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## AN APPARENTLY UNDESCRIBED MEMBER OF THE *PTEROPUS* *PSELAPHON* GROUP FROM NEW CALEDONIA

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The species of *Pteropus* from the Santa Cruz-New Caledonia group of islands become increasingly numerous, as shown:

Santa Cruz: *vanikorensis* Quoy and Gaimard, 1830; *tuberculatus* Peters, 1869 (locality fixed by Troughton, 1927); *nitendiensis* Sanborn, 1930; *tonganus hef-fernani* Troughton, 1930; *sanctaerucis* Troughton, 1930; *banksianus* Sanborn, 1930.

New Hebrides: *tonganus geddiei* MacGillivray, 1860; *anetianus* Gray, 1870; *otinus* Andersen, 1913; *bakeri* Thomas, 1925.

Loyalty Islands: *ornatus auratus* Andersen, 1909.

New Caledonia: *ornatus* Gray, 1870.

There remains also *vetulus* Jouan, 1863, from New Caledonia, technically "described" under the rules of nomenclature but actually unidentifiable. The complete description of *vetulus* reads: "Length: 0 m. 16. Resembles the preceding [*ornatus*], but differs from it by its uniformly smaller size. Fur longer, more silky than woolly."

The length of *ornatus* was given by Jouan as "0 m. 25." Therefore the body length of *vetulus* was only two-thirds that of *ornatus*.

It has been customary for authors to place *vetulus* in the synonymy of *ornatus*. Perhaps this may be the best method of disposing of a name unidentifiable from its accompanying text and whose type (Revilleod, 1914, p. 345) is lost, but recently there has been collected in New Caledonia a small species of *Pteropus* which may represent the unidentifiable *vetulus*. Pending rediscovery of the lost type and proof of its identity with this new discovery the latter may be named

### *Pteropus macmillani*, new species

TYPE.—No. 135817, Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist.; adult ♀; Tao, slopes of Mont Panié, New Caledonia; 4000 feet. Collector, L. Macmillan. The type is a skin with skull in good condition, teeth scarcely worn.

GENERAL CHARACTERS.—A quite small species which fits none of Andersen's groups well. The heavily furred tibia, feet and toes and the posterior ledges of the upper incisors suggest the *pselaphon* group, but the delicacy and narrowness of the molariform teeth are reminiscent of the *scapulatus* group. Rostrum short;  $p^1$  obsolete (in both specimens);  $i_2$  and  $p_1$  enlarged; posterior ledges evident from outside in  $p_3-4$ ;  $m^1$  elongate, with two well defined notches in its external face. Mantle not differentiated from body fur by contrasting color.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE.—General pelage woolly, the ample hairs extending to the toes, and beneath the wings reaching along forearm as far as middle of same. Ears short, rounded off, almost concealed by fur. Color dark brownish gray, darkest on head and underparts, relieved by silvering of the tips of the wool hairs and longer guard hairs, particularly on back, rump, throat and chest. The body color not unlike that of *P. tuberculatus*. Membrane attached between second and third metatarsals.

SKULL OF TYPE.—Rostrum short; sagittal crest low and weak; zygoma strong and deep, with strong upward arch but lacking postorbital process; its general outline much as in *tuberculatus*, but smaller. The coronoid ramus of mandible strongly erect as in the species of the *pselaphon* group. The skull differs markedly by the much narrower palate and teeth, by the obsolescence of  $p^1$  and of the postero-exterior canine cusp. The canines are short and heavy in comparison with those of *scapulatus*. Upper incisors subequal, with distinct posterior basal ledges; outer lower incisors much larger than inner (*pselaphon* and *samoensis* groups);  $p_2$  enlarged,  $p_3-4$  with well developed postero-external cusps (Andersen, 1912, Fig. 10B);  $m^1$  elongate; narrow, its outer margin twice notched to form three cusps successively smaller from front to back;  $m_{1-2}$  of the same general form as  $p_3-4$ ;  $m_3$  subcircular, faintly cusped.

MEASUREMENTS OF TYPE.<sup>1</sup>—Length, head and

<sup>1</sup> No field measurements available.

body, 200 mm.; forearm, 110; height of ear from crown, 11; hind foot (c.u.) from base of calcar, 33. Skull: condylo-incisive length, 48 (53)<sup>1</sup>; zygomatic width, 27 (31); orbit to tip of nasals, 13.2 (15); width of palate between  $m^{1-1}$ , 9.0 (10.4); palatal length, 26 (31);  $c-m^2$ , 17.7 (21.5). Teeth, crown areas:  $i^1$ ,  $1.7 \times 1.3$  ( $1.7 \times 1.7$ );  $i^2$ ,  $1.7 \times 1.3$  ( $1.7 \times 1.7$ ); upper  $c$ ,  $3.1 \times 2.3$  ( $3.8 \times 3.2$ );  $p^3$ ,  $3.4 \times 2.2$  ( $3.6 \times 2.9$ );  $p^4$ ,  $3.0 \times 2.7$  ( $3.5 \times 3.1$ );  $m^1$ ,  $3.8 \times 2.1$  ( $4.3 \times 2.7$ );  $i_1$ ,  $1.0 \times 0.9$  ( $1.0 \times 1.1$ );  $i_2$ ,  $1.3 \times 1.2$  ( $1.3 \times 1.3$ );  $p_1$ ,  $2.1 \times 1.6$  ( $2.2 \times 2.1$ );  $p_3$ ,  $3.5 \times 1.8$  ( $3.1 \times 2.6$ );  $p_4$ ,  $3.1 \times 1.9$  ( $3.4 \times 2.6$ );  $m_1$ ,  $2.7 \times 1.9$  ( $3.5 \times 2.5$ );  $m_2$ ,  $2.6 \times 1.8$  ( $2.9 \times 2.3$ ).

A second specimen collected with the

<sup>1</sup> Measurements in parentheses are those of a female *tuberculatus* from Vanikoro Island.

type is also a female of about the same age. The skin is slightly darker, and a trace of light brown appears in the bases of the hairs of the mantle area.

It seems that *P. macmillani* is derived from the *pselaphon* group but is specialized by the notching of  $m^1$  and the narrowing of all the teeth. In the lower jaw  $p_3$  is particularly compressed. The similarity of the compressed teeth to those of *scapulatus* may well be adventitious.

In addition to the new species Mr. Macmillan obtained small series of *P. ornatus* and *P. ornatus auratus* and also a single example of *P. anetianus*.

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