GENUS HYSTRIX.—LINN.

DENTAL FORMULA.

$$\text{Incisive } \frac{2}{2}; \quad \text{Canine } \frac{0-0}{0-0}; \quad \text{Molar } \frac{4-4}{4-4} = 20.$$

Superior incisors, on the anterior portion, smooth, cuneiform at their extremity; inferior incisors, strong and compressed.

Molars, compound, with flat crowns, variously modified by plates of enamel, between which are depressed intervals.

Head, strong; snout, thick and tumid; ears, short and round; tongue, bristled with spiny scales; fore-feet, four-toed; hind-feet, five-toed; all the toes armed with powerful nails.

Spines on the body, sometimes intermixed with hair; tail, moderately long, in some species of the genus, prehensile.

Herbivorous, feeding principally on grain, fruits, roots, and the bark of trees—dig holes in the earth, or nestle in the hollows of trees.

The generic name is derived from the Greek word, *ὕστριξ*, (*hustrix*,) a porcupine—*ὕς*, (*hus*,) a hog, and *θρίξ*, (*thrix*,) a bristle.

There are two species in North, and three in South America, one in Southern Europe, one in Africa, and one in India.

HYSTRIX DORSATA.—LINN.

CANADA PORCUPINE.

PLATE XXXVI.—MALE.

H. spinus brevibus, vellere sublatentibus; sine jubea; capite et collo setis longis vestitis; colore inter fulvum et nigrum variante.

CHARACTERS.

Spines, short, partially concealed by long hair; no mane; long bristles on the head and neck; colour, varying between light-brown and black.

Audubon, John James and Bachman, John. 1851. "Genus Hystrix." *The quadrupeds of North America* 1, 277-277. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.322429>.

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