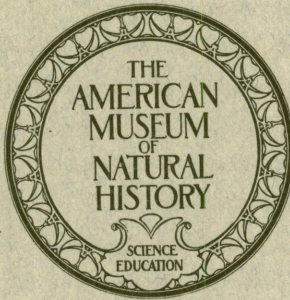


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By ROY CHAPMAN ANDREWS



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DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF SEROW FROM YÜN-NAN PROVINCE, CHINA

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Although it is not the purpose to publish extensively upon the collections obtained by the Asiatic Expeditions of the American Museum until the field work has been completed, it is desirable to describe such new species as may come to light from time to time in the preliminary examination of certain groups.

The splendid serow which I shot near Teng-yüeh, China, not far from the Burma frontier, is the first animal to be described from the Asiatic collections, and I take pleasure in proposing for it the name *Capricornis osborni*, in honor of the distinguished President of The American Museum of Natural History, Professor Henry Fairfield Osborn.

Capricornis osborni, new species

Type No. 43042, ♀ juv., Hui-yao (20 miles from Teng-yüeh), Yün-nan Province, China, May 9, 1917; Roy Chapman Andrews.

Forehead, cheeks, neck, breast, and body coal black. The white basal parts of the hairs show through to a certain extent but the general effect is jet black. A narrow margin of white 6 mm. wide on upper lips from middle of snout to corner of mouth. Above this white band but below and behind the nostril on each side, is a triangular tawny patch. The lower lip is margined with white which occupies all except the central half of the chin and extends behind the corner of the mouth in a long, gradually narrowing streak; this almost reaches the white throat-patch which is about 40 mm. in width.

The proximal part of each ear in front is strongly tinged with tawny but on the back this is less pronounced and the ear is largely black. The short mane is intense black like the body, stiff, erect and crest-like; the hairs are about 120 mm. in length. From the mane to the tail, the hair of the mid-dorsal line forms a well-defined ridge. The tail is black in the center with an admixture of tawny hairs; the tip is all black.

Inside of fore legs to hoofs, tawny; externally, black to the knees; front of "cannon bones" black except at the knees where the black is indistinct and suffused with tawny. Just above the hoofs, the blackish area is thinly sprinkled with light buff and posteriorly, between the dew claws and the hoof, it is all light buff. Buttocks tinged with tawny. Thighs almost to hocks, black with slight admixture of tawny. Inner side of hind legs to hoofs tawny. From hocks to opposite dew claws, anteriorly, the legs are tawny but with a suggestion of blackish, due to the hairs which are black on the basal half and tawny on the tips. From opposite the dew claws to the hoofs the black is pronounced and thinly interspersed with buff-tipped hairs. The area between the dew claws and the hoofs, posteriorly, is all buff.

There is no underfur present on any part of the body.

Skull badly broken. Measurements of skull: condylo-basal length, 257 mm.; least orbital width, 68; width of palate between first premolars, 37; length of horn on curve, 117; circumference of horn at base, 95. External measurements of type: head and body, 1350; tail, 180; hind foot, 390; ear, 175; height at shoulder, 950.

Capricornis osborni is undoubtedly allied to our specimens from Li-chiang, Yün-nan Province, which I have identified as *C. milne-edwardsi*. Its chief distinguishing characters are its coal-black body and head, its short black mane and the greater amount of black on the lower part of the legs. Our four specimens of *C. milne-edwardsi* all have brownish-black bodies and heads, long whitish manes, and little or no black upon the lower legs. In the very heavy mat-like gray mane, my two specimens of *C. argyrochætes* from Fukien Province, China, differ strikingly from *osborni*, although in the amount and disposition of the black on the lower legs the two somewhat resemble each other. *C. swettenhami* of the Malay Peninsula is distinguished from *osborni* by the black legs and the mane, which is a mixture of whitish, black and reddish hairs.

In discussing *C. milne-edwardsi* Mr. R. I. Pocock¹ has remarked: "A closely allied form apparently resembling typical *milne-edwardsi* in color except that the fronts of the cannon bones appear to be black has been recorded by Mr. H. Shaw Dunn from Kyonklongyi and other localities in the North Shan States of Upper Burma where it lives mostly in evergreen forests at altitudes of from 4,500 to 6,000 feet (Field, Jan. 9, 1909)."

I have not been able to discover Mr. Dunn's communication in the 'Field' but I have no doubt that the race I am now describing is the one to which he refers.

The serow which Lieut. R. C. Beavan² described as inhabiting the vicinity of Moul-mein, Burma, and which Mr. Pocock referred provisionally to *milne-edwardsi* may be this new form. While the affinities of *osborni* are toward *milne-edwardsi*, it is interesting as showing an approach toward *swettenhami* of the Malay Peninsula in the considerable amount of black on the legs and the short black mane.

Near Genkang, Yün-nan Province, we purchased from a native a flat serow skin which lacks the head and lower legs. This specimen was said to have come from the mountains of Keng-ma about 200 miles southeast of Teng-yüeh and not far from the Burma frontier. It is brownish black

¹'The Serows, Goralis and Takins of British India and the Straits Settlements.' By R. I. Pocock. Part II. Journal, Bombay Natural History Society, XXII, pp. 307-308.

²1866, Proc. Zool. Soc. London, p. 4.

in general color, has a short crest-like, brownish-black mane, similar in character to that of *osborni*, and what remains of the skin shows that both the fore and hind legs were whitish or light buff below the knees and hocks.

This specimen may possibly represent the male of *C. osborni*, for the differences are somewhat similar to those between the male and female of our *C. argyrochætes* from Fukien.

I shot *C. osborni* near the village of Hui-yao while hunting monkeys on the precipitous bank of the river. The cliff was almost perpendicular and was covered with a tangled jungle growth. Now and then the rock wall would become less precipitous and the thick cover give place to an open grassy slope. It was when I was about to cross such an opening that the serow dashed out of the bushes where it had evidently been feeding. I fired just before it disappeared over the rim of the gorge and it sank in its tracks, gave a convulsive twist, and plunged into the canyon. It was recovered with considerable difficulty.

Although the natives knew that serows lived in this part of the gorge, few of them had ever seen one and it was an object of great curiosity in the village.

There is little change in the country between Hui-yao and the Burma frontier and no reason why *C. osborni* should not have an unrestricted range into Burma.

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FRANK E. LUTZ, Editor

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