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A NEW POCKET GOPHER (*HETEROGEOMYS*) FROM
BRITISH HONDURAS

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AMONG the mammals collected on the Museum of Zoology Expedition to Guatemala in 1931, and later reported on by Adolph Murie,¹ there is a series of nine pocket gophers of the genus *Heterogeomys* from near El Cayo in western British Honduras. Recently, through the courtesy of Major E. A. Goldman, I had the opportunity to compare the British Honduran specimens with the series of *Heterogeomys hispidus* in the United States National Museum, Biological Survey collection. They differ sufficiently from their nearest geographic representatives, it seems to me, to warrant the naming of a race for this area. For a general account of the region and a map of the area see Murie.

I wish to propose for this race the name

Heterogeomys hispidus cayoensis, n. subsp.

British Honduras Pocket Gopher

TYPE.—Male adult, skeleton and skin; Mus. Zool. Univ. Mich. No. 63068; Mountain Pine Ridge, twelve miles south of El Cayo, British Honduras; February 18, 1931; collected by Adolph Murie; original No. 1473.

¹ "Mammals from Guatemala and British Honduras," *Misc. Publ. Mus. Zool. Univ. Mich.*, No. 26 (1935): 1-30, Pl. I, 1 map.

MEASUREMENTS (IN MM.).—Total length, 330; tail vertebrae, 90; hind foot, 45.5. Skull.—Condyllo-basal length, 60.0; length of nasals, 23.0; zygomatic breadth, 40.5; mastoid breadth, 37.9; interorbital constriction, 10.8; alveolar length of upper molar tooth row, 13.0. Averages of type and three other males from near El Cayo: skin, 325, 87, 46; skull, 62.1, 24.3, 44.0, 39.7, 11.3, 13.5. Averages of three females from near El Cayo: skin, 305, 81, 44; skull, 56.8, 21.8, 36.9, 35.4, 10.8, 13.1.

DISTRIBUTION.—Known only from the Mountain Pine Ridge and El Cayo, British Honduras.

CHARACTERS.—As compared with the nearest geographic race, *Heterogeomys hispidus yucatanensis* Nelson and Goldman, *cayoensis* differs in its larger size and relatively shorter tail, larger skull with more widely spreading zygomatic arches (in four males of *cayoensis* the zygomatic breadth averages 70.8 per cent of the condyllo-basal length, and in two males of *yucatanensis* it is 66.1 per cent; in three females of *cayoensis* and six females of *yucatanensis* they average 64.9 per cent and 63.1 per cent, respectively), flatter rostrum (not convex dorsally in transverse section), broader wings of pterygoids as viewed from ventral surface, and more pronounced sagittal crest in males. The coloration is also slightly darker. *H. h. cayoensis* is close to *H. h. chiapensis* Nelson and Goldman in coloration, but differs in its smaller size, more hispid pelage, flatter rostrum, lighter dentition, and less angular skull. There is a local tendency toward white spotting, especially on the rump region, in *cayoensis*, five of the nine specimens display the white markings.

SPECIMENS.—British Honduras: Mountain Pine Ridge, twelve miles south of El Cayo, three; El Cayo, six.

