

PROCEEDINGS
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A NEW CACOMISTLE FROM GUERRERO.

BY E. A. GOLDMAN.

The range of the cacomistles of the genus *Bassariscus* is confined in Mexico mainly to the high interior plateau, extending down into the upper part of the Tropical Zone along the slopes of the mountains. The genus appears to be absent in the tropical lowlands. A single specimen from the Sierra Madre del Sur of Guerrero presents characters beyond the usual range of individual variation and seems to represent a new race south of a barrier formed by the low broad valley of the Rio Balsas. For the privilege of describing this animal I am indebted to Mr. Benjamin P. Bole and Dr. Harry C. Overholser, of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

The names of colors in quotation marks are from Ridgway's "Color Standards and Nomenclature", 1912.

Bassariscus astutus boleii, subsp. nov.

Guerrero Cacomistle.

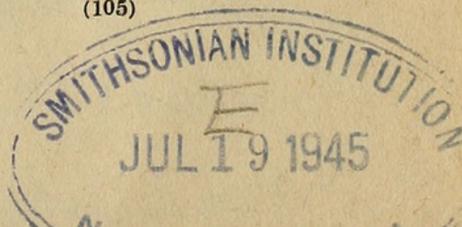
Type locality.—Chilpancingo, Guerrero, Mexico.

Type specimen.—Male adult, skin and skull; Cleveland Museum of Natural History; collected by W. W. Brown, February 16, 1940; field number, 551.

Distribution.—Known only from the type locality on the slope of the Sierra Madre del Sur of Guerrero.

General characters.—A small, pale grayish subspecies with light dentition. Most closely allied to *Bassariscus astutus consitus* of Michoacan, but color paler and grayer, the back less profusely overlaid with black, and the hind feet whiter; cranial details, especially lighter dentition, distinctive. Similar in general to *Bassariscus astutus astutus* of the vicinity of the Valley of Mexico, but smaller, and differing otherwise in about the same characters as from *consitus*.

Color.—*Type*: Ground color of upper parts in general pale gray, the



top of head, middle of neck and back thinly overlaid with black, the dark hairs thinning out along sides and over thighs; sides, and rump suffused with "pale pinkish buff"; face with the usual light and dark markings, the sides of muzzle blackish confluent with blackish orbital rings and small black areas at base of supraorbital vibrissae, in contrast with white patches above and below eyes; lips and chin white; throat, inner sides of limbs and under parts in general buffy white, except irregular patches across abdomen where the under color is "pale smoke gray", showing through indistinctly; ears blackish on basal half externally, becoming whitish toward tips, and thinly clothed with whitish hairs internally; outer sides of forearms mixed buffy grayish and dusky; fore feet whitish; hind feet blackish along outer sides, becoming white on toes; tail with seven alternating white and black rings and a black tip, the white rings confluent along the median line below.

Skull.—Similar in size and general proportions to that of *consitus*, but interorbital region narrower; auditory bullae flatter, less inflated and projecting below level of basioccipital; dentition lighter, maxillary tooth-row shorter, the individual teeth distinctly smaller. Compared with that of typical *astutus* the skull is decidedly smaller and differs in about the same structural details as from *consitus*.

Measurements.—*Type*: Total length, 850 mm.; tail vertebrae, 420; hind foot, 80. *Skull* (type): Greatest length, 84.8; condylobasal length, 84.5; zygomatic breadth, 56.5; breadth of rostrum (over root of canine), 16.7; interorbital breadth, 16; maxillary toothrow (alveoli), 31.7; upper carnassial, crown length (outer side), 7, crown width, 5.1.

Remarks.—*B. a. bolei* appears to be most closely allied to *consitus*, but probably intergrades directly with typical *astutus* to the eastward in southern Puebla and northern Oaxaca. It represents an extension of the known range of the group toward the southwest. The subspecies is named for Mr. Bole in recognition of his interest in the mammals of Middle America.

Specimens examined.—One, the type.



Goldman, Edward Alphonso. 1945. "A new cacomistle from Guerrero." *Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington* 58, 105–106.

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