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A NEW SUBSPECIES OF *PEROMYSCUS* FROM
COSTA RICA

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AMONG the specimens in the collection of the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology (U.M.M.Z.) is an undescribed race of *Peromyscus nudipes* from Costa Rica.

I wish to express my thanks to the United States Biological Survey for the loan of comparative material of *P. n. orientalis*.

Peromyscus nudipes hesperus, new subspecies

TYPE.—Adult female (skin and skull), U.M.M.Z. No. 65201; from Hacienda Santa María, Province de Guanacaste, Costa Rica; collected by Austin Smith, January 23, 1932. The Hacienda Santa María is about fifteen miles northeast of Liberia at an altitude of 3200 feet. It is at the western edge of the cloud forest.

CHARACTERS.—Similar to *nudipes*, but smaller and paler throughout (more fulvous). Fulvous color of sides extends over dorsal area, which is only slightly darkened. Ochraceous buff patches in pectoral and axillary regions absent or obsolete (faintly present in two of eight specimens).

COLOR OF TYPE.—Sides near Sayal Brown, darkening over back to near Snuff Brown. Middorsal region slightly darkened by presence of black-tipped guard hairs. Top of head and

ears, Sepia. Forehead and cheeks, Tawny Olive with light buffy patch extending ventrally from just behind the eye. Narrow blackish eye ring. Nose dusky on top, whitish on sides. Foreleg dusky on top to or nearly to base of toes; hind feet dusky to slightly beyond ankles. Tail nearly uniform blackish brown with blotches of yellowish white on ventral surface. Underparts whitish, lead color of base of hairs showing through. A faint ochraceous buff pectoral spot on one paratype and one specimen from the Nicoya Peninsula.

SKULL.—No constant differences in skull measurements could be found between *hesperus* and *nudipes* nor between *hesperus* and *orientalis*, except, perhaps, for a slightly shorter total length and shorter rostrum than in either of these forms.

MEASUREMENTS (IN MM.).—Type: total length, 240; tail vertebrae, 120; hind foot, 26; ear from notch, 20. Skull, greatest length, 32.3; basilar length of Hensel, 24.7; zygomatic breadth, 15.5; least interorbital breadth, 5.2; length of nasals, 12.0; shelf of bony palate, 5.3; palatine slits, 6.2; postpalatal length, 11.5; maxillary tooth row, 5.0.

DISTRIBUTION.—Northwestern Costa Rica including the Nicoya Peninsula, and intergrading with *nudipes* in the Province of Alajuela.

REMARKS.—*Peromyscus nudipes hesperus* inhabits western Costa Rica where climatic conditions differ considerably from those of the area occupied by *nudipes* and *orientalis*. In general coloration especially around the face *hesperus* is paler than either *nudipes* or *orientalis*, approaching specimens of *orientalis* from Cervantes but with a more yellowish cast. Specimens from Zarcero seem to be intermediate between *nudipes* and *hesperus*, but are here designated as *nudipes*.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED.—*Peromyscus nudipes hesperus*: Costa Rica, Hacienda Santa María, 5; Cerro de San Juan, 2. *Peromyscus nudipes nudipes*: Palmira de Zarcero, 2 (intermediate); El Muneco, Río Navarro, 8; Estrella de Cartago, 16; El Copey de Dota, 6; San Joaquín de Dota, 1; Las Vueltas, 5. *Peromyscus nudipes orientalis*: Cervantes, 7; El Sauce Peralta (type locality), 6.

