

## **MAMMALS in NIGERIA 2005**

Observations of mammals, amphibians and reptiles during a trip with Avifauna, travelling company associated with the Swedish Ornithological Society Oct 12 –Oct 24 2005

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Order of presentation; mammals: given according to Duff n Lawson; Mammals of the World a Checklist.

### **SQUIRRELS**

Striped Ground-squirrel	<i>Xerus erythropus</i>	The most frequently seen squirrel during our trip.
Gambian Sun-Squirrel	<i>Heliosciurus gambianus</i>	ITTA Ibadan 14/10 3 ex
African Giant Squirrel	<i>Protoxerus strangeri</i>	Cross River NP 22/10 about 5, Bashu 23/10 one, and 24/10 one
Tomas's Rope-squirrel	<i>Funisciurus anerythrus</i>	Weppa 18/10 at least one
Fire-footed Ropesquirrel	<i>Funisciurus pyrropus</i>	Okumu N P 15/10 6 ex and -16/10 at least two.
Kintampo Rope-squirrel	<i>Funisciurus substriatus</i>	Lekki Conservation Center 13/10: 2 ex.

### **MICE & RATS**

Banana Climbing Mouse	<i>Dendromus messorius</i>	Weppa 18/10 one on the track to the river
Western Vlei Rat	<i>Otomys occidentalis</i>	Weppa 18/10 one on the track to the river

### **MONGOUSES & Allies**

Long-nosed Cusimanse	<i>Crossarchus obscurus</i>	Okumu NP 15/10 at least two groups, each consisting of of at least 5 individuals. 16/10 a few in groups.
Black-legged Mongoose/White-tailed Mongoose	<i>Bdeogale nigripes/Ichneumia albicauda</i>	Okumu NP 15/10 crossing the dirt road about an hour before dawn, about half an hour's ride by bus into primary rain forest.

According to all authors the *B. nigripes* is the only pale mongoose living in the rain forest, and according to Stuart&Stuart ( The Larger Mammals of Africa 2001) the distribution of this species reaches this area. However some doubt have been raised since Kingdon (Kingdon Guide to the Mammals of Africa 2001) and Happold (Mammals of Nigeria 1987) state that this species is not known to occur west of Cross River (in eastern Nigeria). It is also known that *I. albicauda* is regarded as a successful generalist, able to survive in almost any habitat.

### **BATS**

Hammer-headed Fruit Bat	<i>Hypsignathus monstrosus</i>	13/10 at least 3 heard
Yellow-winged Bat	<i>Lavia frons</i>	Weppa 18/10 about 10 ex

## POTTOES & GALAGOS

Demidoff's Galago *Galago d. demidoff* (acc Kingdon) Okumu, 15/10 2 ex during spot-lighting  
Potto *Perodictus p. potto* (acc Kingdon) Okumu, 15/10 2 ex during spot-lighting

## MONKEYS

Red-capped Mangabey *Cercocebus torquatus* Okumu N P 16-17/10 h  
Mona Monkey *Cercopithecus mona* Lekki Conservation Center 13/10: 2ex,  
Okumu N P 15/10 h, 16/10 about 5 + h, 17/10 about 20  
Tantalus Monkey *Chlorocebus tantalus* Weppa 18/10 3ex,  
Jos 25/10 3ex, 26/10 about 10 ex

## ANTELOPES, GAZELLES, DUIKERS & REED BUCKS

Black Duiker *Cephalophus niger* Okumu N P 16/10 one, 17/10 3 sightings  
Blue Duiker *Cephalophus monticola* Cross River N P 24/10 one

## HYRAXES

Red-headed Rock Hyrax *Procavia capensis ruficeps* Jos 25/10 6 ex, and 26/10 about ten animals  
Western Tree-hyrax *Dendrohyrax dorsalis* Okumu NP one heard in the evening of 14/10,  
At least four heard from camp and during spot-lighting in the evening of 15/10, One heard from camp in the morning of 16/10

## AMPHIBIANS and REPTILES

African Crocodile *Crocodylus niloticus* Lekki Conservation Center 13/10  
Short-snouted Dwarf-crocodile *Osteolaemus tetraspis* Okumu 15/10  
Water Monitor *Varanus niloticus* ITTA Ibadan 13 and 14/10  
Common Agama Lizard *Agama agama* several places  
Common House Gecko *Hemidactylus brookei* several at Amurum 25-26/10  
Square-marked Toad *Bufo regularis* Jos Plateau  
Common Lined Worm Snake *Typhlops lineolatus* Obudu 21/10

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