

*Graphiurus surdus*, sp. n.

A small-eared species allied to *murinus*.

Size of body a trifle less than in *murinus*; hind foot large; ears remarkably small, about 5 mm. shorter than those of the South-African species. Fur rather short and thick; hairs on back measuring about 7 or 8 mm. in length. General colour of upper surface of body greyish brown. Individual hairs of back slate-grey with light brownish tips. Flanks similar in colour to back. Muzzle and face between eyes paler and yellower than rest of upper surface. Eyes surrounded with dark rings; dark markings on muzzle, in front of eyes, very indistinct. Sides of face, below eyes, white; hairs grey with long white tips. Upper lip covered with short white hairs. Backs of hands and feet yellowish white. Under surface of body greyish white, tinged with buff; hairs of belly with dark grey bases and white tips. Chin and lower lip, as usual in this genus, covered with short white hairs. Tail cylindrical and rather less bushy than in *murinus*; hairs of tip about 22 mm. in length; upper side of tail similar in colour to back, lower surface rather greyer.

Skull markedly different from that of any other known form, the occipital part of the brain-case broad and almost rectangular in shape, giving the skull a very unusual appearance. Nasals broad anteriorly. Auditory bullæ rather flat. Cheek-teeth comparatively small.

Dimensions of the type (measured from spirit-specimen):—

Head and body 87 mm.; tail 67; hind foot 19; ear 9.

Skull: greatest length 28; basal length 23.5; condylo-basal length 25.8; basilar length 21; condylo-basilar length 23.5; condylo-incisive length 25.3; zygomatic breadth 15; interorbital constriction 4.5; squamosal breadth of brain-case 13; occipital breadth 12.4; greatest length of nasals 11.4; greatest breadth across nasals 3.5; least breadth across nasals 1.8; palatal length 11.8; palatilar length 9.5; width of palate (inside  $m^1$ ) 3.5; width across palate (outside  $m^1$ ) 5.5; length of palatal foramina 3; postpalatal length 12.3; length of upper tooth-row 3.

*Hab.* Benito River, French Congo.

*Type.* Adult female. B.M. no. 0. 2. 5. 55. Collected by Mr. G. L. Bates in July 1899.

The small ears, large hind feet, and unusual shape of the occipital region immediately distinguish this dormouse from all the other allied forms.

Mr. Bates collected four specimens of this interesting

species, all at the type locality, and as the specimens are preserved in spirit, the true colour of *surdus* cannot be described with certainty; it appears to have been very much like that of the South African *murinus*, judging by the similarity between alcoholic specimens of each species.

*Graphiurus spurrelli*, sp. n.

Allied to *G. lorraineus*, Dollm., but paler in colour and with smaller teeth.

Size of body greater than in *lorraineus*; hind foot larger. General colour of back very much paler and less rufous than in *lorraineus*, more like the olive tint of *microtis*, but washed with pale brown (otter-brown no. 3 mixed with chocolate no. 1, 'Répertoire,' represents the general colour of the dorsal surface). Hairs of back with slaty black bases and olive-brown tips. Flanks paler and yellower than back. Muzzle lighter and greyer than rest of dorsal surface. Dark rings around eyes faintly developed; dark markings on sides of muzzle in front of eyes practically absent. Cheeks white, hairs with slate-grey bases and whitish tips. Backs of hands and feet dirty white. Ventral surface of body slate-grey washed with white, less buffy than in *lorraineus*. Tail fairly long, about like that of *microtis saturatus*; in colour pale liver-brown, above and below.

Skull rather larger than that of *lorraineus*, with a narrower interorbital region. Nasals broader anteriorly. Cheek-teeth smaller and narrower.

Dimensions of the type (measured in the flesh):—

Head and body 100 mm.\*; tail 75\*; hind foot 18; ear 14.

Skull: greatest length 27·5; basilar length 20·5; condylo-basilar length 22·5; condylo-incisive length 24; zygomatic breadth 15; interorbital constriction 4·7; squamosal breadth of brain-case 12·3; greatest occipital breadth 11·3; length of nasals 10; greatest anterior width of nasals 4; palatilar length 8·9; breadth of palate (inside *m*<sup>1</sup>) 3·7; width across palate (outside *m*<sup>1</sup>) 5·9; length of palatal foramina 2·9; length of upper cheek-teeth 2·9.

*Hab.* Bibianaha, 60 miles west of Kumasi, Gold Coast Colony.

*Type.* Adult female. B.M. no. 10.4.13.2. Collected by Dr. H. G. F. Spurrell and presented by him to the British Museum.

\* Measured from dry skin.