

# NEW RECORDS OF SOME MAMMALS FROM QATAR: INSECTIVORA, LAGOMORPHA AND RODENTIA

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The present report deals with six native mammalian species to be recorded for the first time from Qatar. They belong to the following orders: Insectivora, Lagomorpha and Rodentia. None of these species is endemic to Qatar.

## 1. Order Insectivora Family Erinaceidae

*Paraechinus aethiopicus pectoralis* Hauglin, 1861.

One female specimen was captured on the 3rd of February 1980 from El-Wabrah, about 40 Km on the road to Dokhan, West of Doha, Qatar. The animal had the following measurements in millimetres: Total length: 242.0, Tail 19.0: Hind foot: 33, Forearm: 45 and Ear 48.

Cheesman and Hinton (1924) recorded specimens of *P. aethiopicus* from Southern Hasa in Saudi Arabia. Morrison-Scott (1939) collected specimens from Taif in the same country. Wassif and Hoogstraal (1954) and Setzer (1957) recorded specimens from the vicinity of St. Katherine's Monastery and near Feiran oasis in Sinai. Harrison (1959) recorded a dead specimen from the Syrian desert and Hatt (1959) recorded it from Baghdad. Harrison (1964) mentioned that specimens belonging to this species were collected from Muscat and deposited in the British Museum.

This hedgehog extends from the Arabian Peninsula westwards through Egypt to Algeria and Morocco and southwards to Asben, Sudan, Eritrea and Somaliland. It is particularly adapted to desert life and can survive in extremely arid regions.

## 2. Order Lagomorpha Family Leporidae

*Lepus capensis* Linnaeus, 1758.

A single specimen was obtained from Feyearat in the North of Qatar on the 23rd February 1980. It was a female having the following measurements in millimetres: Total length: 352, Tail: 44, Hind foot: 83.3, Forearm: 115.1, Ear: 81.2.

*L. capensis* Linnaeus 1758 is very widely distributed in Africa from the Cape in the south, to Egypt, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Libya in the north, to Senegal, Nigeria and Rio de Oro in the west and eastwards through the Arabian Peninsula. In the latter location, it is represented by one highly polymorphic species. The race found in Qatar is similar to *Lepus capensis atallahi* Harrison, 1972 which has been obtained at Issa, Bahrain Island.

**3. Order Rodentia**

**a. Family Dipodidae**

*Jaculus jaculus vocator* Thomas, 1921.

A single male specimen was obtained on the 12th May, 1980 from the desert plains near Salwa Road, 30 Km south of Doha, Qatar. It had the following measurements, in millimetres:

Total length: 279, Tail: 171 mm, Hind foot: 56, Forearm: 29 and Ear: 19.

This jerboa ranges from south western Persia through the Arabian Peninsula in the east. It also ranges across the whole of northern Africa from Somaliland, Sudan and Egypt through Libya and Asben to Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco and Mauritania (Harrison, 1972).

**b. Family Muridae**

*Rattus rattus* Linnaeus, 1758.

Several specimens were captured from houses in Doha. It is abundant all the year round. The mean measurements in millimetres of 10 measured specimens were as follows:

Total length: 382, Tail: 182, Hind foot: 31.2, Forearm: 33.2 and Ear: 18.1.

This species has a cosmopolitan distribution (Harrison, 1972).

**c. Family Cricetidae**

i. *Gerbillus nanus arabium* Thomas, 1918

Several specimens were collected near Salwa Road south of Doha to Abo Samra on the territories of Saudi Arabia, and from Doha - Dokhan Road. The means in millimetres of ten measured specimens were as follows:

Total length: 188.2, Tail: 114.5, Hind foot: 21.5, Forearm: 20.2 and Ear: 13.4.

This gerbil is widespread in the deserts of Qatar. It ranges from Baluchistan in the east through southern Iran to the Arabian Peninsula.

ii. *Gerbillus cheesmani cheesmani* Thomas, 1919

This species is widespread in the deserts of Qatar and several specimens were collected from Salwa, Dokhan and Feyearat Roads. The means in millimetres of ten measured specimens were as follows:

Total length: 214.6, Tail: 126.3, Hind foot: 28.7, Forearm: 26.1 and Ear 12.8.

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## بعض السجلات الجديدة للثدييات في دولة قطر

عبد الحلیم کامل و جمال مذكور

قام المؤلفان بجمع مجموعة من الثدييات من مختلف المناطق بدولة قطر - حيث تنتمي الى المجموعات التالية :

آكلات الحشرات ( القنفذ ، بارا إيكانيوس إيثوبويكس بيكتورالس ) .  
الأرنييات ( الأرنب البرى ، ليوسى كابينسز ) - القوارض ( الجربوع الحر ، جاكبولس جاكبولس فوكاتور ، وفأر المنزل ، راتس راتس ، والجربوع جربيللس نانوس وجربوع شيسمان ) .

وقد تبين أن هذه الحيوانات لم تذكر من قبل في أى مكان من دولة قطر - وعرض المؤلفان شرحا للصفات الخارجية لكل حيوان - وأماكن تواجده بالنسبة لمناطق العالم بصفة عامة وشبه الجزيرة العربية بصفة خاصة .