THE TAXONOMIC HISTORY OF THE GENUS *REITHRODON* WATERHOUSE (CRICETIDÆ)

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In course of preparation of a synoptic collection which the Department of Mammals of The American Museum of Natural History is bringing together, considerable taxonomic research has proved necessary. That part of the compilation dealing with the genus *Reithrodon* is believed to be complete and is now presented for the use of students of South American mammals.

HISTORICAL STATEMENT

1801. Azara described under the names "Rat quatrième au rat oreillard," a rat with large head, large ears and short tail, which appears to have been a *Reithrodon*.

1819. Desmarest applied the binomial *Mus auritus* (new species) to Azara's "Rat oreillard."

1830. Rengger described *Mus callosus* (n. sp.). (Synonymized by Trouessart in 1898 with *auritus*, but in 1916 removed by Thomas to *Hesperomys* as then restricted by him.)

1837. Waterhouse erected the genus *Reithrodon* (new genus), including in it *typicus* (n. sp.) and *cuniculoides* (n. sp.). Neither species was designated type of the genus.

1839. Waterhouse further characterized the genus, including in it, in addition to *typicus* and *cuniculoides*, *R. chinchilloides* (n. sp.) (removed later by Coues to *Euneomys*).

1843. Wagner included *cuniculoides*, *typicus* and *chinchilloides* in *Reithrodon*. He put *auritus* in *Hesperomys* but did not place it subspecifically.

1853. LeConte described a species of *Reithrodontomys* under the generic name *Reithrodon*.

1857. Baird, following LeConte, described several more *Reithrodontomys* as *Reithrodon*. 
1874. Coues diagnosed Reithrodon critically. He removed chinchilloides to Euneomys, n. g., and designated (erroneously—see below, 1926) cuniculoides type species of the genus. Furthermore, he removed the Reithrodontomys of LeConte and Baird to “Ochetodon.”

1879. Burmeister, apparently ignorant of the work of Coues, again listed chinchilloides under Reithrodon with typicus and cuniculoides. He placed auritus in Calomys, subgenus of Hesperomys.

1880. Thomas described alstoni, n. sp., referring it erroneously to Reithrodon, but suggesting at the same time that it might be wrongly referred.

1884. Thomas described pictus, n. sp. (eventually placed in Auliscomys).

1898. Trouessart made Euneomys a synonym of Reithrodon, listing under the latter: typicus, cuniculoides, alstoni (removed later to Sigmomys), chinchilloides (Euneomys), and pictus (Auliscomys). He made callosus and “pyrrhogaster” synonyms of auritus, which he placed in Phyllotis.

1899. Thomas described fossor, n. sp. (later removed by him to Euneomys and subsequently designated by him type of Chelemyscus, n. g.).

1900. Philippi described Mus pachycephalus, n. sp., and Reithrodon longicaudatus, n. sp. (subsequently made the type of Irenomys, n. g., by Thomas).

1901a. Thomas removed alstoni from Reithrodon to Sigmomys, n. g.

1901b. Thomas compared Reithrodon, Euneomys, which he made a full genus, and Sigmomys. He removed fossor and pictus from Reithrodon to Euneomys.

1903. Allen compared Reithrodon and Euneomys.

1905. Allen further discussed the genus Reithrodon and R. cuniculoides. He described cuniculoides obscurus, n. subsp., and hatcheri, n. sp.

1905. Trouessart, following Thomas and Allen, now made both Reithrodon and Euneomys full genera. Under Reithrodon he listed cuniculoides cuniculoides, cuniculoides obscurus, hatcheri and typicus; but he placed callosa under Eligmodontia and barely mentioned longicaudatus in a footnote under Phyllotis.

¹I find no such name as pyrrhogaster Wagner in the reference given by Trouessart (Abh. Akad. Wiss München, V, p. 313). On that page the only species listed is Hesperomys brachyurus. Moreover, the name does not appear in Wagner, Schreber’s “Säugethiere,” Supplement, 1855. Pyrrhogaster Trouessart then appears to be a nomen nudum.
1910. Wolffsohn stated that *Mus pachycephalus* was equal to *Reithrodon cuniculoides* (but Philippi's animal being from Chile may be a distinct subspecies).

1912. Thomas described *cuniculoides flammarum*, n. subsp.

1916a. Thomas removed *callosus* to *Hesperomys* (restricted).

1916b. Thomas described *cuniculoides pampanus*, n. subsp.

1919. Thomas recognized *longicaudatus* Philippi and designated it type of *Irenomys*, n. g.

1920. Thomas alluded to Rat oreillard Azara (= *auritus* Desmarest), accepting it as a species of *Reithrodon*. He described *caurinus*, n. sp., *auritus marinus*, n. subsp., and *typicus currentium*, n. subsp.

1926. International Rules of Nomenclature, Art. 30, I, b., ruled that the names *typus* and *typicus* must be construed as type by original designation, thus making *typicus* Waterhouse the type of the genus *Reithrodon* and displacing *cuniculoides*, designated type by Coues (1874).

1927. Thomas described *cuniculoides evx*, n. subsp.

**Present Status of the Genus *Reithrodon* Waterhouse**

Type by original designation (so construed, 1926), *Reithrodon typicus* Waterhouse.

**List of Apparent Species and Subspecies with Type Localities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Type Locality</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>R. typicus typicus</em> Waterhouse</td>
<td>Maldonado, Uruguay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>R. typicus currentium</em> Thomas</td>
<td>Goya, Corrientes, Argentina</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>R. auritus auritus</em> (Desmarest)</td>
<td>Pampas south of Buenos Aires, Argentina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>R. auritus marinus</em> Thomas</td>
<td>Mar de la Plata, southeast coast of Buneos Aires, Argentina</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>R. cuniculoides cuniculoides</em> Waterhouse</td>
<td>Santa Cruz, Patagonia, Argentina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>R. cuniculoides obscurus</em> Allen</td>
<td>Punta Arenas, Patagonia, Argentina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>R. cuniculoides flammarum</em> Thomas</td>
<td>Spring Hill, Tierra del Fuego</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>R. cuniculoides pampanus</em> Thomas</td>
<td>Peru, F. C. P., 200 km. northwest of Bahia Blanca, Buenos Aires, Argentina</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>R. cuniculoides evx</em> Thomas</td>
<td>Zapala, Nequen, Patagonia, Argentina</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>R. hatcheri</em> Allen</td>
<td>Head of Río Chico de Santa Cruz, Patagonia, Argentina</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>R. caurinus</em> Thomas</td>
<td>Otro Cerro, Catamarca, Argentina</td>
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</tbody>
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*No responsibility can be accepted for the allocation of the species listed. Such responsibility should be assumed only by a reviser working with ample material.*
ALLEN, J. A.

AZARA, F.

BAIRD, S. F.

BURMEISTER, H.

COUES, E.

DESCAMERSTE, A. G.

LECONTE, J. L.

PHILIPPI, R. A.

RENGGER, J. R.

THOMAS, O.

TROUSSART, E.-L.
1898. "Cat. Mamm. viv. foss.,"
1843. Schreber’s "Säugethiere," Supplement, III.

WAGNER, A.

WATERHOUSE, G. R.
1839. "Zoölogy Voyage "Beagle,"" p. 68.

WOLFFSOHN, J. A.