

Article III. — DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF SIGMODON FROM ECUADOR.

By J. A. ALLEN.

The material on which the present species is based was kindly sent to me for determination by Mr. Oldfield Thomas, Curator of Mammals at the British Museum, with permission to describe it if new, and to retain the duplicates for this Museum. While the species represented by this material is nearly related to *Sigmodon simonsi*, it is well distinguished by certain cranial differences and by the less intense fulvous suffusion of the general pelage, especially that of the ventral surface.

***Sigmodon puna*, sp. nov.**

Type, No. 30, female ad., Coll. Perry O. Simons (British Museum), Puná, Puná Island, Ecuador, Nov. 10, 1898; altitude 10 m.

Similar to *Sigmodon simonsi* Allen (this Bull., XIV, 1901, p. 40), from Eten, Peru, but less suffused with buff, especially on the ventral surface, which is only slightly or not at all tinged with pale buff instead of being heavily washed with clear deep buff; fore and hind feet grayer, and eye-ring paler. Skull with the anteorbital foramen much broader, and hence larger, and differently shaped; the bullæ considerably more swollen, the dentition weaker, and the rostral portion of the skull shorter.

Measurements.—Head and body, 145; tail, 98; hind foot, 29; ear, 21 mm. Nine adults average: Head and body, 145 (140–160); tail, 98 (92–100, with one specimen 160); hind foot, 29 (28–30); ear, 20.6 (19–22).

Skull.—*Type*: Total length, 34; basal length, 30; palatal length, 16; length of nasals, 12; zygomatic breadth, 20; mastoid breadth, 14; interorbital constriction, 5; upper toothrow, 7. Six adult skulls range in total length from 33–36, and in zygomatic breadth from 18.5–20.

Sigmodon puna is represented by a series of 15 specimens taken at Puná, Puná Island, during the first half of November, 1898, they being among the first specimens collected by the late Perry O. Simons on the west coast of South America.

About one half of the series are fully adult, with the teeth more or less worn; the others are 'young adults,' but none are very young, nor are any very old. To this species are referred four others collected at Guayaquil, on the mainland. They present the same cranial characters as the Puná examples, but three of them are much darker above and more grayish white below than the Puná series. As, however, one of the latter is indistinguishable from the three dark Guayaquil specimens, and one of the Guayaquil specimens is like the more buffy examples of the Puná series, this color difference seems to indicate two color phases—a gray and a slightly rufescent phase—rather than two geographical forms.