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A NEW *ORYZOMYS* FROM A PINE RIDGE IN
BRITISH HONDURAS

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AN *Oryzomys* which appears to be new was taken on a recent expedition to British Honduras and Guatemala. This expedition, supported jointly by the Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, and the Carnegie Institution of Washington, is part of a program of biological study of the Mayan area undertaken by these two institutions.

Oryzomys couesi pinicola, new subspecies

Type.—Adult female, skin and skull, number 63039, Division of Mammals, Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan; from a pine ridge, 12 miles south of El Cayo, British Honduras; taken February 18, 1931, by Adolph Murie; original number, 1470.

Diagnosis.—Resembles *Oryzomys couesi couesi* but is smaller, with skull less angular, supra-orbital ridges less developed, zygomatic arches more slender, body more slender so that weight in proportion to length of body is much less. Color similar to *couesi* but averaging a trifle darker.

Pelage.—Pelage thicker than in *couesi* from Uaxactun, and vibrissae shorter. Digital bristles do not reach beyond tips of toes. Upper parts varying in color from Ochraceous-

TABLE I

	<i>pinicola</i> ♀ (9)	<i>pinicola</i> ♂ (9)	<i>couesi</i> ♀ (6)	<i>couesi</i> ♂ (17)
body length	103.88 (96-110)	111.44 (98-128)	119.3 (112-130)	128.17 (114-142)
tail length	118.55 (107-133)	125.11 (110-146)	131.7 (124-140)	135.4 (127-146)
foot length	26.37 (24.6-28.4)	27.42 (25.5-29)	28.08 (27-29.6)	28.95 (26.1-30.2)
ear from notch	15.61 (14.8-16.6)	15.58 (14.5-16.4)	16.38 (15.4-17.4)	17.39 (15.9-18.6)
weight	31.12 (24-41)	39.25 (25-54)	57.0 (43-73)	70.64 (55-94)
SKULL				
greatest length	28.15 (26.3-29.8)	28.58 (27.8-29.7)	29.51 (28.7-30.6)	31.53 (30.6-33.1)
zygomatic breadth	14.62 (14.2-15.0)	14.92 (14.2-15.9)	15.88 (15.3-16.6)	16.82 (15.7-17.8)
length of nasals	9.93 (9.3-10.6)	10.48 (9.8-11.0)	11.13 (10.8-11.7)	11.53 (10.5-13.0)
incisive foramen	5.55 (5.2-6.1)	5.71 (5.3-6.0)	5.92 (5.6-6.5)	6.27 (5.9-6.8)
length of upper molar series.	4.32 (4.0-4.6)	4.4 (4.2-4.6)	4.4 (4.1-4.6)	4.57 (4.4-5.0)

tawny¹ to Tawny-olive, lighter on sides where the color shades into Cinnamon Buff; back darkened by black-tipped hairs; underparts varying from dull white to Pale Ochraceous Buff; base of body hairs grey; outer sides of ears blackish, inner sides sparsely covered with Ochraceous Buff hairs; feet white; tail brownish above, yellowish below, becoming darker towards tip.

Skull.—General shape of skull similar to *couesi* but smaller, less angular, and with zygomatic arches more slender. The supra-orbital ridges project over the orbits, but are less developed than in *couesi*. Incisors smaller; upper molar series only slightly shorter than in *couesi*.

Measurements.—Type, female: total length, 223 mm.; tail length, 118 mm.; hind foot, 26 mm.; ear from notch, 15.7 mm.; weight, 32 grams. Skull of type: greatest length, 29 mm.; zygomatic breadth, 15 mm.; length of nasals, 10.1 mm.; length of incisive foramen, 5.5 mm.; length of upper molar series, 4.4 mm.; interorbital width, 4.5 mm.

In the table are given the averages and extremes for the measurements of 18 specimens of *pinicola* taken at the type locality, and 23 from Uaxactun, Guatemala, which seem to be typical of the subspecies *couesi*. All of the skulls of the new form have smooth-worn molars, while the majority of the Uaxactun skulls used for comparison have but slightly worn molars, indicating that the Uaxactun animals had not all reached their full growth. It is possible that the differences between the two series would be even more striking if they were more nearly comparable in age.

Distribution.—Known only from the type locality. The specimens were trapped in marshy areas alongside a small stream in the pine ridge country at an altitude of about 1500 feet.

Relationship.—The new form is evidently related to *Oryzomys couesi couesi* but differs sufficiently in size and skull characters to form a well marked subspecies.

¹ The names of colors capitalized refer to the color standards in Robert Ridgeway, *Color Standards and Color Nomenclature* (Washington: 1912).

