

AMERICAN MUSEUM NOVITATES

Published by

Number 1170 THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
New York City

May 4, 1942

A NEW RACE OF THE COMMON DUIKER, *SYLVICAPRA*, FROM THE KALAHARI DESERT, SOUTHWESTERN AFRICA

By JOHN ERIC HILL

Among the specimens collected by the Vernay-Lang Kalahari Expedition are five examples of the common duiker that apparently represent a new form.

Sylvicapra grimmia vernayi, new subspecies

TYPE.—No. 83576, Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., adult ♂, skin and skull, from Kaotwe Pan (22° 30' S., 23° 20' E.), original no. 65, April 9, 1930. One other specimen from the same locality, two from Kuke Pan (Field Museum) and one from Makarikari Lake Flats have been examined.

DIAGNOSIS.—A race of the common duiker, pale grayish buffy in color, with chest and inside of tarsus like the sides or mixed with whitish hairs.

From *S. g. bradfieldi* Roberts, from Okahandja, South West Africa, *vernayi* differs by having dark hair-tips; the forehead is near Ochraceous-Tawny, rather than "rufous"; the white of the underparts is less extensive, being restricted to the lower jaw, insides of the forelegs, abdomen and insides of the hind legs above the "hock." (One specimen from Kuke Pan has a white stripe below the hock.)

The new race differs from the Angolan common duiker in paler, duller coloration—upperparts near Pinkish Buff mixed with Hair Brown, rather than near ochraceous (16' h)—less extensive and intensive dark facial blaze; less white on the underparts (extending on the chest and to the false hoofs in most specimens of the Angolan duiker).

S. g. vernayi differs from the South African race in much paler, more ochraceous coloration, but it resembles that form in that the chest is colored much like the sides of the body.

From *S. g. flavescens* Lorenz, from Northern Rhodesia, the Kalahari duiker differs in less yellowish, usually paler and more grayish coloration.

Zukowsky's names (Arch. f. Naturg., 90, Sect. A, pt. 1, pp. 113, 115, 117, 118) for various duikers from South West Africa, based on cranial characters of doubtful significance, probably apply partly to the Angolan duiker and partly to *S. g. "bradfieldi."* It is unfortunate that they must be considered, but they antedate the latter race and one of them will probably replace it.

