

the Ituri forest (*M. l. centralis*). Face mask and frontal spot not clearly traceable in the juveniles, but doubtless this is only an age character. Skull with interorbital area rather similar to *M. l. wilsoni* but the brain-case proportionately broader than the average of *wilsoni*, and there is a rather more marked slope backwards to the occipital region, giving a less flattened appearance to the dorsal profile. It may, however, be remarked that there appears to be considerable variation individually in skull characters in the species, and that the type skull of *wilsoni* is itself a rather extreme example.

The frontal spot in *wilsoni* is not as constant a character as might be supposed from the original description, but is clearly traceable in 14 only out of 23 in the B.M. collection, and very indistinct in a few others, whereas in *australis* it does seem as if it is really constant. Though *wilsoni* seems always to possess the bicoloured tail the white never extends to the upper part as is usually the case in *australis*. The duller brown above and more slaty tone below also mark the new race off from *wilsoni* which is its nearest geographical neighbour. Closer comparison with the more distant races is not required.

Measurements.—These are given in Table III.

Range.—So far *M. l. australis* is known only from the Sakeji and Isombo streams.

Remarks.—No. 3124 is aberrant in possessing a pure white mark below in the form of a Y, the two arms commencing on the under-surface of the forearm behind the wrist, joining together on the chest, and continuing as the stem of the Y to a point just short of the inguinal region.

The discovery of *Malacomys* as far south as Mwinilunga district was quite unexpected. The nearest it was known to this locality previously was the Lunda district of northeastern Angola (Sanborn, 1952).

Malacomys longipes cansdalei, subsp. nov.

Type.—Adult ♀, skin and skull, B.M. No. 46.460, collected at Oda, Gold Coast (Ghana), by G. S. Cansdale on 8th February, 1946. The type is in the B.M.

Also Adult ♀♀ B.M. 46.459, and 46.907, same collector and locality. These are also in the B.M.

Diagnosis.—A light coloured race distinctly whiter below than any other known.

Description.—Lighter coloured above than any other described race, a very bright Buffy Brown dorsally; but most sharply distinguished by the much whiter colour below, due to the paler bases and longer white tips to the hairs. All three specimens have the bicoloured tail (less distinct perhaps in 46.907), and all have the top of the head between the ears darker. In the type and in 46.459 the face mask is distinct and the latter also has the light frontal spot as known in *wilsoni* and *australis*. Skull similar in size to the nominate race, but with narrower interorbital constriction, in this dimension intermediate between *edwardsi* and *longipes*. The two available skulls (46.907 I could not find) have

differently shaped nasals, one being more spatulate, the other, the type, more evenly convergent backwards. It may be noted that the nasals throughout the species tend to show a good deal of variation.

Measurements.—These are given in Table IV.

Range.—So far known only from the type locality.

Remarks.—The type was a pregnant female containing four foetuses, but a note on the label that it had mammae "1 pect, and 1 abd." seems erroneous, as judging from the made up specimen the animal had the usual formula of $1-2=6$, although one of the rear mammae has become obscured in the sewing up of the skin. The three specimens of *cansdalei* are mentioned by Rosevear (1950). The locality is rather a puzzle in view of the geographical range of *edwardsi*, but there is no doubt that *cansdalei* is a clearly distinct, and perhaps isolated race of *longipes*. The specific status of *edwardsi* is not altogether clear, though there is much to be said for the view adopted by Ellerman *et al.* (1953) that it is conspecific with *longipes*. Not only is the new race, *cansdalei*, intermediate between them in the interorbital constriction, but Rosevear has pointed out that some Cameroons specimens (assigned for the moment to the nominate race) are intermediate in hind foot measurements. The question is, however, probably better left *sub judice* until more material is available, and in particular until it can be determined whether *edwardsi* and *cansdalei* are really allopatric or not.

The race is named after the collector, Mr. G. S. Cansdale.

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