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A NEW POCKET GOPHER FROM LOWER  
CALIFORNIA, MEXICO

BY WILLIAM HENRY BURT

ONE of the novelties in the collection made while I was a member of the J. R. Pemberton expedition along the west coast of Mexico is a series of pocket gophers from the Lower California coast. My expenses on the expedition were defrayed in part by a grant from the Faculty Research Fund of the University of Michigan. Comparative materials from San Jorge, Matancita, and Magdalena Island were kindly loaned by the United States Biological Survey.

*Thomomys bottae litoris*, new subspecies

TYPE.—Male adult (skeleton and skin); University of Michigan Museum of Zoology (U.M.M.Z.) No. 80997; from Stearns Point, Magdalena Bay (west side), Lower California, Mexico; collected by W. H. Burt, January 29, 1938; original number 4010.

MEASUREMENTS (IN MM.).—Type: total length, 217; tail vertebrae, 72; hind foot, 30; ear from notch, 7.5. Skull, condylo-basal length, 39.0; length of nasals, 14.3; zygomatic breadth, 26.0; mastoid breadth, 20.7; interorbital constriction, 6.3; width of upper incisors (cutting edge), 4.7; alveolar length of upper molar tooth row, 8.4.

Average and extreme measurements of the type series, including the type and twelve paratypes, in the order given above are for seven males, U.M.M.Z. Nos. 80997–81003: 220 (205–42); 73 (66–83); 30.5 (29–32.5); 6.7 (6.0–7.5); 38.8 (37.5–41.5); 13.6 (12.5–14.3); 25.0 (23.4–26.9); 20.3 (18.9–21.9); 6.3 (6.1–6.7); 4.6 (4.2–4.8); 8.2 (8.0–8.4). For six females, U.M.M.Z. Nos. 81004–9, the measurements are: 196 (190–204); 76 (61–93); 28.2 (26.0–29.5); 5.7 (5–6); 35.7 (34.7–36.8); 12.6 (12.5–12.8); 22.0 (21.5–22.5); 18.8 (18.3–19.1); 4.2 (3.9–4.5); 8.1 (7.8–8.6).

DISTRIBUTION.—Known only from the type locality, but probably inhabits the sandy strip on the mainland, at least around the east side of Magdalena Bay.

DESCRIPTION.—Color of type: upperparts near “avellaneous,” slightly darkened on middorsal region, paler on sides, and gradually merging into the “pinkish buff” of the underparts; basal parts of hairs, above and below, slate; ears clothed with short black hairs; distinct black patch extends around anterior, ventral, and posterior parts of ear; hairs around mouth dusky; feet, from wrists and ankles, white; tail scantily haired with white except for dusky proximal one-third of dorsal surface. Some specimens in the series are “sayal brown” above instead of “avellaneous” and others are intermediate in color, but the variation is not great. Skulls, angular, slightly ridged in males; interparietal ridges nearly meet in center in old males, about three millimeters or more apart in females; zygomatic arches widest in front in males, parallel-sided in females; upper incisors curve downward at right angles to the antero-posterior axis of cranium so that, when viewed from directly above, the tips of the nasals extend to or nearly to the vertical plane at the anterior surface of the incisors.

COMPARISONS.—Differs from the type and only specimen of *magdalenae* in smaller size, distinctly darker (less yellowish, more reddish) coloration, presence of dusky ear patches and dusky area about mouth (not present in *magdalenae*). Skull differs chiefly in smaller size; shape and proportions about the

same. The nasals are of about the same width posteriorly, but do not broaden out near the anterior tips as they do in *magdalenae*. Compared with *incomptus* to the north, *litoris* differs in the following respects: size slightly, though not appreciably, smaller; skull more angular and heavier throughout; upper incisors curved downward more abruptly, less procumbent; length of the upper diastema, expressed in percentage of the distance from the anterior border of the alveolus for the upper premolar to the outside cutting edge of the upper incisor, ranges, for seven males of *litoris*, from 92.1 per cent to 97.4 per cent, for five males of *incomptus*, from 87.7 per cent to 91.6 per cent; for six females of *litoris*, from 96.6 per cent to 99.2 per cent, and for three females of *incomptus*, from 86.4 per cent to 92.7 per cent; zygomatic arches spread more abruptly, less rounded; rostrum appears to be shorter and broader. From *anitae* to the south, *litoris* may be distinguished by its larger size, paler coloration throughout, and broader, more angular, skull.

REMARKS.—The specimens of *litoris* all were trapped one day on a narrow sand point on the east side of Magdalena Bay. Their mounds were numerous over the entire point, in many instances extending down to and below high-tide level. No young individuals were taken—a somewhat unusual circumstance in pocket gopher collecting.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED.—*Thomomys bottae litoris*: from type locality, 13. *T. b. incomptus*: from Matancita, 6; from San Jorge, 3. *T. b. anitae*: from Cape San Lucas, 7. *T. b. magdalenae*: from Magdalena Island, 1, the type.

