

Type.—Adult skull, female. B. M. No. 21. 7. 16. 4. Collected by Mr. J. P. Mills. Presented by the Bombay Natural History Society, "Brought in by Nagas"—J. P. M.

This porcupine may be distinguished from its only near relative *A. klossi* by the more swollen character of the face, the large broad nasals, parallel-sided interorbital space, and subequal frontals and parietals.

Anderson's *Hystrix yunnanensis* is a species with quite small nasals, allied to *javanicus*, and Blyth's *bengalensis* is certainly the same as *hodgsoni*, as I have been able to prove by some measurements of the skull of its type kindly sent me by Mr. Stanley Kemp of the Indian Museum.

Mr. Mills is to be congratulated on his discovery of this fine addition to the Assam fauna.

(C) A NEW FERRET BADGER (*HELIC TIS*) FROM THE NAGA HILLS.

Among the specimens from the Naga Hills, presented by Mr. J. P. Mills to the Bombay Natural History Society, are four specimens of a Ferret-Badger (*Helictis*). It proves to belong to the small-toothed group of these animals, the true *Helictis*, not hitherto known to occur within the bounds of British India, those previously known being members of the other group, that of the large-toothed forms. In my opinion however these latter should be considered as of a different genus, for which the name *Melogale* is available.

Up to the present, the true small-toothed *Helictis* has been only known from China, so that its occurrence in the Naga Hills is of much interest. And even in China its range is rather to the East and South, than in the region approximating to the Naga Hills.

The species is clearly new, and may be described as follows :—

Helictis millsii, sp. n.

Size about as in *H. moschata*. Fur shorter than in that animal, in summer pelage only about 10 mm. long on the back, and almost without underfur, in winter pelage about 20 mm., with a fair development of under fur, but far less than in the *Helictis* of the lower Yang-tse. General colour "dark purplish grey" very different from the drabby brown, or dark wood brown, of the Chinese animal. Ground colour of top of head from muzzle down nape to withers, much darker, near blackish brown. White markings present, well defined, the white patches about of the same size as in examples of *moschata* from the lower Yang-tse, larger than in the typical specimens from Canton, median white line interrupted on nape, and ending on withers. Under surface dull whitish as usual, the sides of the belly grey. Ears grey with white edges. Hands and feet grey, the digits sometimes whitened. Tail blackish grey washed with whitish, the white not specially developed.

Skull apparently very like that of *H. moschata*, except that the anteorbital foramina are lower and more transversely extended. Teeth quite as in *moschata*.

Dimensions of the type, measured on skin :—

Head and body 365 mm. ; tail 163 mm.

Skull, greatest median length 79.6 mm. ; zygomatic breadth 46 mm. ; interorbital, breadth 20 mm. ; mastoid breadth 36.2 mm. ; anteorbital foramen 5.6×3.5 mm. ; palatal length 38 mm. Front of canine to back of m^1 24.7 ; length of p^4 on outer edge 6.4 mm.

Hab.—Naga Hills, Assam. Type from Mokokchung, 5,000'.

Type.—Adult male in summer pelage. B. M. No. 20.6.6.8. Original number 10. Collected 10th October 1919 and presented by J. P. Mills, Esq., to the Bombay Natural History Society, and by them presented in turn to the National Museum. Four specimens examined.

This fine species is at once distinguishable from the Chinese species by its general colour, dark grey instead of drabby brown.



Thomas, Oldfield. 1922. "Scientific results from the Mammal Survey. No. XXXII. (C.) A new forest badger (*Helictis*) from the Naga Hills." *The journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 28, 432–432.

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