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## A New Pygmy Mouse of the Genus *Baiomys* from Oaxaca, México

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Pygmy mice are common in the arid regions of southern Oaxaca from sea level up to about 4000 feet and are referable to *Baiomys musculus musculus*. These specimens from low elevations are pale in color and show very little individual variation in color and size, though the skulls are definitely smaller than in the type series from Colima, Mexico. Specimens from between 3000 and 4000 feet in the districts of Miahuatlan and Yautepec, Oaxaca, average darker than those from lower elevations, but the skulls are about the same size, with the exception of those of some individuals which are as small as those of average *B. taylori*. When skulls of the two species are similar in size, they can usually be distinguished by the shape of the interparietal. In *B. musculus* the interparietal is broad transversely and short anteroposteriorly, reaching across the posterior border of the parietals; in *B. taylori* the interparietal is narrow transversely and relatively long anteroposteriorly.

A specimen recently taken by Thomas MacDougall near the summit of an isolated mountain in the district of Miahuatlan in southern Oaxaca is so different in size, color, and cranial characters from specimens taken at lower elevations and from other named forms native to Oaxaca, that it is here described as new.

### *Baiomys musculus nebulosus*, new subspecies

TYPE: A.M.N.H. No. 178727, skin and skull, adult male; Xanangua, District of Miahuatlan, Oaxaca, México, altitude, 6000 feet; collector, Thomas MacDougall; November 10, 1957. The type skin is in good

condition, and the skull is complete, with teeth showing some wear. The type was taken near a small stream below the town of Xanangua. The climate at this place is more or less arid during the dry season, but above the town there are cloud forests.

**GENERAL CHARACTERS:** A medium-sized, dark-colored *Baiomys* with relatively long, soft pelage, similar in size to *B. musculus infernalis* Hooper from Teotitlán, Oaxaca, but about the color of darker specimens of *B. m. brunneus* from Veracruz, and differing from both subspecies in some cranial details.

**DESCRIPTION OF TYPE:** General color of upper parts Mummy Brown,<sup>1</sup> the hairs Cinnamon Buff heavily mixed with black; under parts Light Buff; feet Light Buff; tail nearly unicolored, Mummy Brown above, slightly paler below, ears Mummy Brown; skull large, with a moderately long rostrum, broad low braincase, wide interorbital region, long palatine foramina, and large molariform teeth.

**MEASUREMENTS OF TYPE:** Total length, 114 mm.; length of tail, 45; hind foot, 16 (dry 16). Skull: greatest length, 20.1; condylobasal length, 18.6; zygomatic breadth, 10.5; breadth of braincase, 9.6; interorbital constriction, 4.2; length of nasals, 8; shelf of bony palate, 2.75; palatal length, 9.4; palatal foramen, 4.2; diastema, 4.5; zygomatic plate, 2.0; interparietal, 8.0 by 3.2; alveolar length of maxillary tooth row, 3.3.

**REMARKS:** The type and only known specimen of *B. m. nebulosus* has a noticeably larger skull and longer, softer, and darker pelage than any in the available large series of *B. m. musculus* from southern Oaxaca, and the interorbital region of the skull is decidedly broader and less constricted posteriorly than in any member of the *musculus* group. Compared with *B. m. brunneus* and *B. m. nigricans*, the skull of *B. m. nebulosus* is larger, and the pelage is longer and softer in texture.

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<sup>1</sup> Capitalized color terms are after Ridgway, "Color standards and color nomenclature," Washington, D. C., 1912.



