, p. 1021; Cat. B. M. p. 313.

The Sumatran or Hairy Rhinoceros, Tegetmeier, 'Field,' March 16, 1872.

The Sumatran Rhinoceros, P. L. S. 'Nature,' March 18, 1872, p. 427, f. 1.

Hairy Rhinocercs from Chittagong, Buckland, 'Land and Water,' August 10, 1872.

Rhinoceros lasiotis, Selater, *vide* Buckland, 'Land and Water,' August 10, 1872.

Hab. Chittagong and Sumatra.

I cannot conceive how the idea originated of giving another name to this species.

The length of the hairs on the margin of the ears appears to vary in the different specimens; and those in the specimen in the Zoological Gardens appear to be much longer than usual. Thus Dr. Anderson states that in the adult males and females from Burmah the margin of the ears is fringed with strong,

erect, black hairs tipped with brown, almost an inch or rather more in length; but in this individual the hairs are nearly 5 inches long (P. Z. S. 1872, p. 130), so that the character from which it has been named may be only an individual peculiarity.

The species from Malacca has the hair on the body "thick, black, which stands erect like the hog-mane of a horse;" and further on, Mr. Buckland says the hair is stiff like "hedgehog's bristles."

The skin is "very rough, the tail long and thin, and comes nearly to the hocks."

Hairy Rhinoceros from Malacca, Buckland, 'Land and Water,' Aug. 10, 1872.

Rhinoceros sumatrensis, Sclater, *vide* Buckland, 'Land and Water,' Aug. 10, 1872.

Rhinoceros sumatranus from Tavoy, Blyth, Journ. Asiat. Soc. Bengal, 1862, t. 4. f. 1 & 2 (skull).

Rhinoceros sumatranus from Tenasserim, Blyth, Journ. Asiat. Soc. Bengal, 1862, p. 156, t. 3. f. 1, 2, 3, & t. 4. f. 2 & 3.

Rhinoceros Crossii, Gray, P. Z. S. 1854, p. 250, fig. (horns).

Hab. Malacca (*Zool. Gard.*); Tavoy, northern frontier of Siam; Pegu (*Theobald, B. M.*).

I think, from Blyth's figure of the skull from Tavoy, that the name of *Ceratorhinus Crossii* should be attributed to this species.

It is clearly not the Sumatran *Ceratorhinus* figured and described by Bell, Müller, and other zoologists, who would not have overlooked the hedgehog-like bristles and long slender tail.

XXXI.—*Note on Tethya muricata, Bowerbank, and Dorvillia agariciformis, Kent.* By W. SAVILLE KENT, F.Z.S., F.R.M.S., Geological Department, British Museum.

IN Part I. of the 'Proceedings of the Zoological Society' for this year, just issued, Dr. Bowerbank comments upon a sponge described and figured by myself in the 'Transactions of the Royal Microscopical Society' for 1870, under the name of *Dorvillia agariciformis*, referring it to his hitherto manuscript species *Tethya muricata*. The singular mushroom-like form which suggested the specific title attached to this sponge in my description, Dr. Bowerbank thinks fit to regard as an abnormal and imperfect condition, and summarily disposes of it as a "mutilated specimen" of his own species, having "the upper portion evidently torn away from its basal one, causing



Gray, John Edward. 1872. "XXX.—On the double-horned Asiatic rhinoceros (Ceratorhinus)." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 10, 207–209. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00222937208696678>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/81231>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/00222937208696678>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/63317>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

Sponsored by

Smithsonian

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

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>.