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A NEW FLYING SQUIRREL FROM HONDURAS

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In a preliminary study of an interesting collection of mammals recently obtained from C. F. Underwood in Western Honduras, I find a new flying squirrel, which seems to represent a hitherto undescribed geographical race. It is here named in honor of the collector, who for many years has been making valuable contributions to the knowledge of the fauna of Honduras.

Glaucomys volans underwoodi, new subspecies

Underwood Flying Squirrel

TYPE.—No. 123372, Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist.; male adult; Zambrano, Tegucigalpa, Honduras, a village on the main road to Lake Yojoa and the north coast, about halfway between Tegucigalpa and Comayagua; altitude 4500 feet; March 21, 1935; collector, C. F. Underwood.

Only one specimen known—the type. Skin in good condition, skull with zygomatic arches and base of brain-case damaged.

GENERAL CHARACTERS.—Similar to *Glaucomys v. goldmani*, from Chiapas, Mexico, but color grayer and less rusty brownish; white on nose more restricted; post-auricular spots more extensive and paler. Skull larger.

DESCRIPTION.—Upper parts of head, nose and body light sayal brown; sides of face smoke gray mixed with fuscous; ring round eye fuscous black; area between eye and ear fuscous black shading into gray on cheeks and sides of head below ear; sides of neck joining post-auricular spot which extends over posterior half of ear pale pinkish buff; outer side anterior half of ear sparsely covered with fine fuscous hair; sides of nose creamy white; upper surface of flying membrane black finely washed with sayal brown; hind feet fuscous, toes wood-brown; forefeet and toes buffy white; tail above, snuff-brown, below, slightly lighter than pinkish buff; under parts of body, throat, chin and under side of fore limbs creamy white lightly washed with pinkish buff; under surface of membranes and inner side of thighs between pinkish buff and pale pinkish buff.

SKULL.—Characters much the same as in *Glaucomys v. goldmani* but larger, with longer palate and broader rostrum; the greatest breadth of the rostrum is largely in the nasals; incisors slightly broader than *G. v. goldmani*, but molariform teeth are about the same.

MEASUREMENTS.—Skin, measured in the field, length of head and body, 136 millimeters; tail vertebrae, 105; hind foot, 29; ear, 16. Skull, greatest length, 35.7; least interorbital breadth, 7; least postorbital breadth, 9; length of nasals, 10.4; greatest breadth of nasals, 4.7, at base, 3.3; width of rostrum, 6.5; palatal length, 18.1; maxillary tooth row, 6.75.

All of the forms of *Glaucomys volans* are closely allied and, although widely separated geographically, *G. v. underwoodi* is not very different from forms that occur in the United States. It requires comparison only with *G. v. goldmani*, from Chiapas. Compared with *G. v. goldmani* it is somewhat similar in size and color, but the upper parts are grayer and less rusty brownish. The under surface of the membranes and inner sides of the thighs in *G. v. underwoodi* are between pinkish buff and pale pinkish buff. In *G. v. goldmani* these parts are near ochraceous buff. The under side of the tail in *G. v. underwoodi* is a slightly lighter pinkish buff than in *goldmani*. The skull in *G. v. underwoodi* is larger and longer with longer palate and broader rostrum than in *G. v. goldmani*. Most of these characters appear to be beyond the usual range of individual variation in this group of flying squirrels.

Colors are from 'Color Standards and Color Nomenclature,' Ridgway, 1912.

I am indebted to the Bureau of Biological Survey for the loan of comparative material and to Major Goldman for comparing this specimen with the type of *Glaucomys v. goldmani*.