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B.P. Bole - A new Race of Kangaroo Rat From Southwestern Utah - 1936

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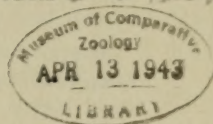
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No. 1

A NEW RACE OF KANGAROO RAT FROM G. W. Allen
SOUTHWESTERN UTAH

BY

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In the course of the field work carried on by The Cleveland Museum of Natural History's Saline Valley Expedition of 1934 a small collection of mammals was obtained from points in southwestern and northeastern Utah. Examination of the material obtained revealed a new and previously unrecorded kangaroo rat of the *Dipodomys merriami* group, this group ranging widely in the states west and south of Utah.

Dipodomys merriami frenatus, subsp. nov.

UTAH BRIDLED KANGAROO RAT

Type.—From Toquerville, Washington County, Utah (Altitude 3200 ft.). Spec. No. 6771, adult, skin and skull, Cleveland Museum of Natural History; Collected by F. J. Tobin, May 14, 1934. Original Number: SVE-771.

Distribution.—Known only from the type locality, but presumably ranging widely in the deeper valleys and open deserts of southwestern Utah.

General Characters.—The darkest of the *merriami* group, easily distinguished from the other races by the darkened head and black, bold, complete arietiform marking.

Color.—The type, in worn winter pelage: Upperparts deep pinkish buff, heavily lined with blackish hairs on back and top of head, less so on sides and thighs, where the pinkish buff is clearest. Hip stripes, lateral tail stripes and postauricular spots clear white; a narrow white ring about the base of the tail. Feet (except for blackish plantar stripes) and underparts clear white to and including the sides of the nose. Dorsal and ventral tail-stripes dark brownish black; caudal tuft made up of sepia hairs, white basally. Arietiform marking black, pronounced, and continuous across top of nose. Color slightly washed out between eyes and whiskers; supraorbital spots indistinct and heavily suffused with the color of the top of the head. Ears small, white externally except for anterior fold; fold dusky medially and proximally, whitish along

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fold-over, with a spot of bright ochraceous-buff at the angle; inside of ears dusky. The ears do not fully cover the postauricular spots, which stand out conspicuously.

Skull.—Very similar to that of typical *merriami*, being somewhat smaller than the average of *merriami*, with somewhat less inflated bullae and consequently proportionately wider supraoccipital. These characters are not definite, however, as many examples of typical *merriami* at hand approach the present form in proportions and measurements.

Measurements.—The type, and one adult male topotype (in parentheses): Length, 207 mm. (232 mm.); tail, 113 (134); hind foot, 35 (37); skull: occipitonasal length, 33.5 (34.4); width across bullae, 21.9 (22.2); breadth across maxillary arches, 19.5 (18.7); width of maxillary arch (distal border of lachrymal), 5.2 (5.3); length of nasals, 12.7 (14.3); width of nasals (in front of incisors), 2.7 (3.2); least width, supraoccipital, 1.6 (2.2); maxillary toothrow (alveolar borders), 4.1 (4.1).

Remarks.—The present form needs comparison only with the animal described by Merriam as *Dipodomys merriami nevadensis*. Compared to *nevadensis*, *frenatus* is much darker and lacks the ochraceous cast of the Nevada animal. The black, complete facial marking of this race sets it apart strikingly and on the basis of this alone is easily distinguishable from *nevadensis*. *Frenatus* also differs in the much darker color of the upperparts, particularly of the head; in the smaller ear, darker tailstripes and less distinct supraorbital spot.

Specimens examined.—Two, the type and one topotype.

Of *Dipodomys merriami nevadensis* Merriam:

NEVADA: Pahrump Valley, 8*; Charleston Mts., 4*.

Of *Dipodomys merriami merriami* Mearns:

NEVADA: Fish Lake Valley, Esmeralda County, 3.

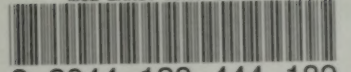
CALIFORNIA: Salt Camp, Saline Valley, Inyo Co., 23; North Sand Dunes, Saline Valley, Inyo Co., 78; Keeler, Owens Valley, Inyo Co., 1; Owenyo, Owens Valley, 1; Old Camp Independence, Inyo Co., 3; Division Creek Lava Flows, Owens Valley, Inyo Co., 1.

ARIZONA: Hardyville, Mohave Co., 1; White Tank Mts., Maricopa Co., 15; Perryville, Maricopa Co., 3; Wickenburg, Maricopa County, 1; Ashurst-Hayden Dam, Pinal Co., 4; Oracle, Pinal Co., 1.

NEW MEXICO: Steins Pass, Hidalgo Co., 1.

* Courtesy of Dr. H. H. T. Jackson, U. S. Biological Survey

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