

VI ON TWO NEW SUBSPECIES OF
SQUIRREL FROM SOUTHERN INDIA.

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Funambulus tristriatus annandalei, subsp. nov.

Type. Adult female. Indian Museum No. 8498, skin and skull (lower mandible missing), collected at Sasthancotta, west side of Western Ghats, Travancore, on 8th November, 1908, by Dr. N. Annandale.

Diagnosis. A large richly coloured form allied to *F. t. tristriatus* (Waterh.), but larger, smaller than *F. t. wroughtoni*, Ryley,¹ from Coorg. Longitudinal stripes on back narrow, whitish, traceable to neck. Saddle black, tail with white tips to hairs exceptionally well developed, anal region and midrib to tip rich chestnut.

Colour. Head and cheeks to behind the eye ferruginous, speckled with black, richest on top of head, rest of upper surface speckled black, greyish and fulvous, the rump with a strong ferruginous suffusion, the longitudinal stripes almost pure white, narrow and well defined except on the back of the neck, "saddle" almost pure black; hands speckled greyish black, feet with a more fulvous tint. Tail black, with broad white tips to the hairs and a buff basal and sub-basal band, when viewed from above; beneath rufous chestnut basally, black mesially, with the apical part broadly white, anal region chestnut, undersurface pure white.

Dimensions. External measurements, taken in the flesh: head and body 170 (195)²; tail 161 (172); hindfoot 46³ (35); ear 20 (18) mm.

Skull. Total length, 43·2 (48); condylo-basilar length, 37·8 (44·2); diastema 10·4 (11·6); length of upper molar series, including *pm.* 8·4 (9·5); zygomatic breadth, 24·5 (26·7); median length of nasals, 14·0 mm.

Specimens examined. Five skins and skulls, four from the type locality, and one from an unknown locality.

Remarks. In default of authenticated specimens from Madras I have taken modern skins from Kanara⁴ as typical of

¹ Ryley, *Fourn. Nat. Hist. Soc. Bombay*, XXII, p. 437 (1913).

² Measurements in parentheses are those of the type of *Funambulus wroughtoni*.

³ 40 mm. measured dry.

⁴ Since the date of this manuscript, and after I had returned the specimens to India, the description of yet another subspecies of *Funambulus striatus*, *F. t.*

F. palmarum tristriatus, Waterh., though it is by no means impossible that these will prove to represent yet another form. The present race will probably prove to be confined to the forest country west of the Ghats in Travancore, being the analogue of *F. palmarum comororinus*, Wroughton. The differences in size have already been noted by Wroughton (*Journ. Nat. Hist. Soc. Bombay*, XVI, p. 411, 1905).

***Funambulus layardi dravidianus*, subsp. nov.**

Type of the subspecies. Immature skin and skull. Indian Museum No. 9773, collected by Dr. N. Annandale on the western side of the Western Ghats, Travancore.

Diagnosis. Differs from the type in having the top of the head and cheeks rich rufous orange, and the undersurface yellowish orange instead of dull chestnut. Area between the light bands on the back, deep lustrous black.

Skull. The specimen is quite immature with the deciduous premolars in place, and is much damaged so it is useless giving any measurements.

Remarks. It is unfortunate that there is no original label attached to this specimen and that there are therefore no measurements to be quoted.

It however serves to confirm Jerdon's statement that the species is found in Southern India, and I have therefore ventured to name it. It is to be hoped that further specimens may shortly be available.

numarius was published by Mr. Wroughton (type from Helwar, Satara District). Kanara specimens are stated to be "clearly intermediates between this form and *tristriatus*, but as they approach more nearly to the present form they may be reckoned as *F. t. numarius*" (*Journ. Nat. Hist. Soc. Bombay*, XXIV, p. 646, 1916).

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