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A NEW SQUIRREL FROM CHINA

By WILLIAM P. HARRIS, JR.

Callosciurus erythraeus woodi, new subspecies

Type. Adult male (skin and skull) No. 55827, Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan. Collected December 14, 1923, by Norman A. Wood, at Lung-tan in the Purple Mountains, twenty-five miles east of Nanking, in the province of Kiang-Su. Beside the type there is one paratype, No. 55826.

Diagnosis. Underparts Pale Smoke Gray, sometimes with slight wash of Vinaceous Buff in midventral section.

Color of Type. Upper parts and sides grizzled yellowish gray fading into Pale Smoke Gray on the flanks. Legs, feet, ears, sides of head, and underparts Pale Smoke Gray. Slight wash of Vinaceous Buff in the midventral region. Hairs of back lead colored at base followed by three short yellowish bands alternating with three short black bands. Hairs of underparts lead colored at the base for about one-third of the length and then Pale Smoke Gray. Hairs of the midventral region the same at the base but followed by Vinaceous Buff.

¹ Capitalized names of colors refer to R. Ridgway, Color standards and color nomenclature. Washington. Pp. i-iii, 1-43. 1912.

Tail above the same as the back, but showing several faintly marked black bands. End of tail black with hairs tipped with gray. Hairs of the tail above are annulated with five yellow bands and four black bands, beginning at the base with yellow. Underside of tail grizzled yellowish gray with terminal area black with yellowish tipped hairs.

The color of the paratype is the same as the type but is more whitish in the midventral region and shows less Vinaceous Buff.

Measurements. Type: total length 355 mm.; tail 242 mm.; hind foot to end of claw 50 mm.; skull: condylo-premaxillary length 45 mm.; zygomatic breadth, 30.7 mm.; interorbital breadth, 17.2 mm.; anterior end of premaxillary to palatal notch, 24.8 mm.

Remarks. According to Robinson and Kloss² the type of Callosciurus erythraeus castaneoventris (Gray) in the British Museum, collected by T. R. Reeves and labelled "China," is identical with the form from Hainan described by J. A. Allen³ as insularis. The form from Hainan should be known as castaneoventris, of which insularis becomes a synonym. The form of the erythraeus group occurring from the vicinity of Ningpo south along the coast into Fukien should be known as ningpoensis. Specimens from Ningpo and Fukien cannot be distinguished. Callosciurus erythraeus styani (Thomas) is a buff bellied race occupying the low hills of the Yangtse Valley, as evidenced by specimens on hand from Tekan, in Kiang-si, one hundred and fifty miles southwest of Nanking, and from Tung-Lu, in Che-Kiang.

The author wishes to express his thanks to the American Museum of Natural History and to the Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology for the loan of specimens for comparison.

² Robinson and Kloss, Records of the Indian Museum, 1918, Vol. 15: 199.

³ Allen, J. A., Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., 1906, Vol. 22: 473.