Mammals of Australia:

An Introduction to their Classification, Biology and Distribution

by James R. Turner

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MAMMALS OF AUSTRALIA

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Written and Illustrated

by

JAMES R. TURNER

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2004

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James R. Turner

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I dedicate this book
to Abi,
who is my inspiration in all that I do.

J.R. TURNER
002 004 957 1094

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FOREWORD

Much of the content of his book was originally released in 1999, as a CD-Rom titled Mammals of Australia. Due to new technology, viz the sudden introduction of DVD's shortly thereafter, the demand for CD-Roms declined rapidly. Even so, the success of this CD-Rom was shown by the fact that the Australian Standing Orders organization, which reviews material for Australian schools, chose Mammals of Australia as one of the four best CD-Roms released in that year. In The Australian newspaper IT/Reviews, reviewer Mark Butler described the Mammals of Australia CD-Rom "as a little gem". Butler went on to state that CD-Roms up until that time, were largely uneven in presentation as a result of the work of different photographers' quality and subject, as well as lack of thought in overall presentation. It was pointed out by the reviewer, that the high standard of the paintings was refreshing and that each animal was "rendered with just enough character and detail to make it seem to shimmer with life" This new book, the first of its type for the Australian fauna has just been updated by one of Australia's leading natural history artists, Mr. James R. Turner.

This book has a different format to any of the other Australian mammal books of the past in that the various species are arranged in common name/ alphabetical order. The advantage of this is that those who are not familiar with mammals soon become aware of the wide variation between families and species. For those who are familiar with mammals, the quick find index enables them to go directly to any species or sub-species using the scientific name. The paintings add a 19th century feel to the book and each depicts the mammals in a way which is not possible with photography. The information on each of the 320 species covered is up to date at the time of completing the manuscript in October 2003 and the reference list is comprehensive. The text entries for each species are clear, precise and informative.

This is an excellent book which attempts to cover new ground and should be a welcome addition to Australian mammalogy and libraries everywhere.

Dr T. J. Hawkeswood
North Richmond, New South Wales
Australia (July 2003)

R LUKENER
2022026 1288099

PREFACE

In late October 1981, I got off the train from Sydney to Broken Hill, at Roto in central NSW. I then began walking back through the mallee scrub 20km to Matakana, where I got back on the same train, as it returned to Sydney the following afternoon.

I was collecting jewel beetles and in fact found a new species that morning. However of just as much interest to me, was the tiny grey native mouse I found lying exhausted on the ground just after sunrise. I placed it in a collecting bottle 55mm deep x 35mm diameter. It took up only half the bottle. Apart from the soft grey fur the other thing I remember were the two large teeth in the upper jaw. After observing it for a few minutes I decided to make up a honey and water mix and give it a drink. It quickly recovered and became very active so I released it.

My interest in all things flora and fauna remains and I enjoy the challenge of trying to capture the things I see, in such a way, so as to breathe life into them when they are reproduced on the printed page.

The more I learn and the more skill I gain, the more I realise, how little in fact I do know and how much more there is still to learn.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank all those researchers and photographers who go out time and time again, looking for that species, to try and get that photo, to capture that specimen. I know just how frustrating it can be.

Many people have assisted in the creation of this book, as can be seen in the reference section. The works of Strahan, Menkhorst and Hoser and many others being worthy of mention. From those who wrote a description of a species accompanied by a drawing, right up to the present day, where colour photography and videos can take us to places we will probably never have the chance to go.

I would like to thank Patrick Martin for his willingness to say "Let's Do It" when I phoned him without warning, early one Monday morning and asked if I could do this book.

Thanks also to all the staff at Hawkesbury Skills, Richmond NSW for their help, particularly Colin Westwood for his assistance in solving computer problems.

Thanks to Fred Vidler for his kind assistance so as to complete the final draft of the book.

I would especially like to thank all the Library staff of the Australian Museum, Sydney. I often asked questions that tested their skill but they were able to find the information I needed to fine tune this manuscript when I needed it. I appreciate your help, thank you one and all.

Thanks especially to Trevor Hawkeswood for his help with this book. We have completed many flora/fauna surveys and travelled a lot of miles together over these past few years.

Finally thanks to Richard Wells for his assistance and guidance 15 years ago, when I did my first mammal paintings.

R TURNER
002020 1233099

QUICK FIND INDEX
MAMMALS OF AUSTRALIA
Currently Recognised Species and Sub-species

Subclass Prototheria
(montremes)

Order Monotremata
(platypus and echidnas)
Family Ornithorhynchidae
(Platypus)
Ornithorhynchus anatinus 147
Family Tachyglossidae
(echidnas)
Tachyglossus aculeatus 161

Subclass Marsupialia
(marsupials)

Order Dasyuromorphia
(carnivorous marsupials)
Family Dasyuridae
(dasyurids)
Antechinomys laniger 110
Antechinus adustus 157
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Antechinus bellus 84
Antechinus flavipes 192
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Sminthopsis hirtipes 99
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Sminthopsis virginae 150
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Superfamily Perameloidea
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(eutherian or placental mammals)

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Nyctophilus bifax 80
Nyctophilus geoffroyi 116
Nyctophilus gouldi 93
Nyctophilus howensis 126
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(rodents)
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(rats and mice)
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Conilurus penicillatus 50
Hydromys chrysogaster 181
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Leggadina lakedownensis 111
Leporillus apicalis 117
Leporillus conditor 97
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Melomys cervinipes 85
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Notomys cervinus 85
Notomys fuscus 74
Notomys longicaudatus 124
Notomys macrotis 39
Notomys mitchelli 129
Notomys mordax 68
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Rattus norvegicus 48
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Zyzomys palatalis 55
Zyzomys pedunculatus 57
Zyzomys woodwardi 108

Order Sirenia
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(dogs and foxes)
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(eared seals)
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Axis porcinus 102
Cervus elaphus 151
Cervus timorensis 157
Cervus unicolor 158
Dama dama 82
Family Bovidae
(horned ruminants)
Bubalus bubalus 174
Capra hircus 91
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Order Lagomorpha
(rabbits and hares)
Family Leporidae
(rabbits and hares)
Lepus capensis 48
Oryctolagus cuniculus 150

Order Cetacea
(whales, dolphins, porpoises)
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Family Delphinidae
(dolphins, pilot whales and Killer Whale)
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Family Balaenidae
(right whales)
Eubalaena australis 168
Family Balaenopteridae
(rorquals)
Balaenoptera musculus 43
Megaptera novaeangliae 104

INTRODUCTION

MAMMALS
Mammals are a class of vertebrates, the Mammalia, distinguished by the possession of mammary glands in the female and in having hair on the body. The biological success of the mammals is owed to a great extent to their warm-bloodedness. A layer of body hair, or bristles as in whales, acts as an insulator, preventing loss of heat in cold conditions. They can conserve energy by allowing the body temperature to fall almost to that of their surroundings; this is known as torpor. In hot weather, mammals avoid the sun by burrowing into the ground. They can survive without drinking by producing highly concentrated urine and dry faecal pellets. Small mammals have a greater surface area, in relation to their volume, than larger mammals and are more likely to lose body heat by radiation. Therefore mammals that do not live underground or in the shelter of leaf litter need to eat every two hours or so just to replace the energy lost by this radiation. Most of the major groups of mammals that have ever existed are now extinct. Australia is the only country where the three types of mammal; marsupials, monotremes and placental mammals, exist side-by-side.

MARSUPIALS
Marsupials are born in an embryonic state as they lack a placenta. They are minute, blind, hairless and with hind limbs only partially formed. The fore limbs are, however, very developed and the toes are armed with sharp, curved claws. When born, it uses the fore limbs to pull itself over the mother's abdomen, seeking a teat, to which it firmly attaches itself by its mouth. It only releases itself when it has become a small adult. In many marsupials teats are covered by an extensive fold of skin which forms a pouch, providing a protective environment for the young during their second stage of development. Marsupials have a slightly lower body temperature and metabolic rate than eutherian mammals. Their senses appear to be the same but the brain of the marsupial is usually smaller. The cerebral hemisphere - centres of information storage, association and intelligence - are less well developed. In this respect, marsupials are different and inferior, and in competition with eutherian mammals, marsupials have often been outwitted. Their are four orders: Dasyuromorphia (carnivorour marsupials); Peramelemorphia (bandicoot and bilby); Diprotodontia (koala, wombat, possum and macropod) and Notoryctemorphia (marsupial mole).

MONOTREMES
Mammals classified as Prototherians lived about 220 and 100 million years ago. Monotreme fossils include recently extinct echidnas and a toothed platypus from about 15 million years ago. Today, living monotremes comprise the Platypus and two species of Echidnas. Monotremes differ from other mammals in lacking teats and in laying eggs. Certain aspects of their internal anatomy are also unique. Monotemes have survived because they occupy ecological niches in which there is little or no competition. Monotremata is the single order (echidna and platypus).

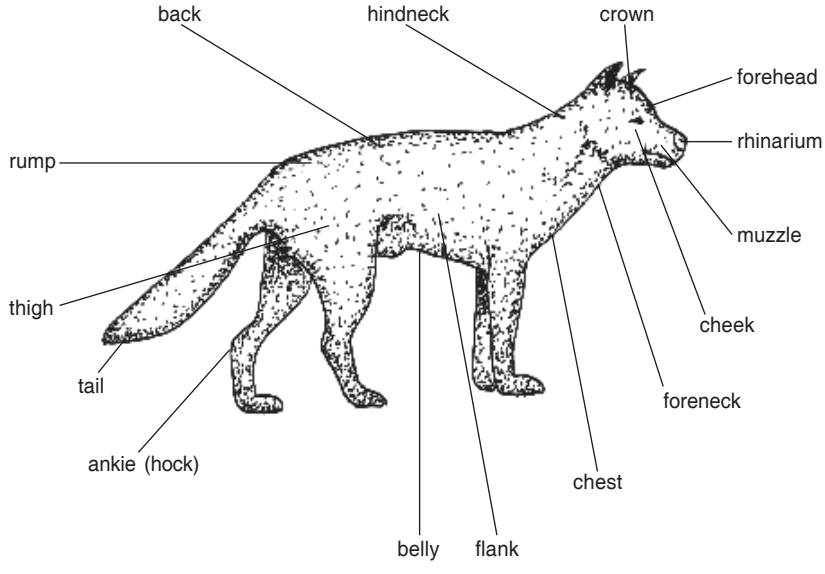
EUTHERIANS
Eutherians are mammals which give birth to young with fully formed hind limbs. Females are characterised by having separate apertures for voiding faseces, urine and young. Infants are nurtured in the womb by means of a very efficient placenta. The diverse evolutionary radiation of the eutherian mammals - extending from terrestrial, arboreal, burrowing and flying species to those that are entirely aquatic - is unmatched in any other group of living vertebrates. The seven orders comprise: the Chiroptera (bats); Sirenia (dugong); Carnivora (seal, dog, cat, fox); Rodentia (rodents); Lagomorpha (rabbit and hare); Perissondactyle (horse and donkey) and Artiodactyla (camel, pig, goat, deer and cattle). The only Eutherians native to Australia are bats, rodents and seals.

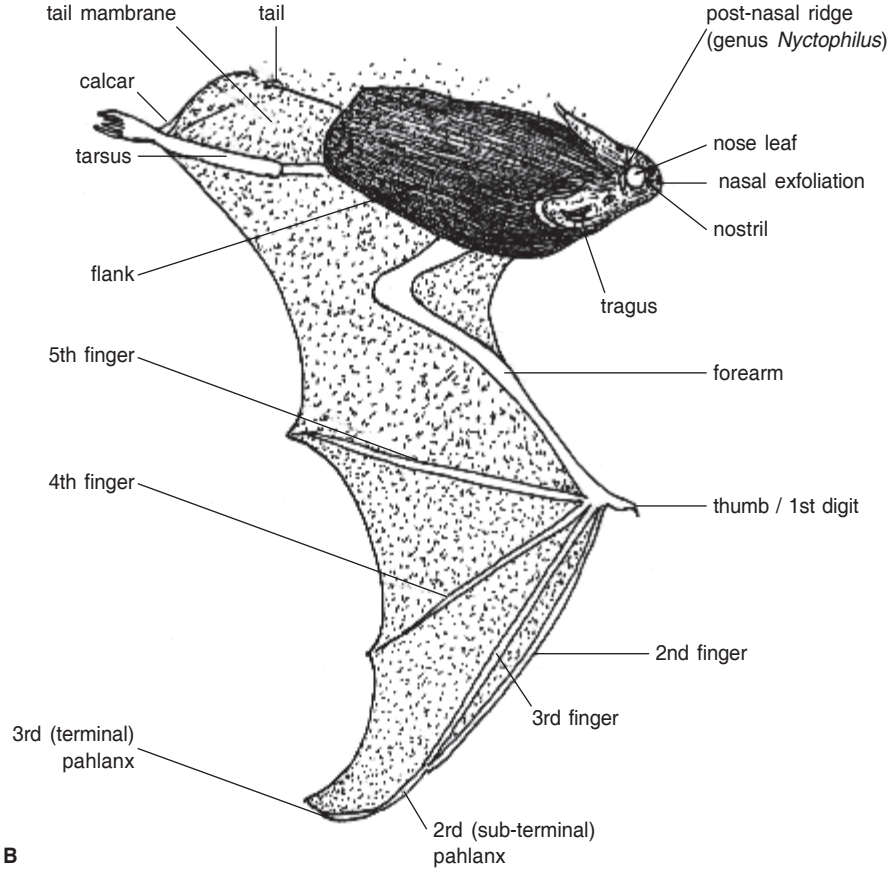
INTRODUCED SPECIES
Introduced species were brought to Australia for the purpose of hunting (deer); as pack and draught animals (camel); accidently (house mouse) and for eradicating rodents (cat). Few areas of Australia are free from the effects of introduced animal species. In the tropical north the cane toad is said to be a major predator of small native vertebrates. Even the introduced honeybee, which is now widely established in the feral state, is suspected of affecting native nectar-feeding insects, mammals and birds. The introduced species Australia now supports include: the dingo, fox, cat, rabbit, hare, horse, donkey, pig, camel, buffalo, goat and deer.

SOME DIAGNOSTIC CHARACTERS IN MAMMALS

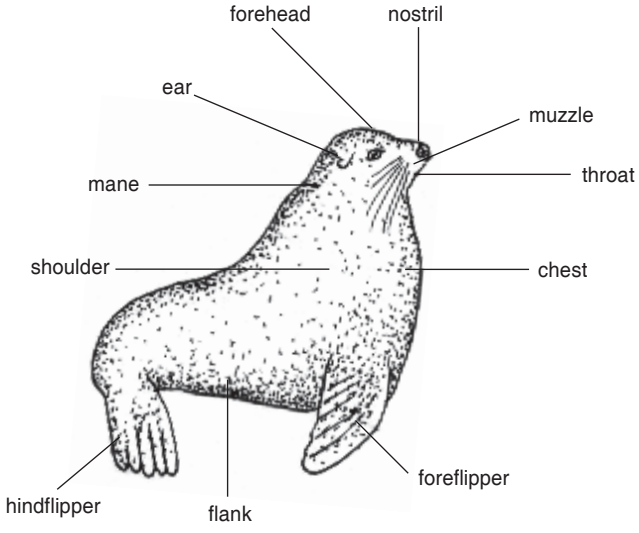
Names of body parts and colour patterns of some different mammals

a. Dog, **b.** Bat, **c.** Seal, **d.** Kangaroo, **e.** Whale,
f. Hindfoot of small marsupial, **g.** hindfoot of rat-kangaroo



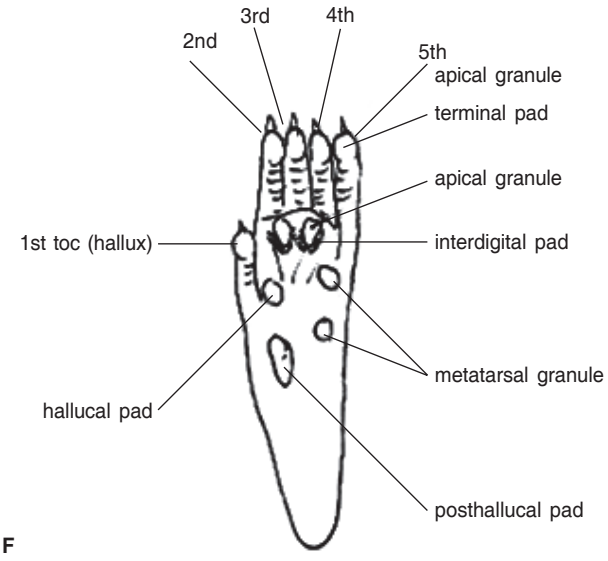


B

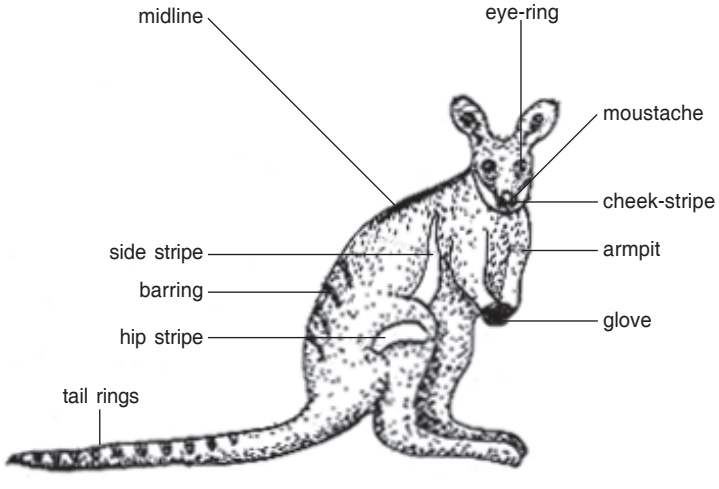


C

Hindfoot of a small terrestrial marsupial

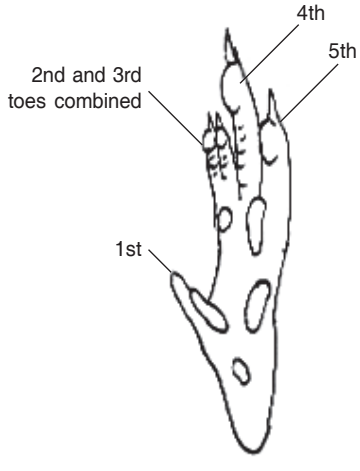


F

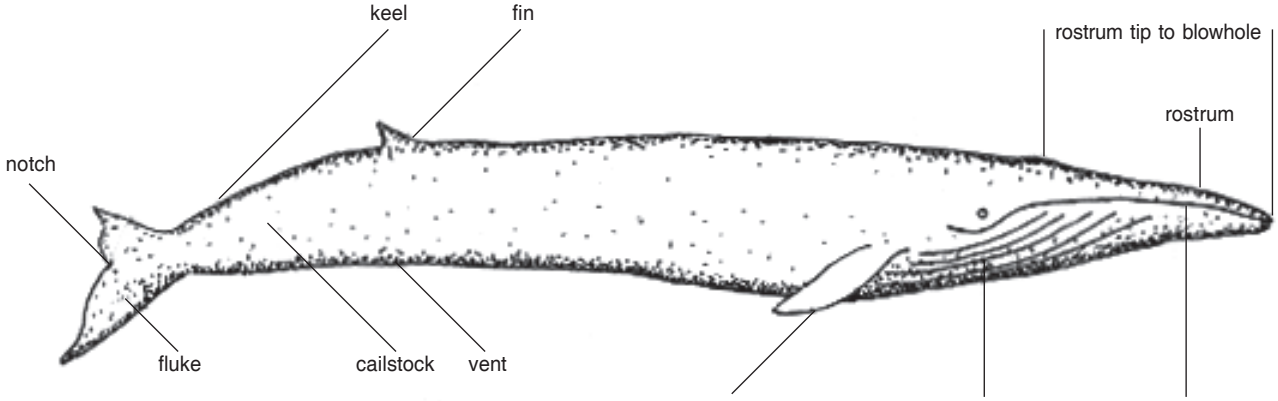


D

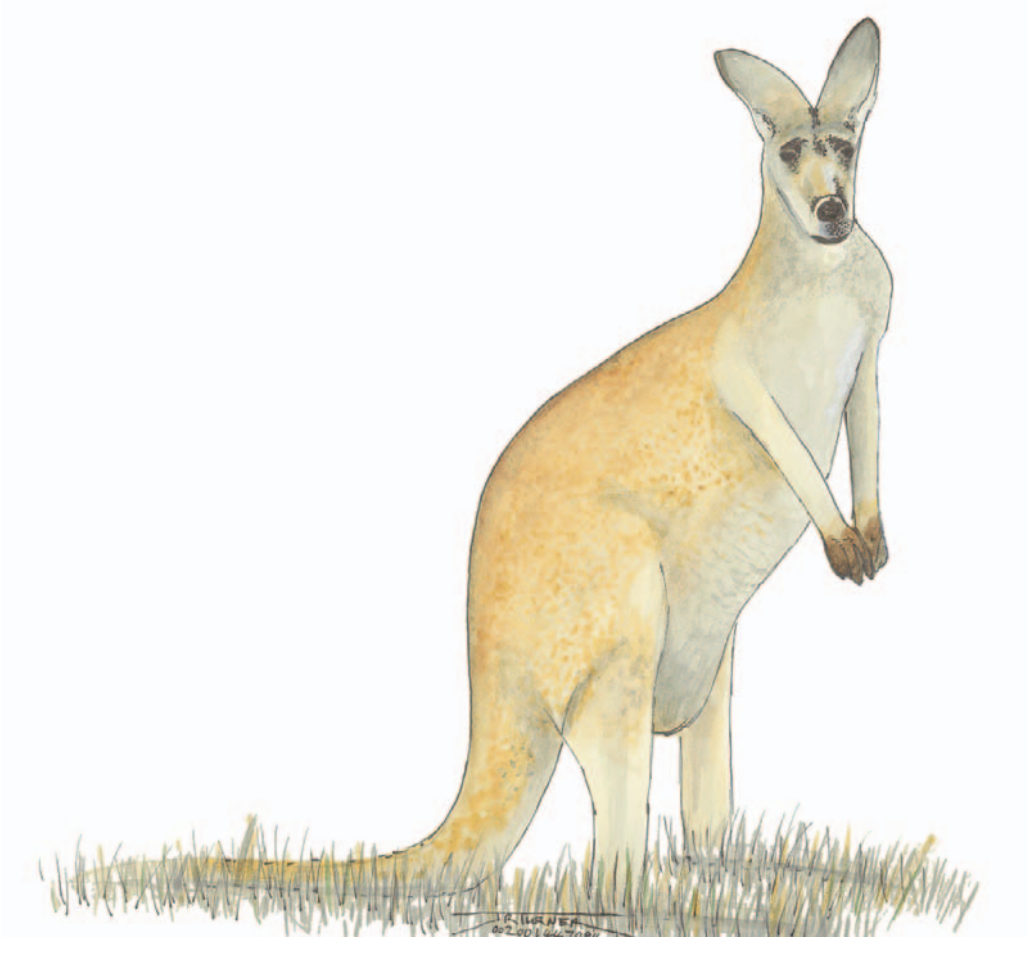
Hindfoot of a rat kangaroo showing 2nd and 3rd toes combined



G



E



MAMMALS OF AUSTRALIA
THE FAMILIES

CLASS MAMMALIA

SUBCLASS Prototheria (monotremes)

ORDER Monotremata (platypus and echidnas)
Living monotremes comprise the Platypus and two species of echidnas. The name Monotremata refers to the single (cloacal) aperture in the female, through which faeces, urine and eggs are passed. The male also has a penis for the transmission of sperm. Monotremes lack teats. Young are nourished on milk secreted from numerous pores on the belly. Monotremes have survived because they occupy ecological niches in which there is little or no competition. The order comprises two families, the Ornithorhynchidae and Tachyglossidae.

FAMILY Orthithorhynchidae (Platypus)
This family includes one living species, the Platypus. A fossil species resembles it in general body shape but differs in having teeth.

FAMILY Tachyglossidae (echidnas)
Species in this family have spines of differing lengths and fur on the back, sides and tail. The long snout is circular with a tiny mouth, through which a long tongue can quicky flick in and out to feed. The Short-beaked Echidna, feeds on ants that stick to its tongue and can be found in Australia and the lowlands of New Guinea. The larger Long-beaked Echidna feeds on worms and large solitary insects in the litter on the forest floor, grasping these with the tip of its tongue and can be found in mist forest in the highlands of New Guinea.

SUBCLASS Marsupialia (marsupials)

ORDER Dasyuromorphia (carnivorous marsupials)
This group includes predatory marsupials. Members have four pairs of needle-like incisors in the upper jaw and three similar pairs in the lower jaw; the canine teeth are well developed and sharply serrated. The snout is elongated and the legs are similar length. The tail is never prehensile.

FAMILY Dasyuidae
Small to medium-sized terestrial predators, although a few hunt in trees. The exception is the Tasmanian Devil which is a scavenger and the largest of the surviving dasyurids. Dasyurids are characterised by a biting, cutting dentition with four pairs of pointed upper incisors and three lower pairs; well developed upper and lower canines; two or three pairs of upper and lower knife-like premolars and four pairs of upper and lower molars with sharp, shearing cusps.

FAMILY Myrmecobiidae
The Numbat is the only member of this family, so the characteristics of the family are those of the species. It is the only marsupial that is specialised for feeding on small social insects, that is, termites.

FAMILY Thylacinidae
The head and forequarters of the Thylacine are similar to that of a wolf whilst the proportions of the body and hindquarters resemble those of dasyurids. This is merely a product of the evolutionary steps necessary to become a running carnivore.

SUBORDER Peramelomorphia

SUPERFAMILY Perameloidae
The bandicoots and bilbies which comprise this order have four or five pairs of upper incisors and three paris on the lower jaw but these are blunt not needle-like. The second and third toes of the hind foot are fused together except for the claws. The fourth toe is longer and the fifth is small or absent. Food is obtained by digging with the forefeet. The snout is long and pointed and the neck short. The head appears to continue into the body. Large hindquarters give the animal a pear-shaped appearance. The diet includes small invertebrates and plant material. All females have eight teats in a backwards-opening pouch but don't rear more than four young. The embryo is connected by a placenta but the gestation period is less than in those marsupials that lack a placenta.

FAMILY Peramelidae
Three genera of this family now occur in Australia: Isoodon, Perameles and Macrotis. Species of Perameles and Isoodon have normal-sized ears,

short legs, stiff but rather sleek hair and a short sparsely haired tail. As in all peramelids, males are larger than females.

FAMILY Peroryctidae
The Rufous Spiny Bandicoot is the only species found in Australia, most species of this family being from New Guinea.

SUBORDER Notoryctemorphia
The single species in this order is the only marsupial to spend its life underground. It is blind, lacks external ears and has a horny shield on the snout and a stub of a tail. The female has two teats in a well-formed pouch which opens backwards. The male lacks a scrotum, the testes being within the abdomen. It does not tunnel, but "swims" through the sand, leaving no cavity behind it.

FAMILY Notoryctoidea
The marsupial Mole is the only member of this family, so the characteristics of the family are those of the species. In its adaption to a burrowing existence in sandy deserts, it has become blind and has lost its external ears.

ORDER Diprotodonta
Members of this group are characterised by pocessing only one pair of incisors in the lower jaw; a second, non functioning pair may be present. Diprotodonts are usually herbivorous, but some species are insectivorous, while some are omnivorous. A few feed on pollen and nectar. The second and third toes of the hind foot are fused together to form what looks like one digit with two claws. Diprotodonts are classified into two suborders; the Vombatiformes, comprising wombats, koalas; and Phalangerida, comprising possums and kangaroo-like marsupials.

FAMILY Phascolarctidae
The Koala is the only living species of this family. It has stout, rat-like incisors, but three upper pairs work against one lower pair. Its teeth do not grow continuously like those of wombats. The Koala is a sure-footed climber with large, strongly clawed for and hind feet allowing it to climb the trunk of a tree by digging in its claws.

FAMILY Vombatidae
Wombats are primarily grazers. Two upper incisors work against the lower pair as efficent cutters of grass and forbs. There are no canine teeth. Limbs are short and powerful with broad claws, allowing it to burrow into very firm soil.

FAMILY Acrobatidae
This family contains two species, the Feathertail Glider from Australia and the larger, non-gliding Feathertail Possum from New Guinea. They are charcterised by a long, slim tail bearing stiff lateral hairs that form a feather-like structure. The hindfoot has a sixth pad on the sole, not present in burramyids.

FAMILY Burramyidae
A very small marsupial with a strongly prehensile tail that is longer than the mouse-like head and body. Molar teeth of all species have low, smooth cusps. All Pygmy-possums construct a nest of shredded bark and leaves, usually in a tree-hole. Generally insectivorous but the Eastern Pygmy-possum includes a great deal of nectar in its diet; the Little Pygmy-possum can eat small lizards and the Mountain Pygmy-possum includes hard seeds in its diet. They can become torpid for varying periods when food is scarce or the temperature is low.

FAMILY Hypsiprymnodontidae
This family contains only one species, the Musky Rat-kangaroo it differs from other potorids by having a movable first toe on the hindfoot which enables it to climb on sloping fallen branches. When moving quickly it gallops using all fours. Other potorids are not able to climb and when moving quickly they hop using their hindlegs.

FAMILY Macropodidae
This is the largest marsupial family. The macropod body shape is determined by the hopping mode of fast locomotion, which depends upon powerful hindlimbs, with a long, narrow hindfoot and a powerfull fourth toe. The stomach of a kangaroo is divided into compartments where micro-organisms can ferment fibrous plant material. Therefore the success of kangaroos and larger wallabies is due to their ability to feed on tough, fibrous grasses. Many kangaroos exhibit embryonic diapause, whereby a very early embryo is retained in the uterus for a long period of time in a state of suspended development.

FAMILY Petauridae
All petaurids are arborela and most live in well-watered forests. The lower incisors of petaurids are long, sharp and protuberant; the molars have low, smooth cusps. All species have a dark dorsal stripe that extends onto the forehead. The prehensile tail is long and well-furred. Petaurids differ from pseudocheirids by feeding on insects and/or plant exudates, nectar and pollen. The forward opening pouch encloses two or four teats.

FAMILY Phalangeridae
Phalangerids have a short face with eyes directed forward. They are excellent climbers, moving slowly and deliberately. All female phalangerids have a well-developed, forward-opening pouch which encloses two or four teats. They usually rear only one young at a time.

FAMILY Potoroidae
The tail is slightly prehensile and is used to carry nesting material. Potoroids eat non-fibrous foods such as insects and other invertebrates, bulbs, tubers and fungi. They have three pairs of upper incisors, arranged in a deep arch on the upper jaw and a pair of long lower incisors that bite against these. The stomach is not divided into compartments.

FAMILY Pseudocheiridae
Most pseudocheirids have a strongly prehensile, short-furred tail which can support the body without help from the limbs. They are excellent climbers and are capable of opposing the first two digits of the forefoot agains the other three to make a firm grip on a branch. Mostly leaf-eaters. Female pseudocheirids have a well-developed, forward-opening pouch which encloses two or four teats and often rear two young.

FAMILY Tarsipedidae
The characteristics of the family are those of the single species, the Honey Possum which is specialised for a diet of nectar.

SUBCLASS Eutheria
(eutherian or placental mammals)

ORDER Chiroptera
This order comprises the bats, the only mammal capable of sustained flight by means of thin membrances of skin that extend between the fingers, to the hind limbs and often to the tail. When resting bats usually hang upside-down, suspended by claws of one or both of its forefeet and the arrangement of ligaments in the foot is such that this does not require any muscular effort. Bats appear to have evolved from primitive mammals similar to shrews and were originally insectivorous. Most remain so, and outside the tropics, their problems of heat loss are exacerbated by the reduction of food available in winter.

FAMILY Emballonuridae
Sheathtail-bats have a long, pointed snout without a noseleaf. The ear has a tragus. The tail appears to poke through the tail-membrane from below and to protrude freely above its surface. The tail is, in fact connected to the membrane by very flexible skin. This arrangement makes it easier for the bat to use its legs for walking or running over the wall of a cave. They are fast fliers and their narrow wings are so long that the tips fold back over the rest of the membrane when the individual is at rest.

FAMILY Hipposideridae
Leafnosed-bats look similar to horseshoe-bats however several differences are obvious. The digits on the hindfoot of leafnosed-bats have only two phalanges and only two lower premolars are present while horseshoe-bats have three of each. The noseleaf is made up of three small components often with pointed tips. They prefer warm humid locations with their flight being swift and silent. However when searching for food their broad, short wings enable them to fly slowly, almost fluttering, around dense vegetation at ground level.

FAMILY Megadermatidae
False vampire-bats have very long, upright ears that are partly joined together over the forehead. They have large eyes, a noseleaf and a tragus on the ear. Vision and echolocation are used in navigation and predation. Their diet includes other bats, birds, large insects and terrestrial mammals and reptiles.

FAMILY Molossidae
Freetail-bats or mastiff-bats are fast fliers with long, narrow wings that hunt above the forest canopy or on the ground. Becasue of their quadrupedal gait, they are sometimes know as 'scurrying bats'. Molossids have a short, square muzzle with wrinkled lips, large ears and no noseleaf.

FAMILY Pteropodidae
Flying-foxes and fruit-bats make up this family. Most are tropcial with a few species extending into warm temperate areas. They feed exclusively on fruits and nectar.

FAMILY Rhinolophidae
Horseshoe-bats have an elaborate noseleaf with three components, one of these includes a horseshoe-shaped membrane surrounding the nostrils. They emit ultrasonic sounds through the nostrils and the noseleaf probably acts as a reflector. Rhinolophids have large ears and broad wings for great manoeuvrability.

FAMILY Vespertiliondae
Vespertilionids are small bats with tiny eyes, simple ears and no noseleaf. The tail is relatively long and

the tail-membrane extends to its tip. A notable feature of this family is its success; about one in three species are members of this family. They are found on every continent and due particularly to hibernation, they inhabit the colder parts of the world more than any other group.

ORDER Rodentia
Rodents form the largest group of mammals with more than 2000 species. The order Rodentia includes diverse animals as agoutis, porcupines, cavies, gophers, jerboas, squirrels, flying squirrels and beavers, and is classified into 4 suborders and 24 families. However, all Australian species fall into one family, the Muridae (rats and mice). Rodents are characterised by having only one pair of large incisor teeth in the upper and in ther lower jaws. The front surface consists of tough enamel and the back is made up of softer dentine which is worn away faster producing a chisel like cutting edge. Small rodents are a major source of food for carnivorous mammals and birds. Animals subject to heavy predation tend to reach sexual maturity at an early age, have a short gestation and produce frequent, large litters. However, the size of most rodent populations is limited by the availability of food and shelter, than by predation.

FAMILY Muridae
This is the largest and most widespread family of mammals. Most species lack canines and premolars and have three pairs of upper and lower molars. No simple definition of this group can be given but most members are mouse like.

ORDER Sirenia
Unrelated to seals and whales, the Sirenians are the only herbivorous aquatic mammals. They feed upon sea-grasses and other aquatic vegetation inshallow tropical to subtropical coastal waters, estuaries or rivers. They have no hind limbs and the tail fin is horizontal. Fore feet are shaped like rounded flippers and females have two teats in breast like mammae. The order is divided into two families: the Trichechidae which includes the manatees; and the Dugongidae with a single species, the Dugong.

FAMILY Dugongidae
The Dugong is the only living herbivorous mammal that is completely marine. It can be found in the warm waters of the Indian and south-western Pacific Oceans.

ORDER Carnivora
A large group of mammals including cats, dogs, bears, weasels and otters on every continent except Australia. The dog, cat and fox were introduced to Australia by humans. Marine carnivores, commonly known as seals, require access to land in order to breed but are less restricted to cold oceans and there has been less extensive and separate evolution of seals in the northern and southern circumpolar regions. Members of this one group, Otaroidea, have small external ears and hind limbs that can be moved forward or backward of the hip to enable a shuffling walk (sea-lions, fur-seals and walruses). The other group, phocoidea, have no external ear flap, the hind limbs are permanently directed backwards to create the equivalent of a tail fin ("true"seals), none of which are resident in Australian waters.

FAMILY Canidae
Canids are carnivores with long snouts, erect ears and strong claws. An opportunistic predator and most species will also eat soft fruits. They are social and can hunt in packs. An adult male and female usually form a permanent pair and rear young together.

FAMILY Felidae
This family ranges in size form the domestic Cat to the Lion and share characteristics such as short, broad heads and sharp retactable claws. Mainly terrestrial, they are also excellent climbers.

FAMILY Otariidae
Members of this family are characterised by the possession of a small external ear and the ability to use all four limbs when on land. Otarids propel themselves through the water by strokes of their large flippers (forelimbs),

FAMILY Phocidae
Phocids have no external ears. Their hindlimbs are pointed backwards and are not used when on land. Forelimbs are shorter when compared to otarids.

ORDER Perissodactyla (odd-toed Ungulates)
Members of this group are browsing and grazing animals that take most or all of the weight of the body on the elongated third digit of each foot. They crop vegetation with their large upper and lower incisors and utilise micro-organisms in the caecum and large intestine to reduce fibrous plant vegetation to manageable substances.

FAMILY Equidae
The Equidae family comprises horses, donkeys and zebras. Their feet are reduced to a single (third) toe, which bears a large hoof. The seven or so species in the genus are grazing animals which crop grasses with their upper and lower incisor teeth. Zebras are the only wild equids surviving in large numbers.

ORDER Artiodactyla (even-toed Ungulates)
This group comprises pigs, camels, deer, giraffes, antelopes, sheep and cattle. The weight of the body is taken mostly on the equally developed third and fourth toes of each foot, each ending in a hoof. Most are grazers and/or browsers but pigs are omnivorous. Upper incisors are reduced or absent and plant material is cropped by the lower incisors against a pad at the front of the palate. Fibrous vegetation is fermented by mirco-organisms in a multi-chambered stomach. Processes on the head referred to as horns are permanent and comprised of keratin, whereas bony antlers are shed annually.

FAMILY Suidae
A small family with species native to all continents except Australia. They have four toes on each foot but most of the weight is taken on the third and fourth toes which end in small hooves. The canines are strongly developed in males and may form curved, upwardly directed tusks. Suids are omnivorous.

FAMILY Camelidae
Camels and llamas are typical artiodactyls in that each foot has only two toes. These toes are directed horizontally and rest on fleshy cushions. The hooves are small and serve only to protect the front of the foot. Camelids are ruminants, with a four-chambered stomach in which fibrous material is digested. They crop vegetation with their upper and lower incisors.

FAMILY Cervidae
Deers live in herds with complex social heirarchies, involving fierce competition between males during breeding season. They have two hooves and males have branched bony antlers that are grown and dropped each year. There are no upper incisors; the lower incisors bite against a tough pad at the front of the palate.

FAMILY Bovidae
Members of this group include sheep, goats, cattle as well as antelope. They are characterised by having two hooves on each foot and a multi-chambered stomach for digesting fibrous plant material. Horns are always present in males, females may or may not have them. They have a moist muzzle.

ORDER Lagomorpha
Members of this group are characterised by having two pairs of continuously growing upper and lower incisors that self-sharpen as they bite against each other. The ears are large, eyes are set high on the head and the slit-like nostrils can be closed. The tail is very short. They digest plant fibre by producing a soft faeces which is eaten and passed through the gut a second time with the final faeces being a compact fibrous pellet. The order comprises two families: the Ochotonidae (pikas); and the Leporidae (rabbits and hares). They are naturally distributed over all continents except Australia.

FAMILY Leporidae
The Leporidae include rabbits and hares, both have long ears and long hind legs. The difference between the two is that rabbits are known for burrowing. Whereas hares try to outrun their predators often in a confusing zig zag pattern.

ORDER Cetacea
Whales, dolphins and porpoises are all warm blooded and air breathing, through nostrils in the top of their head. Their steam-lined bodies have a thick layer of blubber to protect them against the cold, making them perfectly adapted for life in the water. With both flippers and a broad flat tail which acts as a paddle to move them efficiently through the water.

SUBORDER Odontoceti
Most species of whales have teeth and fall in to this group. Mostly they feed on fish and squid, while killer whales eat penguins and seals. Most species in the group form large herds and keep in contact with each other via a complex variety of sounds.

FAMILY Delpinidae
Usually living in large groups these streamlined animals are fast moving and well known for jumping out of the water as the swim alongside ships. They feed mostly on fish and their obvious speed and agility ensures they are well fed.

SUBORDER Mysticeti
Includes the right whales, blue whale, the rorquals and humpback whale all of which have baleen plates instead of teeth. To feed they open their mouth and fill it water, the baleen plates then trap the krill as the water is expelled. They are all large

in size, with the skull exceeding one third of the body length in some species.

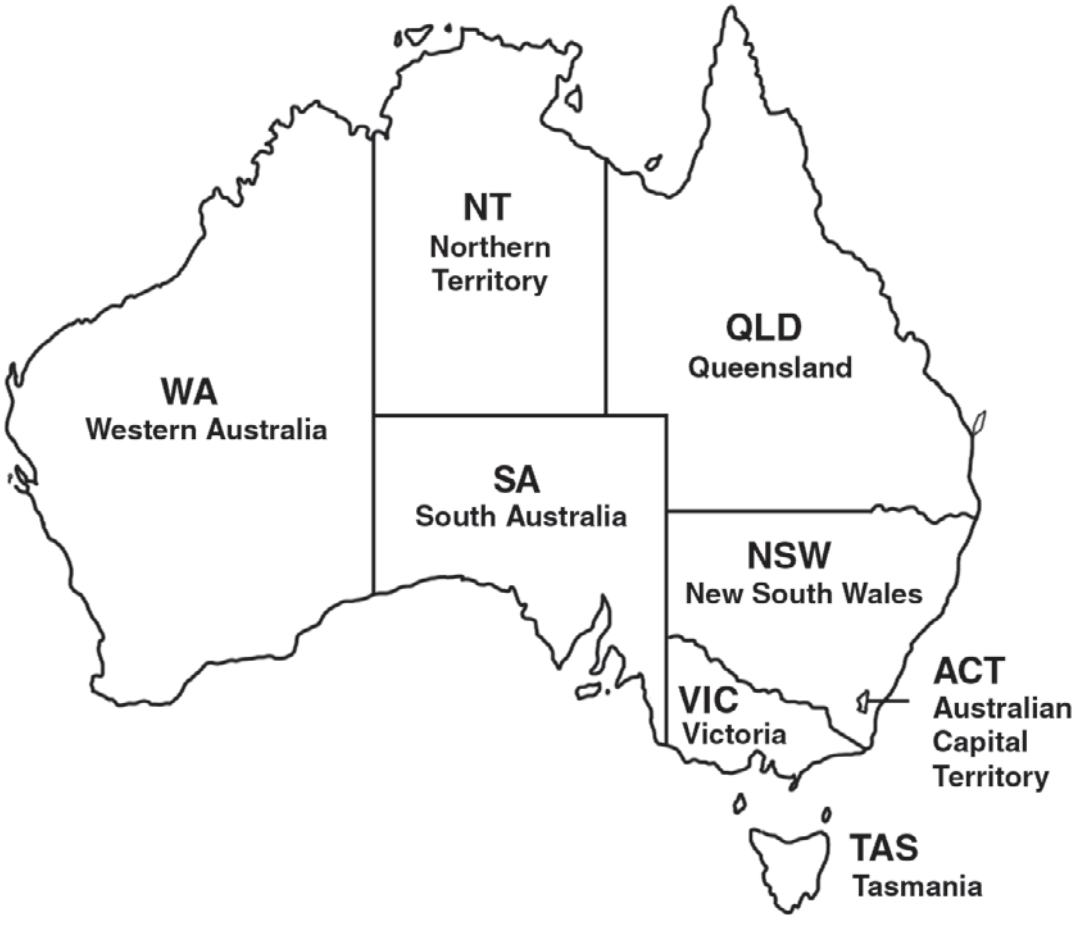
FAMILY Balaenidae
Right whales have a large head compared to body size and a curved mouth. They also have no grooves in the skin of the throat or abodomen.

FAMILY Balaenopteridae
These whales have a series of grooves running along the lower jaw to the chest. They have a smaller, flat, steamlined head with the upper jaw not being as curved that of right whales.

CONSERVATION
Throughout Australia steps have been taken to try and breed species of mammals known to be endangered. Captive breeding programs have been undertaken and in some cases the species has been fitted with radio tacking devices and released into its previous habitat. These release programs have worked well only if the area has been cleared of all feral cats, foxes, dogs and dingos with double electric fences then being installed to protect the area.
A number of species previously thought to be extinct have also been found by accident. In 1961 Leadbeater's Possum was found in Victoria after not being seen for about 60 years. The first live specimen of the Mountain Pygmy Possum was collected in 1966 with the species having been described in 1895 from fossil remains. The Dibbler from Western Australia had not been seen for 83 years when live specimens were captured in 1967. In 1994 Gilberts Potoroo from Western Australia was seen for the first time in 154 years when students trapping Quokkas accidently captured live specimens of this species.
Habitat destruction either for farming, housing or other uses, combined with natural events such as bushfires and floods, along with the impact of feral cats, dogs and foxes means that the long term survival of even common mammal species is doubtful. This is most obvious with once common species becoming more difficult to find, even in areas where they were easily found just a few years ago.

DISTRIBUTION
The distribution maps provided for each species are intended as a guide only. Within each area the habitat may vary greatly and seasonal changes, such as periods of drought, bushfires and other factors may impact upon those species of mammals found within that geographical area.

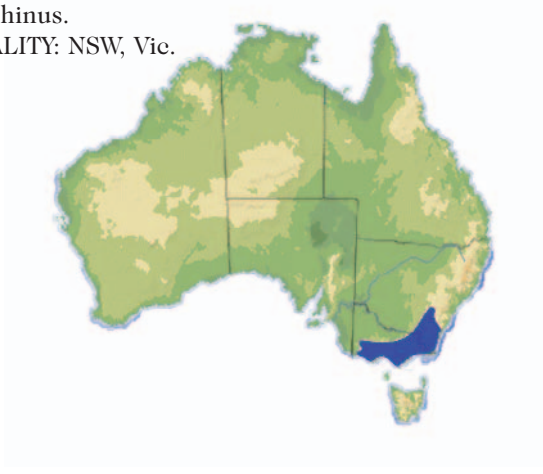
MAMMALS OF AUSTRALIA
THE SPECIES & SUB-SPECIES



Agile Antechinus

LATIN NAME: *Antechinus agilis* Dickman, C.R.; Parnaby, H.E.; Crowther, M.S.; King, D.H. 1998
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Antechinus* - "hedgehog-equivalent"; *agilis* - "agile"
FOOD: Small lizards, beetles, spiders, cockroaches and soft berries.
HABITAT: All types of forest and heathland from the coast to an altitude of 2000 metres.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 75-110 mm Tail: 75-110 mm; 16-40 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly nocturnal, but will forage by day if food is scarce. Males forage over an area of about one hectare; three times the area used by females. Larger areas are used to socialise. Soft 'chit' cries are produced by lactating females near their young. Females are solitary during lactation, but groups of up to 20 unrelated animals may nest together. Prey are located by sight or sound on the ground or on the trunks and limbs of trees. Animals may become torpid when food is short, especially in winter.
DEVELOPMENT: Mating occurs in winter for a period of two to three weeks. All males die after this. Females in wet areas have six teats; those in the driest and highest areas have ten. Females give birth to a litter of six to ten young after a pregnancy of 27 days and are left in pouch for five weeks. Then left in a nest lined with leaf-litter until weaned at about three months. Males disperse shortly after weaning; females remain in their natal area.

DESCRIPTION: Grey to greyish brown above, softer below. Eyes are prominent with no eye ring. The tail is very slim and almost as long as the head and body. Differs from *A. stuartii* by larger upper incisors, the presence of lingual cusp on premolars 1-3 and broader inter-orbital area.
Synonyms: *A. stuartii*; has been confused with Brown Antechinus.
LOCALITY: NSW, Vic.



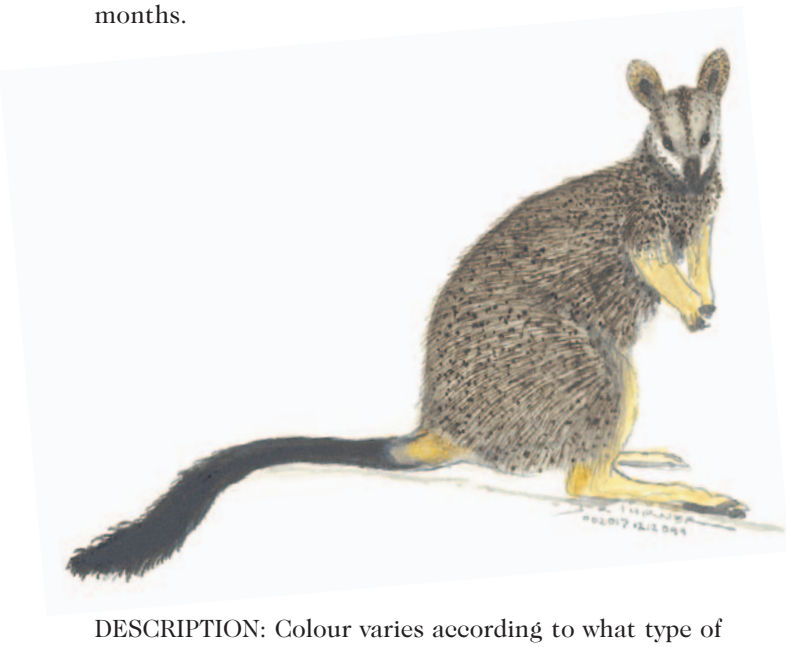
Agile Wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Macropus agilis* (Gould, 1842)
SUBSPECIES: *M. a. agilis*, NT; *M. a. nigrescens*, WA; *M. a. jardinii*, Qld.
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Macropus* - "long-foot"; *agilis* - "agile"
FOOD: Grasses, sedges, leaves, fruits and roots dug up with the forepaws.
HABITAT: Open forests, coastal sand dunes and along creeks.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 593-850 mm Tail: 587-840 mm; 9-29 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Active during the late afternoon and night, resting alone or in small groups in thick vegetation. Mainly solitary, coming together in feeding groups when food is scarce and to mate. When alarmed they thump their hindfeet and hop quickly away with the head held up, the tail horizontal and the forearms extended.
DEVELOPMENT: Females are sexually mature at 12 months, males at 14 months, live 12 years. Breed all year. Females mate soon after giving birth, produce a single embryo, dormant until pouch is empty. Pregnancy of 29-31 days, newborn attaches to one of 4 teats in mother's pouch, leaves by 31 weeks, suckling at foot until 10-12 months of age.

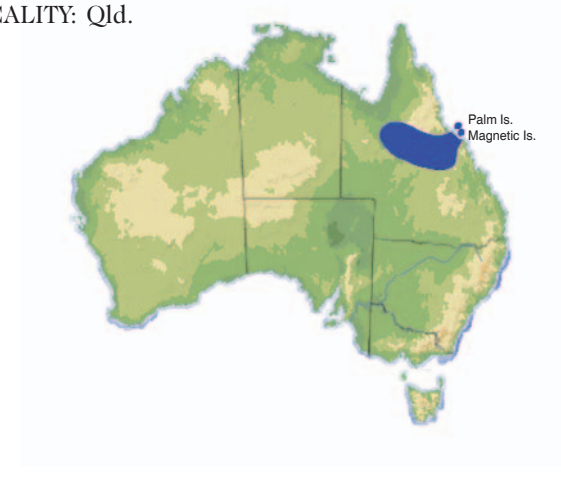
DESCRIPTION: Watchful, anxious, often seen along the tropical coast of Australia. Sandy brown above, light buff to whitish below, a whitish stripe along cheek and thigh, a dark brown stripe down forehead, long black tipped tail, black edged ears. Long pointed face has partially bare snout. Hindfeet lack first digit, second and third are joined with a double claw, fourth is much longer than others.
Synonyms: *Wallabia agilis*; *Protemnodon agilis*; Sandy Wallaby; Kimberley Wallaby; Jungle Wallaby; Grass Wallaby; River Wallaby.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, WA

Allied Rock-wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Petrogale assimilis* Ramsay, 1877
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Petrogale* - "rock-weasel"; *assimilis* - "similar"
FOOD: Forbs, grass, fruits, seeds and flowers.
HABITAT: Steeply sloping rainforest to sclerophyll forest and wooland, often without much outcropping rock.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 445-590 mm Tail: 409-550 mm; 4.3-4.7 kg
BEHAVIOUR: An opportunistic feeder, enabling it to survive in the harsh and unpredictable wet-dry tropics. Within a colony, linear dominance hierarchies are established and relationships are formed between mature males and females. These bondings are characterised by regular social grooming, sharing of daytime resting places and other parts of their exclusive home range. Pairs look for food together, mainly at night.
DEVELOPMENT: Males and females reach sexual maturity around 18 months of age and can live up to 13 years. No distinct breeding season, with births being recorded in all months of the year. In captivity the pregnancy and oestrous cycle are 30-32 days, with a pouch life of six to seven months.



DESCRIPTION: Colour varies according to what type of rock on which it lives. Usually grey-brown above (but can be dark brown), lighter sandy brown on underparts, forearms, hindlegs and at base of tail. Pale cheek-stripe, slight axillary patch and indistinct dorsal head-stripe sometimes present. Paws and feet are darker than limbs. Tail almost black towards end, with a slight brush tip. Synonyms: *Petrogale puella*; Torrens Creek Rock-wallaby (part).
LOCALITY: Qld.



Antarctic Fur-seal

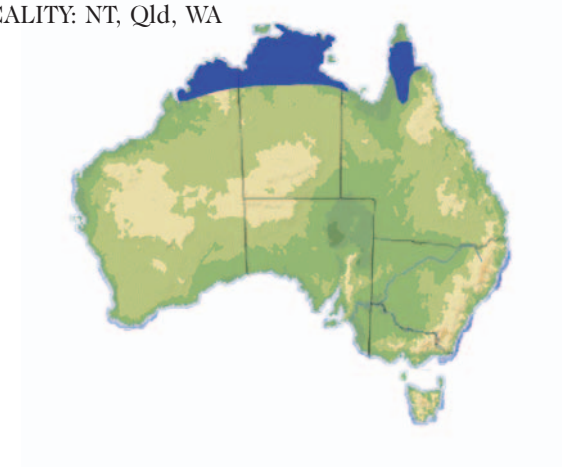
LATIN NAME: *Arctocephalus gazella* (Peters, 1875)
FAMILY NAME: Otariidae
MEANING: *Arctocephalus* - "bear-head"; *gazella* - "(HMS) Gazelle's"
FOOD: Lantern fish and squid.
HABITAT: Flat, grassy meadows adjacent to beaches; open cobblestone beaches and steep tussock slopes.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 1050-2000 mm; 25-200 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Seals dive at night to depths of 10-20 metres to forage. No adult females are on islands during winter, so it seems they migrate to unknown locations. Males stay close to breeding colonies in winter, come ashore to contest territories in early November. They defend territories containing 5-15 females and fast until females are mated.
DEVELOPMENT: Females come ashore a day before giving birth to a single pup, come into oestrus and are mated about seven days later. Adult females stay on shore with pups for ten days before leaving to feed. Then alternate between feeding pups and foraging trips at sea until pups are about four months. When weaning is finished, both female and pup leave colony and adult females do not come ashore again until the next breeding season.

DESCRIPTION: Adult males are silver-grey to brown above; their belly fur is dark brown. They have a well-developed mane, powerful chest and shoulders. Adult females are silver-grey to brown above, paler cream to white ventrally and have a dark brown abdomen. Pups are ash-grey with grizzled fur around head and neck; muzzle and belly soft cream colour. They have external ears and long, white vibrissae. Synonyms: Kerguelen Fur Seal.
LOCALITY: South Georgia

Antilopine Wallaroo

LATIN NAME: *Macropus antilopinus* (Gould, 1842)
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Macropus* - "long-foot"; *antilopinus* - "antelope-like hair on body"
FOOD: Native grasses
HABITAT: Open savannah woodlands, open monsoonal forests, usually in flat or undulating country.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 775-1200 mm Tail: 675-890 mm; 16-49 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Active at night and during cool days, resting in the shade of trees, shrubs or rocks, usually near water. Are sociable, usually in groups of 3-8, forming bigger groups if alarmed. Males often alone probably searching for female mates. Group members change often, males groom each other regularly. When threatened they hiss and thump the ground with their hindfeet as they hop quickly away.
DEVELOPMENT: Breeding all year, peak of mating activity in early wet season. A single young is born 34 days after mating and attaches firmly to one of the 4 teats in the mother's pouch, leaving the pouch permanently at 38 weeks, suckling at foot until 12 months of age.

DESCRIPTION: A large marsupial of the tropical northern woodlands, deriving its name from the long, fine, antelope-like fur. Reddish sandy-brown above, very pale brown to white below, often pale areas on legs and tail. Females can be bluish-grey. Paws are black, nose bare, tail relatively short and broad. Hindfeet have no first digit, second and third are joined with a double claw, fourth is much longer than the others. Synonyms: *Osphranter antilopine* (or Antelope) Kangaroo. (Known as 'Red Kangaroo' in Northern Territory).
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, WA



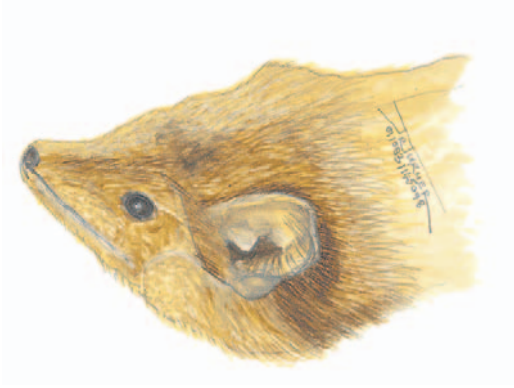
Arnhem Land Rock-rat

LATIN NAME: *Zyzomys maini* Kitchener, 1989
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Zyzomys* - "significance unknown"; *maini* - "Main's"
FOOD: Seeds of some rainforest trees and perennial grasses.
HABITAT: Monsoon rainforest, rock scree slopes and boulder beds covered with deciduous vine thicket.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 115-170 mm Tail: 150 mm; 70-186 g
BEHAVIOUR: The hard-shelled seeds of the Mango Bark, Emu Apple and Green Plum trees are collected and carried to rock crevices where the seedcoats are gnawed through, out of danger from predators.
DEVELOPMENT: Breeding occurs throughout the year, producing two to three litters. Young are mature at five or six months and may live for up to two years, although only a few survive a second breeding season.

DESCRIPTION: Grey-brown above, white below with a well-haired tail. The eyes are big and protruding, the ears curved and the muzzle protrudes with long whiskers. They have one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *Laomys woodwardi*; *Zyzomys woodwardi* (part); Woodward's Thick-tailed Rat; Large Rock-rat.
LOCALITY: NT

Arnhem Sheathtail-bat

LATIN NAME: *Taphozous kapalgensis* McKean and Friend, 1979
FAMILY NAME: Emballonuridae
MEANING: *Taphozous* - "tomb-dweller"; *kapalgensis* - "Kapalga"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Blacksoil plain swamps, open woodland and tropical layered woodland.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 75-85 mm Tail: 20-23 mm; 26 g
BEHAVIOUR: Roosts in caves and rock-clefts. When feeding, the bats fly quickly with abrupt deviations and emit a succession of loud, shrill notes. Most fly and feed above the tree canopy but will come lower to the ground in open areas or along unobstructed flyways.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied.



DESCRIPTION: Pale brown pelage often tinged orange; two thick, white, ventral flank stripes. Synonyms: White-striped Sheathtail-bat.
LOCALITY: NT

Ash-grey Mouse

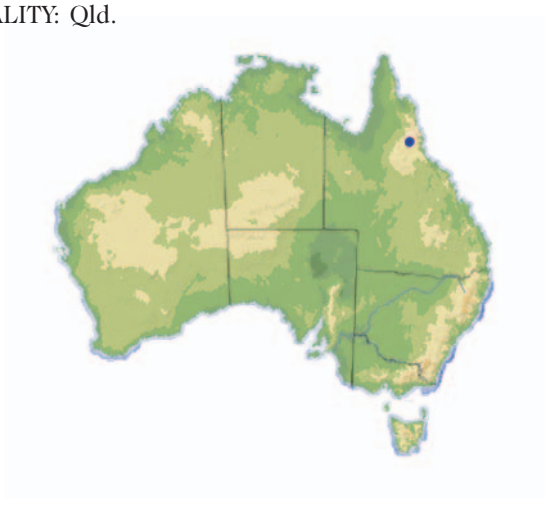
LATIN NAME: *Pseudomys albocinereus* (Gould, 1845)
SUBSPECIES: *P. a. albocinereus*, mainland; *P. a. squalorum*, Bernier Island, WA.
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Pseudomys* - "false-mouse"; *albocinereus* - "ashy-white"
FOOD: Seeds, plant material, lichen and insects. Can probably survive without drinking.
HABITAT: Semi-arid tussock grasslands, tall shrublands, open sandplains with heath vegetation and woodlands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 63-110 Tail: 85-115 mm; 14-40 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in cool burrows some 600 mm below ground up to 4 m long with a small pile of excavated soil at entrance, sometimes with side tunnels and interconnecting nest chambers. Breeding pairs with young often occupy same burrow.
DEVELOPMENT: They breed throughout the year with a peak from August to October on the mainland and from March to August on Bernier aned Dorre Islands, depending on the rainfall. Normally only 1 litter is raised in a year. The female has 4 teats but litters of up to 6 young have been reared. Young become independent at 6 to 7 weeks.

DESCRIPTION: This small attractive rodent is confined to semi-arid regions of WA. Long soft fur is silver grey tinged with fawn above and white below. The nose, feet and tail are bright pink, the protruding eyes have prominent dark eyelashes and the muzzle has long black or white whiskers. Ears are large and curved, tail slightly hairy with overlapping scales. One pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth, three pairs of molars on each side of jaw. Synonyms: *Gyomys albocinereus*; *Pseudomys squalorum*; Ashy-grey Mouse.
LOCALITY: WA

Atherton Antechinus

LATIN NAME: *Antechinus godmani* (Thomas, 1923)
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Antechinus* - "hedgehog-equivalent"; *godmani* - "named after F. D. Godman, husband of sponsor of expedition which discovered this species"
FOOD: Insects, arachnids, earthworms, frogs and lizards.
HABITAT: Very wet montane tropical rainforest (mist forest).
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 90 - 160 mm Tail: 90-140 mm; 53-125 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly nocturnal, sleeping by day in nests in natural crevices. It feeds at night, early morning or late afternoon on insects in the leaf litter and decomposing timber of the forest floor, locating its prey by scent and digging it out with its forefeet. Disease appears to strike older males, most of which probably die at about 12 months of age, immediately after the mating season in July.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature by 11 months of age, mating in July or August. The female has six teats in a rudimentary pouch. Litters comprise up to six young which are carried for five weeks then suckled in nest. Female leaves young to forage for food.

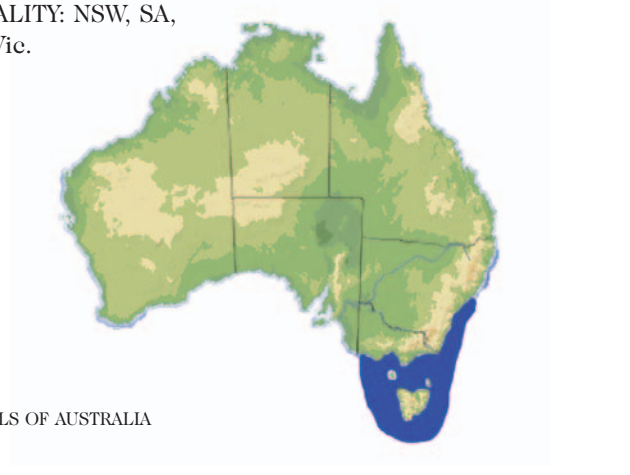
DESCRIPTION: By far the largest member of the genus, the species was not described until 1982. This antechinus has a slate grey head grading to orange-brown on the sides, belly, rump and feet, white patches on the throat and belly and a black tail tip. The head is long and pointed with protruding eyes and thin, crinkled ears. The hindfeet are very broad, retain a small first digit and have transversely striated pads.
Synonyms: *Antechinus flavipes godmani*; Godman's Marsupial Mouse; Godman's Antechinus.
LOCALITY: Qld.



Australian Fur-seal

LATIN NAME: *Arctocephalus pusillus* (Schreber, 1775)
SUBSPECIES: *A. p. pusillus*, South Africa; *A. p. doriferus*, Australia.
FAMILY NAME: Otariidae
MEANING: *Arctocephalus* - "bear-head"; *pusillus* - "weak"
FOOD: Squid, fish, octopus and rock lobsters. They can dive to 130 m.
HABITAT: Cool temperate coastal waters, rocky coastlines.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Males 2-2.3 m Females: 1.2-1.7 m; Males 218-360 kg Females: 36-113 kg
BEHAVIOUR: They rest, moult and breed on land, slow shuffling walk, swim with up-and-down strokes of webbed hindlimbs. Stay close to breeding grounds occupied by females and juveniles. Bulls arrive late October, most powerful reoccupy territories of 60 sqm, Cows wander freely bachelor males gather on periphery. Males feed at sea in January. Good underwater vision, poor vision on land may use echo-location in water.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 4-5 years, males breed at 12 years for 3-6 years. Females mate 5-7 days after giving birth. Embryo dormant for 3 months, then 9 months to develop. Newborn 600-700 mm long, weigh 4-13 kg. Pups group in pods. Females to sea after mating, return weekly to suckle pups for 8 months, weaned by 12 months.

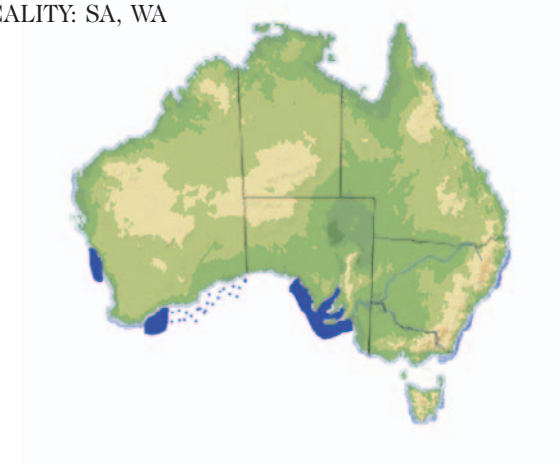
DESCRIPTION: Dog-like head, long whiskers, small, rolled external ear. Bulls, dark grey-brown, mane of long rough hair. Cows, silver-grey, creamy-yellow throat, chest, chocolate-brown abdomen. Pups, dark brown above, yellowish below moult at 3 months. Forelimbs are flippers, webbed hindlegs face rear. Synonyms: *Gypsophoca tropicalis*; *G. dorifera*; *G. tasmanica*; *A. doriferus*; *A. tasmanicus*; Large Fur-seal; Tas. Fur-seal; S.A. Fur-seal; Giant Fur-seal; Cape Fur-seal; South African Giant Fur-seal.
LOCALITY: NSW, SA, Tas, Vic.



Australian Sea-lion

LATIN NAME: *Neophoca cinerea* (Peron, 1816)
FAMILY NAME: Otariidae
MEANING: *Neophoca* - "new-seal"; *cinerea* - "ash-coloured"
FOOD: Squid, crayfish, fish, cephalopods and penguins.
HABITAT: Cool temperate coastal waters, sandy and rocky coastlines.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Males: 1.85-2.35 m Females: 1.3-1.8 m; Males to 300 kg Females to 80 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Active by day, they rest, moult and breed on land, with a quadrupedal walk or fast gallop, sometimes climbing cliffs. Strong swimmers mainly using foreflippers, diving, leaping out of water and surfing onto beaches. Most stay within 300 km of their breeding grounds, resting on sandy beaches and breeding on rocky shores. Pregnant females come ashore 3 days before giving birth. Dominant males establish and aggressively defend a territory into which they herd females, fighting and threatening other males with loud growls, barks and roars. Females give birth in rocky crevices and gullies.
DEVELOPMENT: Breed at 18 month intervals, giving birth Oct to Jan or earlier in mild conditions. Females mate 4-9 days after birth of a single pup, embryo dormant for 4 months, then another 14-15 months to develop. Newborn 600-700 mm long, weigh 6-8 kg. Thick soft fur, moult at 2 months, swim at 3 months, suckle up to 1 year. Mother stays with pup for 2 weeks then leaves it while feeding at sea, returning every 2 days or so.

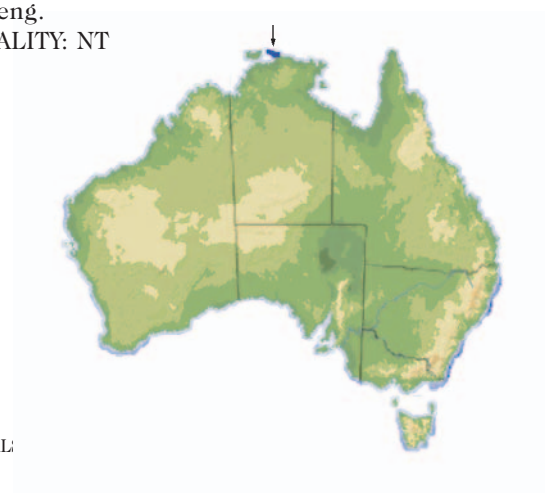
DESCRIPTION: Has blunt snout, dog-like head. Long whiskers, very small, rolled external ear. Adult males, rich chocolate brown to blackish, long mane of white hair over neck. Adult females and young silver-grey to fawn above, yellow to cream below. Flippers instead of forelimbs. Hindlegs webbed and face rear. Synonyms: White-naped Hair-seal.
LOCALITY: SA, WA



Bali Banteng

LATIN NAME: *Bos javanicus* D'Alton, 1823
SUBSPECIES: *B. j. birmanicus*, mainland South-East Asia; *B. j. lowi*, Borneo; *B. j. javanicus*, Java to Timor and Australia.
FAMILY NAME: Bovidae
MEANING: *Bos* - "ox"; *javanicus* - "Java"
FOOD: Sedges, trees and shrubs.
HABITAT: Open coastal areas, monsoon forest, densely forested areas.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 1.8-2.0 m Tail: about 600 mm; 400-800 kg
BEHAVIOUR: During the day it rests in monsoon forest, emerging at night to graze and browse in more open country. It is able to drink brackish water. They usually move about in mixed herds of up to 30 cows, calves and juvenile males. Older males tend to remain outside the herds, visiting them during the mating season.
DEVELOPMENT: Males are sexually mature at five years, females at two to four years. A single young is born after a pregnancy of 38-40 weeks. One quarter of calves die before six months, possibly due to nutritional deficiency at weaning or predation by the Dingo.

DESCRIPTION: Interbreeds with domestic cattle. Was introduced from Bali to the Top End in 1849. Very few pure stock remain outside captivity. Brown or black in colour. Delicately built and attractively marked, with pale 'boots', has a light patch on hindquarters. Blunt, wet snout, horns set just behind ears which are round to oval in cross-section. Cows have smaller horns which usually point backwards. Synonyms: *Bos banteng*; *Bos sondaicus*; *Bibos javanicus*; *Bibos sondaicus*; Bali cattle; Balinese cattle; Banteng.
LOCALITY: NT



Banded Hare-wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Lagostrophus fasciatus* (Peron and Lesueur, 1807)
SUBSPECIES: *L. f. fasciatus*, Bernier and Dorre islands; *L. f. albipilis*, sw WA (extinct).
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Lagostrophus* - "turning-hare"; *fasciatus* - "banded"
FOOD: Native grasses and malvaceous and leguminous shrubs.
HABITAT: Semi-arid woodland and scrubland.
STATUS: Endangered
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 400-450 mm Tail: 350-400 mm; 1.3-2.1 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in the shelter of vegetation; it does not make a nest. Feeds at night in open areas with scattered shelter. Water is seldom available but heavy dews and moisture from food meets the animal's needs. Females are slightly larger than males, which are solitary, territorial and aggressive.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at less than 1 year but usually does not breed until the second year. Breeding occurs throughout the year except October and November, peaking in January and February. Young remain in the pouch to about 26 weeks of age and are weaned 3 months later. Females seldom rear more than 1 young per year. The species exhibits embryonic diapause.

DESCRIPTION: Dark grizzled grey above, with transverse dark bands across lower back and rump; greyish-white below. The hindfeet have no first digit, the second and third are joined with a double claw, the fourth is much longer than the others. In the nineteenth century it occupied much of south-western Australia, but it is now restricted to Bernier and Dorre Islands, off the coast of Western Australia. Synonyms: *Kangurus fasciatus*.
LOCALITY: WA

Bare-backed Fruit-bat

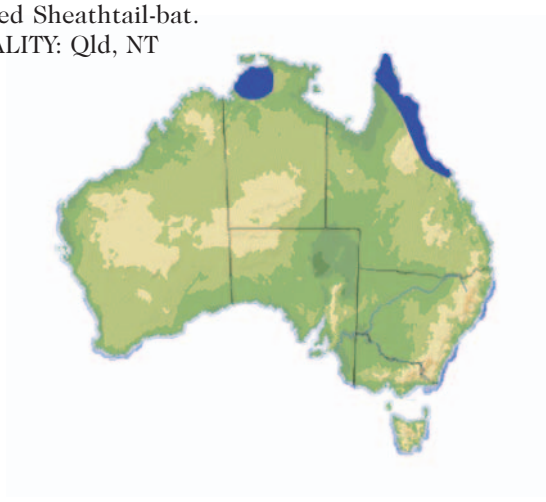
LATIN NAME: *Dobsonia moluccensis* (Quoy and Gaimard, 1830)
SUBSPECIES: There are four subspecies, the Australian population is *D. m. magna*.
FAMILY NAME: Pteropodidae
MEANING: *Dobsonia* - "after G. E. Dobson, British authority on bats"; *moluccensis* - "from the Moluccas"
FOOD: Flowers and fruits.
HABITAT: Tropical rainforest.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 280-320 mm Tail: 20-30 mm; 380-500 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, roosting by day in caves, rock crevices or very dense foliage. Colonies range from scores to hundreds of bats. It feeds on flowers and fruits of native trees and banana flowers. The flight is slow, with rather fast flapping which permits great manoeuvrability, including hovering.
DEVELOPMENT: Mating occurs in May or June. A single young is born between September and November which clings to its mother for about a month, then left in the colony while the mother forages.

DESCRIPTION: This species has the wing membranes attached near the middle of the back, rather than to the sides of the body; there is therefore a pocket-like space between the wings and the flanks and furred skin below the wings. Unlike most other pteropodids, these bats do not have a claw on the second finger. A tail is present. There is only one pair of incisors on the lower jaw. They are often referred to as spinal-winged bats. Synonyms: *Dobsonia magna*; *Dobsonia moluccense*; Spinal-winged Fruit-bat; Spinal-winged Bat.
LOCALITY: Qld.

Bare-rumped Sheathtail-bat

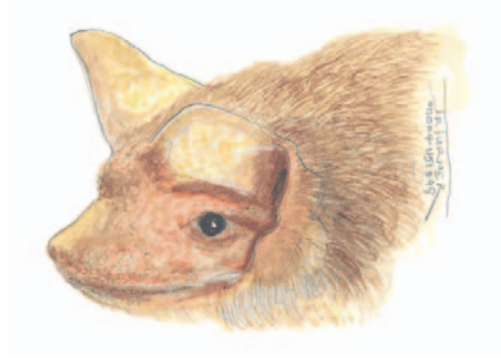
LATIN NAME: *Saccolaimus saccolaimus* (Temminck, 1838)
SUBSPECIES: Australian pop. may be a subspecies of Asian *Taphozous saccolaimus*.
FAMILY NAME: Emballonuridae
MEANING: *Saccolaimus* - "throat-pouch"; *saccolaimus* - "throat-pouch"
FOOD: Flying insects.
HABITAT: Tropical rainforest, sclerophyll forest and woodland.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 90-100 mm Tail: 20-40 mm; 40-50 g
BEHAVIOUR: Roosts by day in caves, crevices or man-made constructions, usually in large colonies with individuals some distance from each other. It clings to the wall of the cave with feet and wings, it can move quite fast on four limbs. Roosts only in tree-holes with three to four others. At night it feeds on flying insects as it flies quickly above the forest canopy. When alarmed, it scuttles like a spider. Social, but does not form tight clusters. Usually silent but if caught, has a loud cry, will give a painful bite.
DEVELOPMENT: Little studied. Females lactate in tropical wet season one young is born.

DESCRIPTION: Reddish to dark brown above, flecked with white patches. Lacks fur on rump. Tail appears to poke through tail-membrane from below but tail is actually connected to membrane by very flexible skin. Tail-membrane can then slide along the tail when hind legs are brought forward, making is easier for the bat to use its legs to walk or run over wall of cave. Long, pointed snout. Ear has a tragus. Wings long, narrow and tips are folded back over the rest of the membrane when bat pauses. Synonyms: *S. nudicluniatus*; *Taphozous nudicluniatus*; Naked-rumped Freetail Bat; Naked-tailed Saccolaimus; Tomb Bat; Naked-rumped Sheathtail-bat.
LOCALITY: Qld, NT

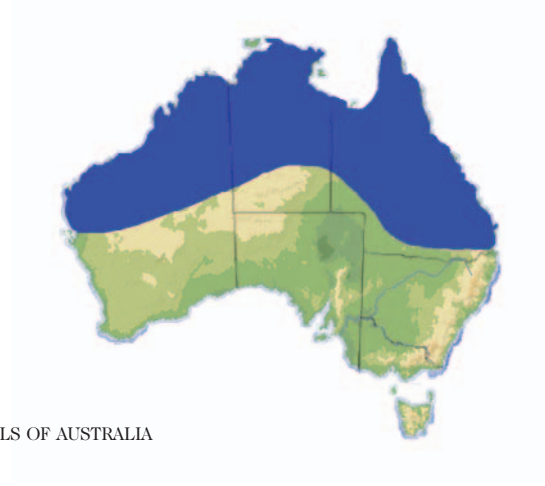


Beccari's Freetail-bat

LATIN NAME: *Mormopterus beccarii* Peters, 1881
SUBSPECIES: *M. b. beccarii*, Australia and Ambon; *M. b. astrolabiensis*, New Guinea.
FAMILY NAME: Molossidae
MEANING: *Mormopterus* - "monster-wing, from Mormo, a Greek mythical monster"; *beccarii* - "named after O. Beccari, Italian zoologist"
FOOD: Flying insects
HABITAT: Wet and dry sclerophyll forests, woodlands and urban areas.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 55-65 mm Tail: 27-35 mm Forearm: 35-41 mm; 13-19 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, roosting alone or in colonies of up to 50 bats by day in tree-holes, cracks and human constructions. They fly quickly and directly above the forest canopy and over water, have excellent eyesight and detect insects by echo-location, emitting high-pitched calls from the mouth enabling them to detect insects up to 10 m away. They forage on the ground scurrying around for crawling insects.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. A single young is born in November, suckling from a teat in the mother's armpit and weaned in January.



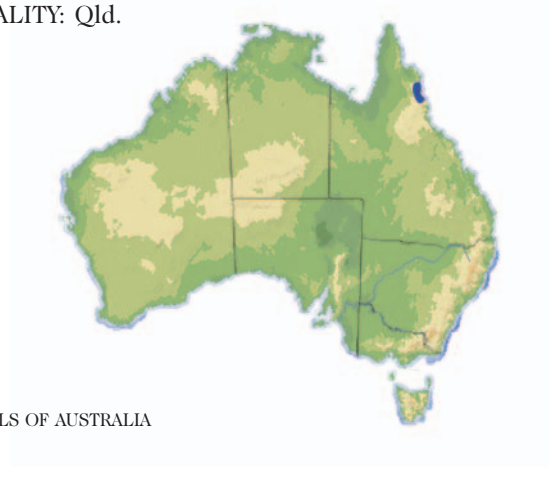
DESCRIPTION: A small insectivorous bat with a large upper lip fringed with rigid hairs giving it a bull-dog appearance. The fur is soft, dark brownish-grey and paler below. The large triangular ears are not joined above the head. The feet have thick fleshy toes fringed with rigid, curled hairs. The tail protrudes well beyond the tail-membrane.
Synonyms: *Tadarida beccarii*; *Tadarida loriae*; *Mormopterus loriae*; Northern Scurrying-bat; Beccari's Scurrying-bat.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, WA



Bennett's Tree-kangaroo

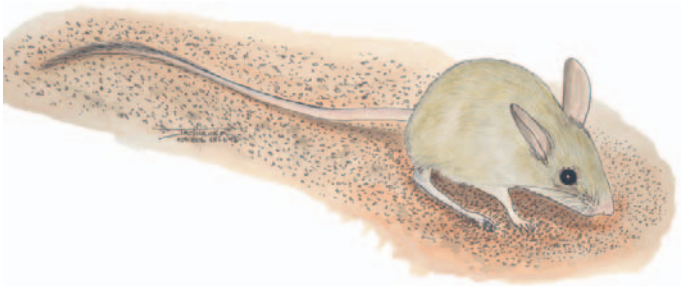
LATIN NAME: *Dendrolagus bennettianus* De Vis, 1887
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Dendrolagus* - "tree hare"; *bennettianus* - "after G. Bennett naturalist and first curator of the Australian Museum, Sydney"
FOOD: Leaves supplemented by fruits.
HABITAT: Tropical rainforests and occasionally open forests.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 500-650 mm Tail: 630-940 mm; to 13 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping crouched on a tree branch, climbing through canopy of night with tail hanging loosely, gripping with clawed forefeet, balancing with hindfeet. Hindlegs move independently when climbing or walking along a branch. They hop along thick branches, jump tree to tree or descend backwards to feed on leaves of vines, jumping down at least 2 m to land on feet. They walk or run quadrupedally or hop, travel long distances. Mainly solitary, family groups of male, female and young at foot. Growl if threatened, females call young with soft trumpeting sounds.
DEVELOPMENT: Little studied. Females breed annually, with a single young. Pouch life is nine months, young with mother for up to two years. May exhibit embryonic diapause.
DESCRIPTION: Dark brown above, light fawn below with a rusty-brown patch on the back of the head and shoulders. Forehead and muzzle are greyish, the feet, hands and base of the tail are black, the long tail has a shaggy tip and a pale brown area on the upper surface. Ears are small and curved. Forelimbs thick, muscular with strong curved claws

and an opposing first digit. Toes on the relatively short hindfeet are similar length with granular soles and strong curved claws, second and third toes are joined at base with a double claw for grooming. Synonyms: Tree-climber; Grey Tree-kangaroo; Tree Wallaby.
LOCALITY: Qld.



Big-eared Hopping-mouse

LATIN NAME: *Notomys macrotis* Thomas, 1921
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Notomys* - "southern-mouse"; *macrotis* - "big-eared"
FOOD: Unknown
HABITAT: Semi-arid woodland. Most of original habitat has been cleared for agriculture.
STATUS: Extinct
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 110-120 mm Tail: 130-140 mm;
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night. Probably slept by day in a burrow.
DEVELOPMENT: Unknown



DESCRIPTION: Pale grey-brown above; dull white below. No neck glands in either sex. A shallow groove extends along the upper surface of the upper incisor. Similar to Fawn Hopping-mouse from which it differs in having a longer hindfoot and more robust skull. The species was first described by Thomas in 1921, who gave the locality as 'Interior of Western Australia, on Moore's River'.
LOCALITY: WA

Bilby

LATIN NAME: *Macrotis lagotis* (Reid, 1837)
SUBSPECIES: *M. l. lagotis*, Warburton Range, WA; *M. l. sagitta*, Central Australia; *M. l. cambrica*, NSW (extinct); *M. l. nigripes*, SA (extinct); *M. l. grandis*, SA(extinct); *M. l. interjecta*, southern WA (extinct).
FAMILY NAME: Peramelidae
MEANING: *Macrotis* - "big-ear"; *lagotis* - "hare-eared"
FOOD: Termites, ants, larvae, seeds, bulbs, fruit & fungi in soil. Survive without drinking.
HABITAT: Arid and semi-arid shrublands, spinifex and tussock grasslands.
STATUS: Vulnerable
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 290-550 mm Tail: 200-290 mm; 0.8-2.5 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Strictly nocturnal, usually active after midnight, sleeping in burrows up to 2 m deep and 3 m long spiralling steeply down with side tunnels and separate entrances in termite mounds, grass tussocks or below shrubs. Adult males have a number of exclusive scent-marked burrows, may be shared with one or more females and young. A strict male dominance hierarchy is established without fighting; females have own hierarchy and utter sharp growls in aggressive encounters. Home ranges of up to 14 ha, moving with food supply. Sight poor, hearing, sense of smell acute. Often stand upright sniffing the air and run with a cantering gait with tail held stiffly aloft, waving like a flag.
DEVELOPMENT: Breed from March to May, they mate in the burrow and give birth to 1-3 young after 21 days. Females have 8 teats in a rear-opening pouch. Newborn attach to the teats, leave pouch at 70-75 days and weaned some 14 days later.

DESCRIPTION: A delicately-built rabbit-size marsupial, with long, soft, silky fur, bluish-grey on the back, sandy-brown flanks and end of the muzzle, whitish below and tip of tail. The rest of the tail is black with a crest of hairs. A narrow head with large rabbit-like ears, a long pointed snout and a long slender tongue. Short forelimbs have no first digit, the others are long with strong curved claws. Hindfeet are long with a very large strongly-clawed fourth toe, the second and third toes are joined with a double claw. Synonyms: *Thylacomys lagotis*; Greater Bilby; Rabbit-eared Bandicoot; Rabbit Bandicoot; Pinkie.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, SA, WA

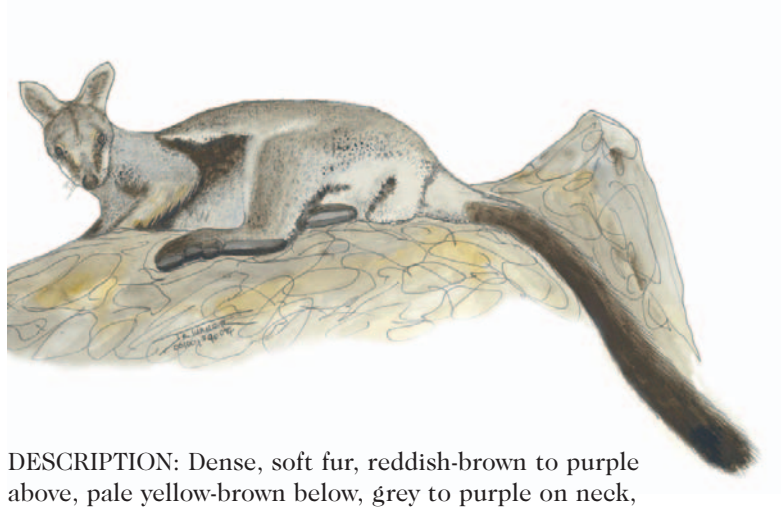
Black Flying-fox

LATIN NAME: *Pteropus alecto* Temminck, 1837
SUBSPECIES: There are four subspecies, the Australian population is *P. a. gouldii*.
FAMILY NAME: Pteropodidae
MEANING: *Pteropus* - "wing-foot"; *alecto* - "Fury, referring to Alekto, one of the Furies of Greek mythology"
FOOD: Blossom and fruits. They can drink seawater.
HABITAT: Rainforests, mangroves and wet sclerophyll forests.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 240-300 mm Forearm: 138-185 mm; 280-760 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, roosting in large trees, hanging from their feet with the head pointing forward and the wings wrapped around the body. Camps form in September and October and may comprise of hundreds and thousands of bats, often including Grey-headed and Little Red Flying-foxes. Males use secretions from their shoulder glands to mark territories along branches about 1 m across. They fly with rapid wing beats at 35-40 kph. They navigate by sight and avoid flying in complete darkness.
DEVELOPMENT: Mating takes place in March and April. A single young born August to November, suckles from teat in mother's armpit. Clinging with feet is carried for 3-4 weeks until well-furred then left in camp at night. Can fly at 2 months, free at 13 weeks.

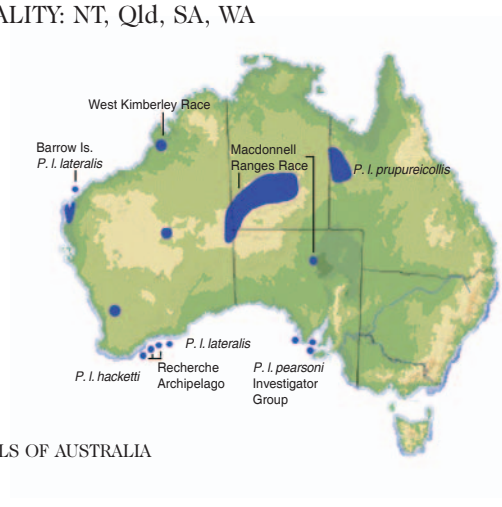
DESCRIPTION: This winged placental mammal has soft fur, dark brown to black above, often flecked with grey below, may have reddish-brown shoulders and back of neck. Head fox-like, large eyes, simple ears, no tail. First and second fingers clawed. Five toes have long curved claws. Synonyms: *P. gouldii*; Gould's Fruit-bat; Black or Blackish Fruit-bat.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, WA

Black-footed Rock-wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Petrogale lateralis* Gould, 1842
SUBSPECIES: Hackett's Rock-wallaby - *P. l. hacketti*; Pearson Island Rock-wallaby - *P. l. pearsoni;* Purple-collared Rock-wallaby - *P. l. purpureicollis*; two unnamed forms - West Kimberley and MacDonnell Ranges Races.
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Petrogale* - "rock-weasel"; *lateralis* - "side (-marked)"
FOOD: Grasses and other vegetable matter.
HABITAT: Semi-arid, arid rocky granite outcrops with mallee, scrub or tussock grassland
STATUS: Vulnerable
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 450-550 mm Tail: 450-610 mm; 4-6 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sheltering in caves and rocky crevices, feeds late afternoon or evening. May bask in sun. Sociable, form colonies, separate male and female dominance hierarchies. Hop with great agility on rocky outcrops with tail arched over back.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature at 12-24 months, mate soon after giving birth to a single young. Newborn attaches firmly to one of four teats in mother's pouch.



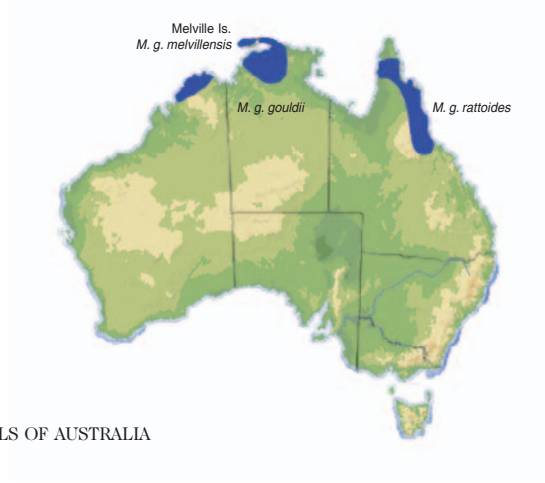
DESCRIPTION: Dense, soft fur, reddish-brown to purple above, pale yellow-brown below, grey to purple on neck, shoulders, black stripe back of head to mid-back, may have white cheek and side stripes. Feet dark brown, tail has dark brown to black tip. Hindfeet no first digit, second and third joined with double claw, claw long fourth toe protrudes slightly beyond large pad. Synonyms: *P. pearsoni* (part); *P. hacketti* (part); *P. purpureicollis* (part); Side-striped Rock-wallaby; Black-flanked Rock-wallaby; W.A. Rock-wallaby; Recherche Rock-wallaby (part); Hackett's Rock-wallaby (part); Pearson Island Rock-wallaby (part); Purple-necked Rock-wallaby (part); Purple-collared Rock-wallaby (part).
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, SA, WA



Black-footed Tree-rat

LATIN NAME: *Mesembriomys gouldii* (Gray, 1843)
SUBSPECIES: *M. g. gouldii*, mainland NT; *M. g. melvillensis*, Melville and Bathurst Is; *M. g. rattoides*, northern Qld.
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Mesembriomys* - "southern-mouse"; *gouldii* - " J. Gould, English zoologist"
FOOD: Nuts, fruits (including pandanus fruits), flowers, insects and snails.
HABITAT: Open forests and woodlands with a grassy or shrubby understorey.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 250-315 mm Tail: 310-415 mm; 525-900 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in tree hollows, crevices and buildings. Solitary, aggressive, they defend nest site uttering threatening grumbling and growling sounds before fighting. Fast runners, agile climbers, often feed on fallen fruits, climb a tree if disturbed.
DEVELOPMENT: Breeding occurs throughout the year with a peak from June to August and a few births in the wetter months. Female has four teats, usually rears 1-3 young which cling to mother's teats and are dragged behind her as she moves. The gestation period of a little more than 6 weeks is unusually long and the young, which are born in a more advanced state than other Australian rodents, are weaned at 6 weeks.
DESCRIPTION: This squirrel-like species is one of Australia's largest rodents. The fur is long, rough and shaggy, grey-brown flecked with black above, creamy-white below. Tail is black with white brushy tip and overlapping

scales. Ears long and curved, eyes protruding, hindfeet broad with strong claws and well-developed sole pads. One pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth, three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *Hapalotis gouldii, M. hirsutus*; Long-haired Rabbit Rat; Shaggy Rabbit-rat.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, WA



Black Rat

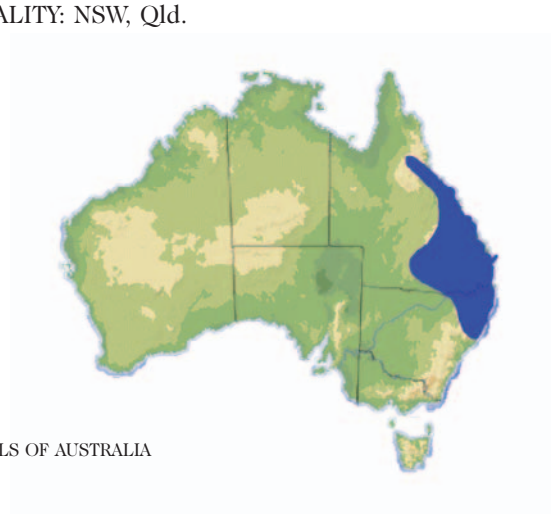
LATIN NAME: *Rattus rattus* (Linnaeus, 1758)
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Rattus* - “rat”; *rattus* - “rat”
FOOD: Nuts, eggs, seeds, insects, underground fungi, small mammals and birds.
HABITAT: Around watercourses in disturbed areas and human habitations.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 165-205 mm Tail: 185-255 mm; 95-340 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, it sleeps by day in a nest of shredded material in roofs, trees, shallow scrapes, cavity walls or extensive shallow burrow systems often around farm buildings or river banks. They are fearful when cornered, but will defend a territory (scent-marked by rubbing with the cheek or belly) against intruders. Territorial groups establish a hierarchy with a dominant resident male and subordinates. They climb and swim well.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexual maturity reached at 3 - 4 months, live 1 year in wild. A litter of 5 - 10 young is born after a gestation of 3 weeks. Six litters may be reared in a year.

DESCRIPTION: Introduced by the first European settlers, this species has a sleek, smooth coat, charcoal grey to black or light brown above and cream or white below. The head is long and pointed with large thin ears over 20 mm long, protruding eyes and long black whiskers. The tail is long and bare with overlapping scales. They have one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. They may carry the plague bacillus and transmit other diseases to humans through their excretions. Synonyms: Fruit Rat; Roof Rat; Tree Rat; Alexandrine Rat; Ship Rat; European Black Rat.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Tas, Vic, WA

Black-striped Wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Macropus dorsalis* (Gray, 1837)
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Macropus* - “long-foot”; *dorsalis* -”backed, referring to prominent stripe along middle of back”
FOOD: Native grasses.
HABITAT: Closed and open forests with a thick understorey.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 1120-1590 mm Tail: 540-830 mm; 6-20 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, resting in thick shrubs in groups of 20 or more, travelling in single file from resting site along established runways to grazing areas. Adults groom and lick each other regularly, establish dominance hierarchies through sparring encounters. They flee if alarmed, moving with a short hopping gait with back curved, head down and forearms extended out from body.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature at 14 months, males at 20 months, live 10-15 years. Breeding all year, females mate soon after giving birth, embryo dormant until pouch is vacated. A single young is born after a pregnancy of 33-35 days. The newborn attaches to one of 4 teats in mother’s pouch, it leaves at 30 weeks, suckling at foot until weaned.

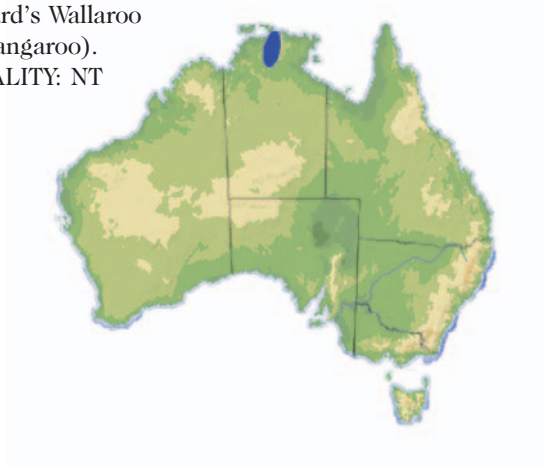
DESCRIPTION: A shy macropod seldom venturing far from cover, this wallaby can be distinguished by the black stripe extending from the neck to rump, the sandy to reddish-brown back, paler flanks, white thigh stripes and white cheek patch. Tail is sparsely-haired and scaly. Hindfeet have no first digit, second and third are joined with a double claw, fourth is much longer than others. Synonyms: *Helmeturus dorsalis, Wallabia dorsalis*; Scrub Wallaby; (referred to as ‘Nailtail’ and ‘Pademelon’ in parts of Queensland).
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld.



Black Wallaroo

LATIN NAME: *Macropus bernardus* (Rothschild, 1904)
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Macropus* - "long-foot"; *bernardus* - "named after Bernard Woodward, first curator of the Western Australian Museum"
FOOD: Native grasses.
HABITAT: Steep rocky slopes with tropical woodland and grassy understorey.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 600-750 mm Tail: 550-650 mm; 13-22 kg
BEHAVIOUR: It sleeps in a cave during the day, under a rock shelf or under a low tree. It is solitary and needs to drink, unlike the Common Wallaroo. At night is grazes on native grasses, often descending to the plains at the foot of an escarpment. A solitary animal, extremely wary and difficult to approach. When alarmed, it leaps up and moves quickly up the escarpment until out of sight.

DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. One young is born. Furred young have been seen in pouches in the middle of the dry season, June to September. Males are about one and a half times the weight of females.
DESCRIPTION: As the common name suggests, this species is sooty brown to black, having the darkest fur of any macropod. It has large grinding molars and a stomach divided into compartments in which grass fibre is digested by micro-organisms. The forelimbs are weakly developed in females but may be very powerful in males. Synonyms: *Dendrodor copsis woodward,* Black Kangaroo; Northern Balck Wallaroo; Bernard's Wallaroo
(or Kangaroo).
LOCALITY: NT



Blue Whale

LATIN NAME: *Balaenoptera musculus* Linnaeus 1758
SUBSPECIES: *Balaenopter musculus brevicauda* Pygmy Blue Whale
FAMILY NAME: Balaenopteridae
MEANING: *Balaenoptera* - "whale fin"; *musculus* - "marine creature".
FOOD: Krill and plankton
HABITAT: Oceans world-wide.
STATUS: Endangered
LENGTH/WEIGHT: 30-33metres; to 160tonnes
BEHAVIOUR: Often found alone or in small groups; feeds on krill and plankton by using its mouth as a seive when gulping in water, whilst on the surface. During summer and autumn is mostly seen off the coast of western Victoria and south-eastern South Australia.
DEVELOPMENT:

DESCRIPTION: Above: blue to slate-grey, mottled with paler patches; below: plae grey to white throat may appear yellowish. The largest ever living mammal, flippers long and slender, flukes wide, pointed; long slender body with a small fin on back 3/4 distance from snout; indistinct central ridge from snout to pronounced ridges around blowholes; blow is vertical and may reach 9 metres.
Synonyms: *Balaena musculus.*
LOCALITY: WA, SA, Vic, Tas, NSW, Qld, NT

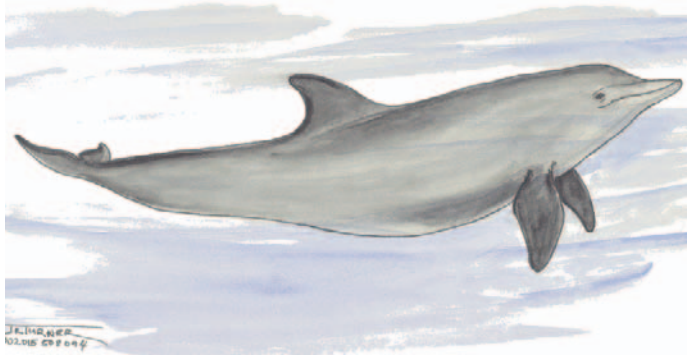
Bolam's Mouse

LATIN NAME: *Pseudomys bolami* Troughton, 1932
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Pseudomys* - "false-mouse"; *bolami* - "after A. J. Bolam, Australian naturalist"
FOOD: Seeds, plants and insects.
HABITAT: Temperate arid woodland with sparse scrub cover.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 60-80 mm Tail: 80-100 mm; 10-21 g
BEHAVIOUR: Little has been studied. Nocturnal, usually found in loamy to clay soils in sparse mallee or acacia woodland with scattered dwarf shrubs.
DEVELOPMENT: Litte is known. In South Australia, young animals have been recorded only in the second half of the year. This indicates that most breeding occurs in spring.

DESCRIPTION: Very similar to the Sandy Inland Mouse, it has larger ears, longer hindfeet, usually a longer tail and a more heavily furred tail with 70-100 hairs on each scale of tail. Synonyms: *Pseudomys hermannsburgensis bolami*; Sandy Inland Mouse.
LOCALITY: SA, WA, NSW

Bottlenose Dolphin

LATIN NAME: *Tursiops truncatus* (Montagu, 1821)
FAMILY NAME: Delphinidae
MEANING: *Tursio* - "porpoise-like"; *truncatus* - "shortish body"
FOOD: Mullett, catfish, squid, small fish, eels.
HABITAT: Warm temperate, sub-tropical and tropical coastal waters.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: 2.3-4 m; 150-650 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Sociable, usually swimming in pods of about 12, as part of a herd of several hundred animals. Home ranges of about 85 square kilometres, individual home ranges varying from 15 to 40 square kilometres depending on age and sex. Sharks are sometimes chased off and killed. Another adult may care for young while the mother feeds. Surface every 15-20 seconds to breathe, can stay submerged for several minutes. Communicate over long distances using whistles, squawks, yaps and squeaks, use a high-pitched echo-location sound in dark waters. After giving birth, females whistle almost continually for several days to give their young an acoustic imprint.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature at 5-12 years, males 10-12 years, may live to 35 years. Eight calves produced at 2-3 years apart. Young born from Feb to May and Sep to Nov, 12 months after mating. At birth 0.9-1.3 m long, suckle for 12-18 months.



DESCRIPTION: A torpedo-shaped dolphin, dark or light grey above, light grey on the flanks and white or pink below with a grey-blue band from the base of the beak to each eye. The beak is relatively short with 18-26 pairs of teeth in each jaw. The lower jaw protrudes beyond the upper jaw and curves up slightly. They have pointed flippers, the dorsal fin is sickle-shaped and the tail fluke is thin with a curved tip and a notched edge. Synonyms: *Delphinus truncatus*.
LOCALITY: NSW, Vic, Tas, SA, WA, NT, Qld.

Boullanger Island Sminthopsis

LATIN NAME: *Sminthopsis griseoventer boullangerensis* Crowther, M.S.; Dickman, C.R.; Lyman, A.J. 1999.
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Sminthopsis* - "mouse-appearance"; *griseoventer* - "grey-bellied"; *boullangerensis* - "Boullanger Island"
FOOD: Invertebrates, mice, lizards and soft fruits.
HABITAT: All vegetated areas especially low coastal shrubland
STATUS:
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 68-88 mm Tail: 85-98 mm; 11-17 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, active in the early and late parts of the night. It forages for prey under leaf litter, locating it by a combination of all senses, particularly smell. Prey longer than 3 centimetres is preferred and is held in the forepaws before being killed. Young females remain in the area of birth whilst males soon disperse in local area.
DEVELOPMENT: Males and females are sexually active at about one year and can live to two and a half years. Breeding occurs in July. Females give birth to one litter a year and up to eight young are born. They are in the pouch for five weeks, thereafter left in a nest lined with leaf litter just under the soil surface and emerge at ten weeks.

DESCRIPTION: Fur is long and fluffy. Dark, tipped light grey anteriorly and slightly darker on back and flanks. Olive-grey below, tipped with light grey, giving a grizzled appearance. Synonyms: *Sminthopsis griseoventer griseoventer, Sminthopsis murina* (part).
LOCALITY: WA

Bramble Cay Melomys

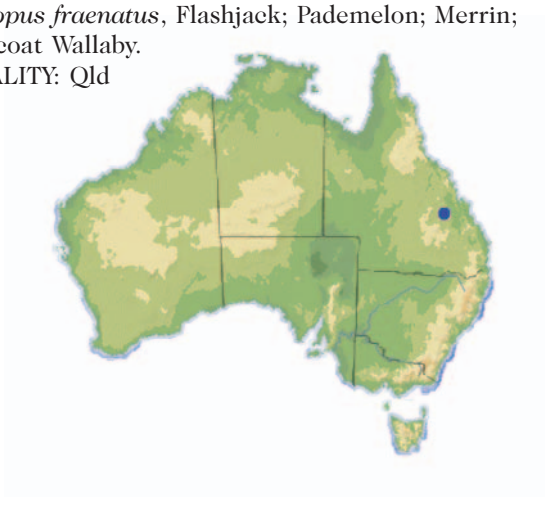
LATIN NAME: *Melomys rubicola* Thomas, 1924
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Melomys* - "Melanesian-mouse"; *rubicola* - 'rubis' - , "blackberry bush, bramble"; 'cola' - "inhabit"
FOOD: Vegetation, possibly insects.
HABITAT: High grass near beach of low coral cay.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: 230-430 mm; About 100 g
BEHAVIOUR: Lives among dense grass in the company with numerous seabirds and turtles. Feeds at night among the grass and out onto the beach on vegetation and possibly also on insects.
DEVELOPMENT: Unknown.

DESCRIPTION: This rat-size mammal has long, soft, fine fur, sandy-brown to dark grey-brown above and white, cream or grey below. The bare tail is partly prehensile with non-overlapping scales. They have a thick-necked appearance with short curved ears, a broad head, protruding eyes, long dark whiskers and broad hindfeet. They have one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw.
LOCALITY: Bramble Cay

Bridled Nailtail Wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Onychogalea fraenata* (Gould, 1841)
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Onychogalea* - "nailed-weasel"; *fraenata* - "bridled"
FOOD: Native grasses, succulent roots.
HABITAT: Dry sclerophyll forests to semi-arid woodland, both with grassy areas; shrubland.
STATUS: Endangered
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 430-700 mm Tail: 360-540 mm; 4-8 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in a saucer-shaped depression in the shelter of low trees or shrubs. When disturbed in the daytime it may slip quietly away, unseen, or hop along an indirect path to another shelter bush. Both sexes are solitary, but may form feeding aggregations. The forepaws are used to rake aside dry material in tussocks and prostrate forbs to expose greener leaves and shoots. Surface water is drunk in drier periods.
DEVELOPMENT: Breeding occurs throughout the year with mating occurring at night, when in the open, or under a shelter bush during the day.

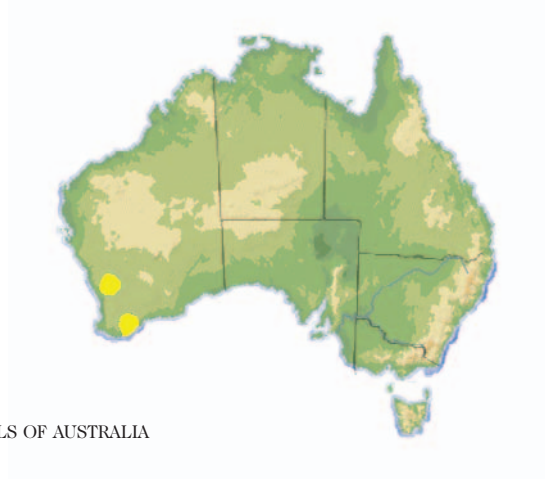
DESCRIPTION: The scientific and common names of this beautiful animal refer to the white, bridle-like line running from the centre of the neck down behind the forearm on each side of the body. The fur is fine and rather silky. The tail has a horny pointed 'nail' on the tip. The upper incisor teeth are very slim and inclined forward. The forefeet have long, well-developed claws. The long hindfeet have no first digit, the second and third are joined with a double claw and the fourth is much longer than the others. Synonyms: *Macropus fraenatus*, Flashjack; Pademelon; Merrin; Waistcoat Wallaby.
LOCALITY: Qld



Broad-faced Potoroo

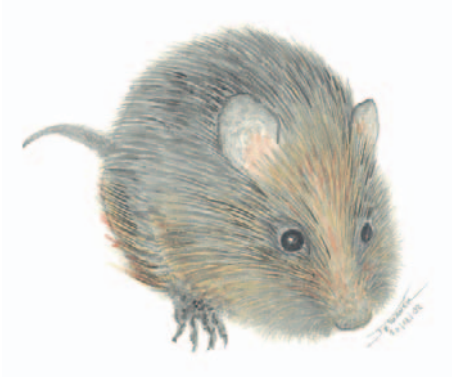
LATIN NAME: *Potorous platyops* (Gould, 1844)
FAMILY NAME: Potoroidae
MEANING: *Potorous* - "potoroo" - Aboriginal name; *platyops* - "flat-looking"
FOOD: Unknown
HABITAT: Woodland and grassland
STATUS: Endangered
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 243 mm Tail: 183 mm; 1kilo
BEHAVIOUR: Unknown
DEVELOPMENT: Unknown

DESCRIPTION: Smallest of the potoroos, this species was only a little larger than the Musky Rat-kangaroo. Hairs of the back with grey base passing into yellow-brown, then white and tipped by black; upper parts of body pencilled with white. Dusky white below, feet dirty white, grizzled with brown. It had a fat-cheeked appearance. It was described in 1839 but had not been seen since 1875.
Synonyms: *Hypsiprymus platyops*.
LOCALITY: WA

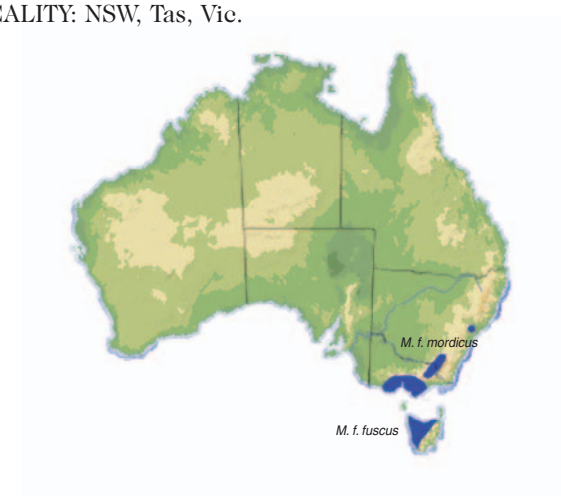


Broad-toothed Rat

LATIN NAME: *Mastacomys fuscus* Thomas, 1882
SUBSPECIES: *M. f. fuscus*, Tas; *M. f. mordicus* (*M. f. brazenori*, *M. f. wombeyensis*), Vic, NSW.
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Mastacomys* - "jawed-mouse"; *fuscus* - "grey"
FOOD: Stems and leaves of grasses and sedges, bark and seeds.
HABITAT: Cool, wet alpine, sub-alpine heaths, woodlands, tall open forests to 2,200 m.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 140-195 mm Tail: 100-135 mm; 100-200 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly nocturnal, although frequently active during the day, sleeping in well-insulated nests of finely-shredded grass under logs or dense vegetation, often button grass. Their home ranges overlap and they move about along tunnels constructed in the undergrowth which are often covered by snow in winter. These remain warm and dry, allowing them to forage even on the coldest days. Breeding pairs may share nests except when the young are suckling when females become very aggressive to males.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature at 12 months, breed September to January in Tas., November to February on mainland. Two young usually born, cling firmly to mother's teats for 3 weeks, weaned at 5 or 6 weeks. Two litters may be reared in a season.



DESCRIPTION: A stocky, thickly-furred mammal, named for its unusually broad teeth, enabling it to feed on tough plant material. Fur is long, light to dark brown graduating to grey below. Tail short with small bristles and overlapping scales. Head broad, ears curved, hindfeet are relatively long and slim. One pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *M. wombeyensis* (fossil).
LOCALITY: NSW, Tas, Vic.



Brown Antechinus

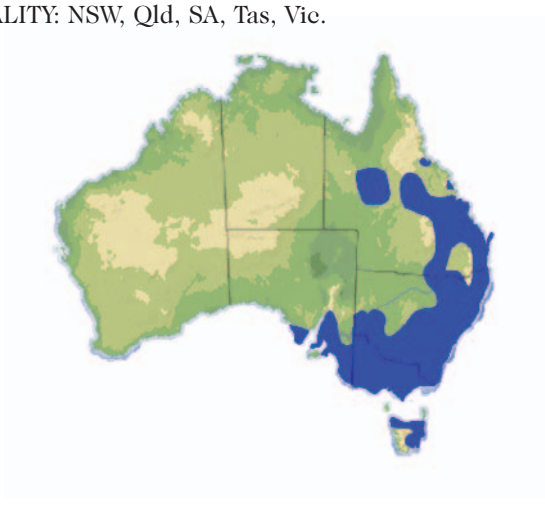
LATIN NAME: *Antechinus stuartii* Macleay, 1841
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Antechinus* - "hedgehog-equivalent"; *stuartii* - "after J. Stuart who drew a specimen in 1837"
FOOD: Cockroaches, beetles, spiders and other small invertebrates.
HABITAT: Forests to 1,600 m, rainforests, wet/dry sclerophyll forests, pine plantations.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 70-140 mm Tail: 65-110 mm; 17-71 g
BEHAVIOUR: Usually active at night, they sleep by day in a spherical nest constructed of plant material in a hollow log or crevice. On cold days they huddle together in communal nests and bask in the sun during the day; becoming torpid for a few hours to conserve energy when food is scarce. Have a home range of up to 1 ha. Males have a scent gland on chest that enlarges during mating season. Aggressive and establish dominance hierarchies, strongest secure better habitats and mating priority. All adult males die soon after mating.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 10 months, females live to 3 years. Mates in Aug in south, Sep in north. Copulation lasts 6 hours, up to 10 young are born 26-35 days later. Females have no true pouch. Ridges of skin develop on either side of 6-10 teats before birth. Young attached to teats for 40-45 days, dragged around by mother until they detach, left in nest while she forages. Move from nest at about 75 days, weaned at 3 months.

DESCRIPTION: Greyish-brown above, paler below with a sparsely-haired tail. Head; long with protruding eyes and large, thin, crinkled ears with a notch in the margin. First toe of the hindfoot opposes the other four. Synonyms: *A. f. burrelli,* Macleay's Marsupial Mouse; Stuart's Antechinus.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld

Brown Hare

LATIN NAME: *Lepus capensis* Linnaeus, 1758
SUBSPECIES: The Australian population is known as *Lepus capensis europaeus*.
FAMILY NAME: Leporidae
MEANING: *Lepus* - "hare"; *capensis* - "Cape (of Good Hope) hare"
FOOD: Grasses and plants.
HABITAT: Cool to warm temperate farmland and woodland.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 500-600 mm Tail: 70-90 mm; 3-5.5 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Solitary, hiding during the day in shallow surface dens emerging in the evening and at night to graze, or sometimes to browse. They digest plant fibre by producing a soft faeces which is eaten and passed through the gut a second time, the final faeces being a compact fibrous pettet. Well-adapted to fast running escaping their predators in a confusing zigzag pattern.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually active in first year, mating at any time but mainly from June to September. After a pregnancy of six weeks, two to five young are born. Up to six litters in a year. Young are born with open eyes, covered with hair, soon become independent.

DESCRIPTION: Introduced from Europe as game animals in 1860s, spread from Vic. through much of south-eastern Australia and Tas. Have longer ears and longer legs than rabbits. Y-shaped groove from the centre of the upper lip to the nostrils is more pronounced. Slit-like nostrils can be closed, tail is very short. They have continuously growing upper (two pairs) and lower incisors that are self-sharpening as they bit against each other. Synonyms: *Lepus europaeus*; Hare; European Hare; European Brown Hare; Jackrabbit.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, SA, Tas, Vic.



Brown Rat

LATIN NAME: *Rattus norvegicus* (Berkenhout, 1769)
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Rattus* - "rat"; *norvegicus* - "Norway"
FOOD: Shellfish, eggs, seeds, insects, small mammals and birds. They hoard food in the nest, carrying it in their cheeks, manipulating it with the hands.
HABITAT: Cellars, sewers, creek banks, farm buildings and warehouses.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 180-255 mm Tail: 150-215 mm; 200-480 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, sheltering by day under bushes, in sewers and other sites in populated areas, or in deep, extensive burrow systems, huddling together in nests of shredded material carried in the mouth. Colonies of several hundred are formed. Members recognised by smell, live within a home range of 30 m diameter. Dominant males have exclusive territories around burrows with several breeding females. Young rats forced to leave colony. They climb and swim well, but prefer to live at ground level.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexual maturity is reached at 3 to 4 months. A litter of 7 to 10 young is born after a gestation of 3 weeks, up to 6 litters may be reared in a year. Females have 12 teats. Young well-furred at 10 days, open eyes at 15-20 days independent at 20 days.

DESCRIPTION: Originally from Caspian region, probably reaching Australia with first European settlers. Has shaggy, bristly fur, grey-brown above, white to grey below. Ears small and curved, close set, up to 20 mm long. Muzzle blunt with long whiskers. Tail is relatively short, paler below, bare with overlapping scales. Pink hindfeet have long toes and pale soles. One pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth, three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *Mus norvegicus*, Norway Rat; Sewer Rat; Laboratory Rat; White Rat.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, SA, Tas, Vic, WA

Brush-tailed Bettong

LATIN NAME: *Bettongia penicillata* Gray, 1837
SUBSPECIES: *B. p. penicillata*, se Aust. (extinct); *B. p. ogilbyi*, s-sw Aust.
FAMILY NAME: Potoroidae
MEANING: *Bettongia* - "bettong"; *penicillata* - "brush (-tailed)"
FOOD: Underground fungi, bulbs, tubers, insects, seeds, resin. Survives without drinking.
HABITAT: Dry sclerophyll forests and woodlands with good cover to 300 m.
STATUS: Endangered
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 300-380 mm Tail: 290-360 mm; 1.1-1.6 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping in well-concealed domed nests of shredded bark and grass carried in the curled tail and constructed over shallow depressions dug under shrubs or other cover. Solitary, with large overlapping home ranges of 20 ha, they use 3-4 nests at random. They hop quickly, head held down, back arched, tail held out straight behind.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 5-6 months, they breed all year round and produce 2-3 litters per year. Mating occurs soon after birth, although the embryo remains dormant until the pouch is vacant. Pregnancy is 21 days, newborn attaches to one of four teats in the mother's pouch, it leaves at 14 weeks, suckles at foot for 4 weeks. Can live 4-6 years.

DESCRIPTION: A rabbit-size, kangaroo-like marsupial, has a prehensile tail, well-developed upper canine teeth and upper and lower incisor teeth that bite against each other. Sandy-brown to yellow-grey above flecked with white, pale grey-brown to white below, with a black bushy tail tip. Broad head has a flattened bare nose and pointed ears. Short muscular forelimbs have forward-pointing toes with spatulate claws. Hindfeet have no first digit, second and third are joined with a double claw, fourth is much longer than the others. Synonyms: Brush-tailed Rat-kangaroo.
LOCALITY: SA, WA

Brush-tailed Phascogale

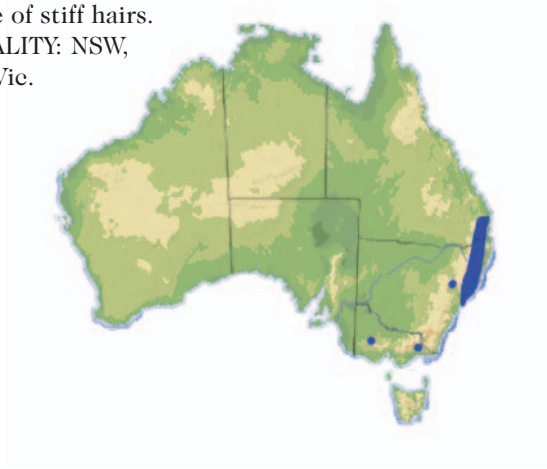
LATIN NAME: *Phascogale tapoatafa* (Meyer, 1793)
SUBSPECIES: *P. t. tapoatafa*, southern Australia; *P. t. pirata*, northern Australia.
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Phascogale* - "pouched-weasel"; *tapoatafa* - "Aboriginal name for species"
FOOD: Insects, spiders, centipedes and small vertebrates, caught/handled with forefeet.
HABITAT: Open sclerophyll forests with 500-2,000 mm of rain annually.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 160-250 mm Tail: 170-220 mm; 110-235 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, sleep in nests lined with leaves or shredded bark in tree hollows by day, sometimes shared. Females inhabit exclusive home ranges of 4-5 ha while suckling young. Males very competitive in mating season, their chests become stained with yellow secretions produced by chest gland, die soon after mating. Swift climbers, cling head-down below branches. Prey found in crevices, under bark using long fingers.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 8 months, females live 2 years or more. Mates in June, copulation lasts several hours, up to eight young are born 30 days later. Females have no true pouch, ridges of skin form on either side of eight teats during breeding season. Newborn attach to teats, dragged by mother for 54 days. In nest, weaned at 4-5 months.

DESCRIPTION: Steel-grey flecked with black above, pale cream below. Tail, bushy terminal half with black hairs up to 40 mm long, not prehensile. Hands and feet have long sharp claws. Hindfoot, first toe small, opposes other four which have very flexible joints enabling to climb up or down easily. Forefeet have five long, thin digits. Head is long, pointed, large protruding eyes and long ears. Synonyms: *P. penicillata*; *Viverra tapoatafa*; Tuan (Vic); Common Wambenger (WA); Black-tailed Phascogale.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Vic, WA

Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Petrogale penicillata* (Gray, 1825)
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Petrogale* - "rock-weasel"; *penicillata* - "brush (-tailed)"
FOOD: Leaves, sedges, ferns, roots, bark, fruits and grasses.
HABITAT: Rocky sites in sclerophyll forests with a grassy understorey.
STATUS: Vulnerable
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 450-580 mm Tail: 520-670 mm; 4-7.6 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sheltering in caves, rocky crevices and thick stands of Lantana, form colonies with dominance hierarchies. Individuals have overlapping home ranges with exclusive den sites. Females often share and defend den sites, groom each other regularly. Young at foot left behind as mother travels long distances for food or water. Hop with great agility on rocky outcrops, the tail arched over back, able to climb sloping tree trunks.
DEVELOPMENT: Females are sexually mature at 18 months, males 20 months. They breed throughout the year and mate soon after birth, although the embryo remains dormant until the pouch is vacated. After 31 days a single young is born and attaches to one of four teats in the pouch, where it remains for 29 weeks, suckling 3 months thereafter.

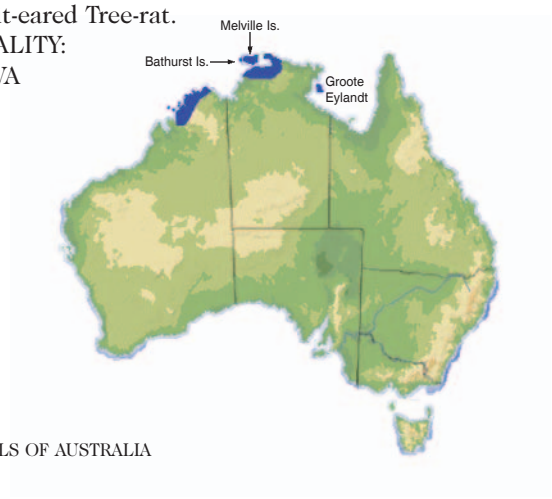
DESCRIPTION: This species has a dull brown back, a rufous rump, black furry feet and a long densely-furred tail with a bushy tip. Southern animals have a black tail and armpits, pale stripes along the sides, white cheek stripes, a black stripe on the forehead and black patches on the ears which are yellowish inside with whitish margins. Hindfeet have no first digit, the second and third are joined with a double claw and the claw of the long fourth toe protrudes only slightly beyond the large pad. Pads are granulated with a fringe of stiff hairs.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, Vic.



Brush-tailed Tree-rat

LATIN NAME: *Conilurus penicillatus* (Gould, 1842)
SUBSPECIES: *C. p. penicillatus*, mainland Australia, islands in Gulf of Carpentaria; *C. p. melibius*, Melville and Bathurst Islands; *C. p. randi*, New Guinea.
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Conilurus* - "rabbit-tail"; *penicillatus* - "brush(-tailed)"
FOOD: Grass, herbs, seeds and fruits.
HABITAT: Open eucalypt forests, woodlands, rainforests, pandanus scrub, often on the seashore near large casuarina trees.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 150-200 mm Tail: 180-215 mm; 110-170 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in tree-holes, crevices, pandanus leaves and buildings. Mainly arboreal, climb up to 15 m above ground foraging for food and descend occasionally. They climb rapidly if disturbed and utter a threatening growl if cornered.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. They probably breed throughout the year with a peak from May to August, with few births in the wetter months. Females have 4 teats and usually rear 2 young born 33-36 days after mating. Young attach themselves strongly to the mother's teats and are probably dragged behind her as she moves about. Newborn develop quickly, being fully-furred with the eyes open at 10 days and weaned at 20 days.

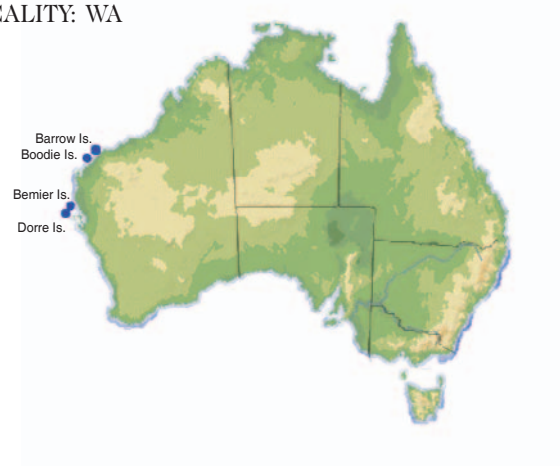
DESCRIPTION: Has long rough fur, light grey-brown above, creamy-white below. Tail is grey-brown at base, black or white brushy tip and overlapping scales. Stocky, rabbit-like appearance, very long ears, large protruding eyes, broad blunt head, elongated hindfeet. One pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth, three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *Mus penicillatus*; Brush-tailed Rabbit-rat; Rabbit-eared Tree-rat.
LOCALITY: NT, WA



Burrowing Bettong

LATIN NAME: *Bettongia lesueur* (Quoy and Gaimard, 1824)
SUBSPECIES: Described as subspecies (not generally accepted): *B. l. lesueur*, Shark Bay islands; *B. l. graii*, south-western WA(extinct); *B. l. harveyi*, Eyre Peninsula, SA (extinct).
FAMILY NAME: Potoroidae
MEANING: *Bettongia* - "bettong"; *lesueur* - " after C. A. Le Sueur, French naturalist"
FOOD: Tubers, bulbs, fungi, insects. green plants, peas, beans in gardens and carrion.
HABITAT: Arid to semi-arid woodland, shrubland and grassland.
STATUS: Endangered
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 280-400 mm Tail: 220-300 mm; About 1.5 kg.
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in a nest of vegetation at the end of a burrow, sometimes forming part of an extensive warren system accommodating scores of individuals. Sociable. Very vocal making a variety of grunts, hisses and squeals.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexual maturity is reached at 5 months. Breeding takes place throughout the year. Embryonic diapause. The female has 4 teats but carries only one young in her pouch. Juveniles vacate the pouch at 16 weeks of age.

DESCRIPTION: A rabbit-size, kangaroo-like marsupial, it has a prehensile tail, well-developed upper canine teeth and upper and lower incisor teeth that bite against each other. They are brownish-grey above flecked with white, greyish white below, with a black bushy tail tip. Broad head has flattened bare nose, short rounded ears. Short muscular forelimbs have forward-pointing toes with spatulate claws. Hindfeet have no first digit, second and third are joined with a double claw, fourth is much longer than the others. Synonyms: Lesueur's Rat-kangaroo; Lesueur's Bettong; Burrowing Rat-kangaroo; Boodie; Tungoo.
LOCALITY: WA



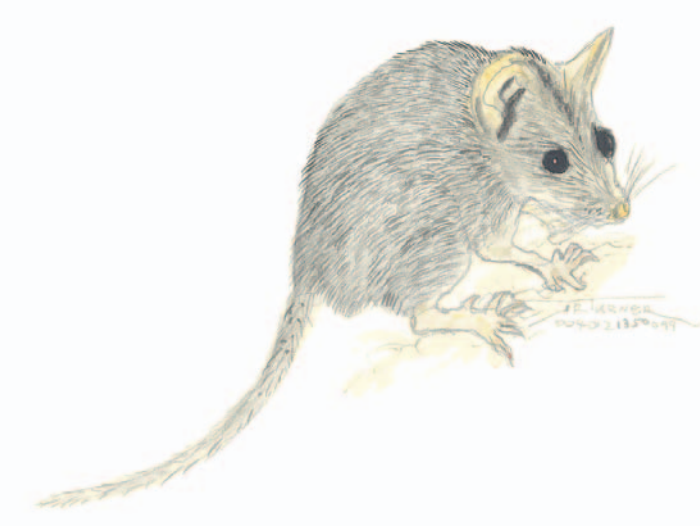
Bush Rat

LATIN NAME: *Rattus fuscipes* (Waterhouse, 1839)
SUBSPECIES: *R. f. fuscipes*, coast sw WA, offshore Is; *R. f. greyi*, coast - Eyre Peninsula to Portland, Vic, offshore Is; *R. f. assimilis*, coastal/subcoastal - w Vic to Rockhampton, Qld; s high country, offshore Is; *R. f. coracius*, coast Townsville to Cooktown, Qld.
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Rattus* - "rat"; *fuscipes* - "dusky-footed"
FOOD: Insects, supplemented by fungi and other vegetation.
HABITAT: Rainforests and sclerophyll forests with dense ground cover.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 110-205 mm Tail: 105-195 mm; 65-225 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, sheltering by day in short burrows often under logs or stones with a sloping, twisting tunnel leading to a vegetation-lined nest chamber some 150 mm diameter and 350-450 mm below ground. Adults solitary or live with their young, occupy a home range of 200 m diameter. Males extend ranges in spring and roam large areas. Populations greatest in regenerating bushland two/three years after severe fire.
DEVELOPMENT: Males larger. Females sexually mature 4 to 5 months old, able to breed non stop, peak births in summer, has 8 teats, 5 young in litter; Independent at 4 to 5 weeks.

DESCRIPTION: Needs drinking water daily, forests with dense ground cover. May live 2 years. Has thick, soft fur, grey to grey-brown or slightly reddish above, grey or cream below. Tail grey to brown, thinly-haired, overlapping scales. Soles of hindfeed pale. One pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth, three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *R. greyii*; *R. murrayi*; *R. mondraineus*; *R. glauerti*; *R. assimilis coracius*; Western Swamp Rat (*R. f. fuscipes*); Allied Rat; Southern Bush Rat (*R. f. assimilis*).
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, SA, Vic, WA

Butler's Dunnart

LATIN NAME: *Sminthopsis butleri* Archer, 1971
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Sminthopsis* - "mouse-appearance"; *butleri* - "named after Harry Butler, Australian naturalist"
FOOD: Insects and other arthropods.
HABITAT: Tropical dry sclerophyll forest with dense grass understorey.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: about 88 mm Tail: about 90 mm;
BEHAVIOUR: Little has been studied. In captivity, it behaves like most other dunnarts, being a nocturnal predator.
DEVELOPMENT: Unknown. Mating probably occurs in spring.

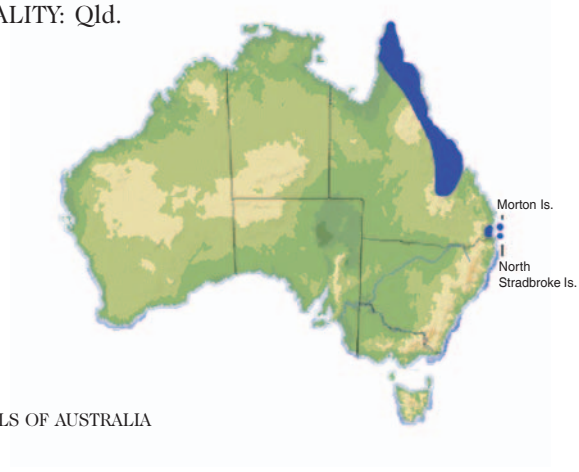


DESCRIPTION: Brownish-grey above and light grey to white below. The head is pointed with protruding eyes and very large ears. Tail is thin and sparsley furred. Synonyms: Carpentarian Dunnart; Munjol.
LOCALITY: WA, NT

Canefield Rat

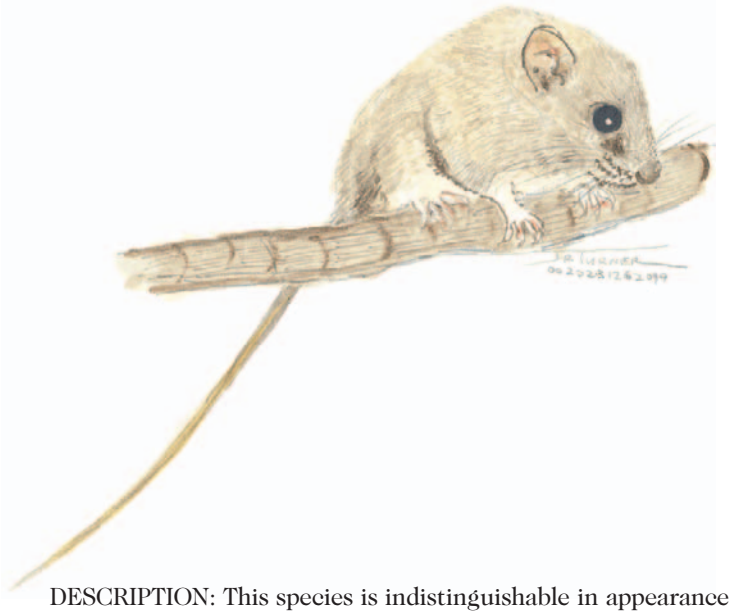
LATIN NAME: *Rattus sordidus* (Gould, 1858)
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Rattus* - "rat"; *sordidus* - "dirty, blackish-brown"
FOOD: Grass, seeds, leaves, sugar cane stems and insects.
HABITAT: Dense tropical grasslands, open forests, grassy clearings rainforests, canefields.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 120-210 mm Tail: 100-160 mm; 50-260 g
BEHAVIOUR: Predominantly nocturnal, large populations are active during the day. They sleep in extensive burrow systems about 400 mm deep with tunnels 50-100 mm diameter sloping down to a nest chamber about 150 mm diameter lined with dry grass. The entrances can be found near grass clumps, stones and stumps. Burrows often concentrated in dense colonies with networks between them. Up to 23 non-breeding adults found in one nest chamber, although females with young force other adults out.
DEVELOPMENT: Males larger than females. Sexual maturity reached at 9 to 10 weeks. Breeds all year but peak of births March to May. Female has 12 teats, rears 6 young in a litter. Become independent when three weeks old, populations expand rapidly in canefields.

DESCRIPTION: Was an inhabitant of tropical grasslands, grassy areas within and at edges of forests. However, sugarcane (which is a grass) provides excellent food and shelter. Has rough, spiny fur, grey, dark brown to black above with prominent guard hairs, pale grey or buff below. Tail dark brown to black with overlapping scales. Soles of hindfeet pale. One pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth, three pairs of molars on each side of jaw. Synonyms: *R. gestri conatus*; *R. youngi*; Field-rat; Field Ground Rat; Dusky Field-rat; Sordid Rat; Annam River Rat (misspelling of Annan River); Sombre Downs Rat.
LOCALITY: Qld.

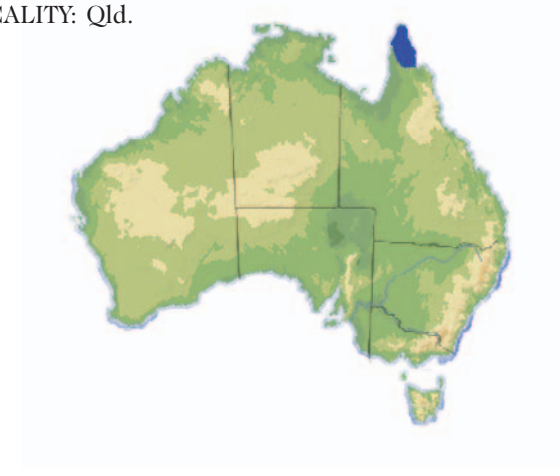


Cape York Melomys

LATIN NAME: *Melomys capensis* Tate, 1951
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Melomys* - "Melanesian-mouse"; *capensis* - "referring to Cape York Peninsula"
FOOD: Leaves, shoots, fruits and seeds.
HABITAT: Edges of sclerophyll forests and rainforests.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 110-140 mm Tail: 120-180 mm; 45-116 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, foraging on tree branches and the forest floor. Its semi-prehensile tail helps it climb with agility on small branches and vines. Sleeps by day in a nest in tree hollows lined with dried leaves. Often enter houses located in its natural habitat.
DEVELOPMENT: Breeding occurs throughout the year with litters of usually two, although the female has four teats. A number of litters are produced each year. At birth, young weigh 5-8 g., eyes and ears are closed. Emerge from nest at about 13 days of age.



DESCRIPTION: This species is indistinguishable in appearance from the Fawn-footed Melomys but is readily separated on genetic and biochemical criteria. A rat-sized mammal, light brown to orange-brown above and white to cream below. The tail is partly prehensile with non-overlapping scales, brown to black in colour and usually longer than the head and body. They have a thick-necked appearance with short curved ears, a broad head, protruding eyes, long dark whiskers and broad hindfeet. They have one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw.
Synonyms: *Melomys cervinipes capensis*.
LOCALITY: Qld.



Cape York Pipistrelle

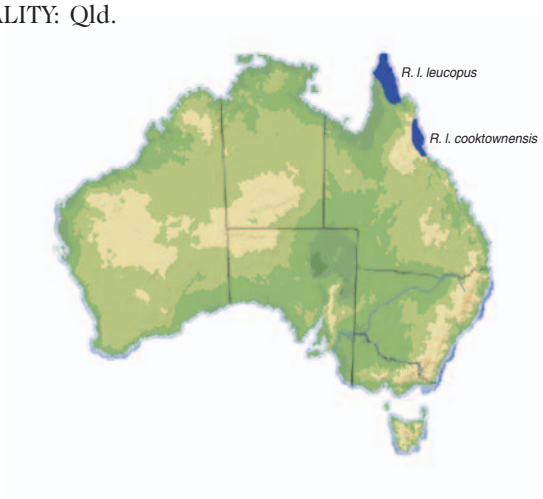
LATIN NAME: *Pipistrellus adamsi* Kitchener, Caputi and Jones, 1986
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Pipistrellus* - "bat"; *adamsi* - "named after M. Adams"
FOOD: Flying insects.
HABITAT: Creek and river systems flowing through savanna woodland, coastal areas.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 35-44 mm Tail: 28-35 mm Forearm: 29.8-32.5 mm; 3-6 g
BEHAVIOUR: Little has been studied. Probably roosts in trees.
DEVELOPMENT: Births of a single young occur in late October or early November. Breeding may also occur more than once a year as juveniles were present in the population at this time.

DESCRIPTION: One of the smallest Australian bats varying in colour from dark brown to bright rufous. Ears and wings are dark brown to black. Synonyms: *Pipistrellus papuanus*; *Pipistrellus tenuis*; Northern Pipistrelle.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld.

Cape York Rat

LATIN NAME: *Rattus leucopus* (Gray, 1867)
SUBSPECIES: *Rattus leucopus leucopus*, northern Cape York Peninsula; *Rattus leucopus cooktownensis*, south-eastern Cape York Peninsula.
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Rattus* - "rat"; *leucopus* - "white-footed"
FOOD: Insects, supplemented by fungi, herbs, seeds and fruit.
HABITAT: Tropical rainforests
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 130-210 mm Tail: 135-200 mm; 70-215 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sheltering by day in cracks and crevices or under boulders and buttress roots of rainforest trees. No burrows or runways have been seen. Shy, unobtrusive and little-studied, they are sparsely distributed and probably solitary.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexual maturity is reached at about 3 months. Females have 6 teats and usually rear 3 or 4 young. Their eyes are open by 22 days and become independent at about 4 weeks. Breeding extends throughout the year except for the dry season.

DESCRIPTION: This is a tropical species (also found in New Guinea), very dependent upon a wet environment. It has rough, spiny fur, blackish-brown to golden-brown or reddish above and white or grey below. The head is pointed with large ears thinly covered with buff to reddish-brown hairs. Tail is slender and tapering, almost bare, often mottled brown or grey, with off-white patches in far northern Australia. Pale hindfeet are stout and long. One pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth, three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *Acanthomys lutreolus*; Mottle-tailed Rat; Mottle-tailed Capy York Rat; Spiny-furred Rat.
LOCALITY: Qld.



Cape York Rock-wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Petrogale coenensis* Eldridge and Close, 1992
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Petrogale* - "rock-weasel"; *coenensis* - "Coen, referring to the north Queensland town which is located at the centre of its known distribution"
FOOD: Grasses, but may supplement diet with leaves and fruits.
HABITAT: Tropical rainforest.
STATUS: Vulnerable
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 440-564 mm Tail: 470-540 mm; 4.0-5.0 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Unknown.
DEVELOPMENT: Unknown.

DESCRIPTION: A rare and little-known species, found on eastern Cape York Peninsula from Musgrave to the Pascoe River. Only known from six adult specimens collected between 1981 and 1987. Appears to be rare within its known range and only small scattered colonies have been identified. Grey-brown above; sandy brown to buff underparts, forearms, hindlegs and base of tail. Pale to buff cheek stripe. Silvery tail tip.
LOCALITY: Qld.

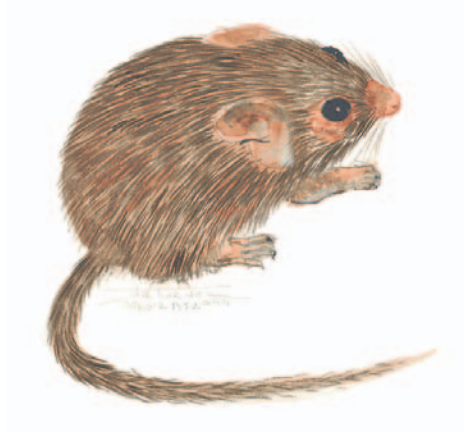
Carpentarian Pseudantechinus

LATIN NAME: *Pseudantechinus mimulus* (Thomas, 1906)
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Pseudantechinus* -"false-antechinus"; *mimulus* - "little mimic"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Gently sloping, rocky sandstone hills with a pebbly to rocky surface.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 77-91 mm Tail: 59-75 mm; 14-25 g
BEHAVIOUR: In captivity it is active at night, feeding voraciously on insects and the tail can become fattened. It hides by day among rocks and does not appear to build a nest of any kind. Moves with great agility among rocks.
DEVELOPMENT: Unknown. Females are larger than males.

DESCRIPTION: Buff brown above with greyish tinge showing from base of hairs. Greyish white below, rufous patch behind the ears. Synonyms: *Pseudantechinus macdonnellensis*.
LOCALITY: NT

Carpentarian Rock-rat

LATIN NAME: *Zyzomys palatalis* Kitchener, 1989
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Zyzomys* - "significance unknown"; *palatalis* - "notable-palate"
FOOD: Large seeds and fruits.
HABITAT: Thickets of monsoon rainforest which fringe escarpments and scree slopes.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 126-197 mm Tail: 95-150 mm; 111-136 g
BEHAVIOUR: Unknown
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. A female collected in June was pregnant and the two juveniles recorded were collected in September. This suggests that breeding occurs towards the middle of the dry season.



DESCRIPTION: A large rock-rat, similar to *Z. maini* and *Z. woodwardi*, but tail shorter than head-body length. The tail is flattened and very susceptible to breakage.
LOCALITY: NT

Cat

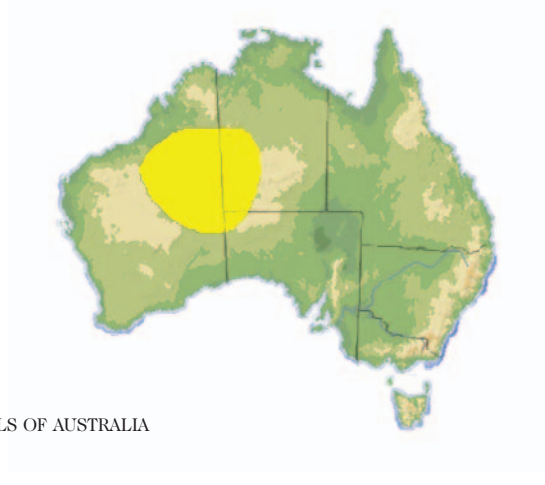
LATIN NAME: *Felis catus* Linnaeus, 1758
FAMILY NAME: Felidae
MEANING: *Felis* - "cat"; *catus* - "cat"
FOOD: Mammals, from rabbits to the smallest rodents and marsupials, birds and lizards.
HABITAT: Tropical rainforest to desert.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 380-630 mm Tail: 230-340 mm; 2.5-6.2 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, resting by day in a den or in dense undergrowth. It is solitary and territorial and does not need to drink, obtaining sufficient water from its prey. Although primarily terrestrial, they are excellent climbers.
DEVELOPMENT: Females become sexually mature at the age of 10 to 12 months, males several months later. Mating can occur at any time of the year. After a pregnancy of six weeks, a litter of two to seven young are born. They remain with the mother until three to seven months old.

DESCRIPTION: Brought to Australia as domesticated animals, this species soon spread all over Australia. It is, in all but minor respects, similar to the domestic Cat. They are the carnivores best-adapted for hunting live prey. Cats have 30 teeth, serving as the main tools for grasping, killing and tearing up the prey. The body is sinewy but slender and flexible; the limbs moderately long, as is (usually) the tail. They have completely retractable razor-sharp, sickle-shaped claws, which, when the animal is tranquil, are hidden in a ligamentous sheath and fur and are not visible. Female cats are regularly somewhat smaller than males.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Tas, Vic, WA

Central Hare-wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Lagorchestes asomatus* Finlayson, 1943
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Lagorchestes* - "dancing-hare"; *asomatus* - "bodiless"
FOOD: Grass leaves and seeds and the fruits of the Quandong.
HABITAT: Sand plains and dunes with spinifex.
STATUS: Extinct
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 280-400 mm Tail: 220-300 mm;
BEHAVIOUR: Sheltered by day in a scrape under a spinifex hummock, sometimes digging a short burrow. It could not be flushed from its shelter and had an extremely quiet behaviour.
DEVELOPMENT: Unknown.

DESCRIPTION: Small wallaby with long, soft, grey fur; a relatively short, thickened tail and hairy feet.
LOCALITY: WA, NT, SA



Central Pebble-mound Mouse

LATIN NAME: *Pseudomys johnsoni* Kitchener, 1985
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Pseudomys* - "false-mouse"; *johnsoni* - "after K. A. Johnson, Australian zoologist"
FOOD: Seeds and insects.
HABITAT: Arid tropical acacia woodland and hummock grassland on stony ridges and plains.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 60-74 mm Tail: 75-95 mm; 9-17 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night. Probably sleeps by day in a nest in a tunnel made in a mound of pebbles constructed by successive generations of the species, although it has not been directed observed.
DEVELOPMENT: Unknown.

DESCRIPTION: Grey-brown on back and sides with black guard hairs; head clay or fuscous; white below, including sides of mouth and feet. Similar in appearance to Sandy Inland Mouse but has slightly longer foot and tail, shorter ears and fewer hairs per scale row on the tail.
LOCALITY: NT

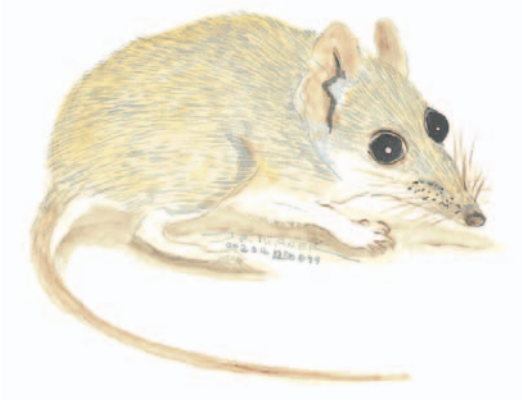
Central Rock-rat

LATIN NAME: *Zyzomys pedunculatus* Waite, 1896
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Zyzomys* - "significance unknown"; *pedunculatus* - "swollen-based (tail)"
FOOD: Quandong seeds and vegetation.
HABITAT: Tropical arid woodland and shrubland.
STATUS: Endangered
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 110-140 mm Tail: 110-140 mm;
BEHAVIOUR: Unknown
DEVELOPMENT: Unknown

DESCRIPTION: Yellow-brown above, cream to white below. This species appears to be very rare. Only six specimens have been collected between its discovery in 1896 and its last confirmed sighting in 1960. The name refers to a thickening of the tail by an accumulation of fat in the region just behind its base (giving the appearance of a very slender carrot). Synonyms: *Laomys pedunculatus*.
LOCALITY: NT

Chestnut Dunnart

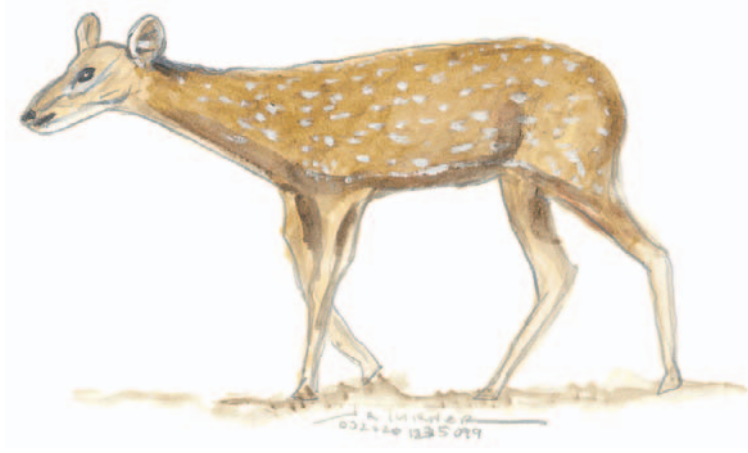
LATIN NAME: *Sminthopsis archeri* Van Dyck, 1986
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Sminthopsis* - "mouse-appearance"; *archeri* - "named after M. Archer, Australian zoologist"
FOOD: Unknown
HABITAT: Tropical monsoonal savannah and woodland.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 80-110 mm Tail: 80-100 mm; About 16 g
BEHAVIOUR: Unknown
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. Breeding appears to take place in the dry season between July and October. The female has six to eight teats and carries five to eight pouch young.



DESCRIPTION: Usually a chestnut colour which is reflected by its common name. It has a prominant dark ring around its eyes, a roman nose and a thin tail.
LOCALITY: Qld.

Chital

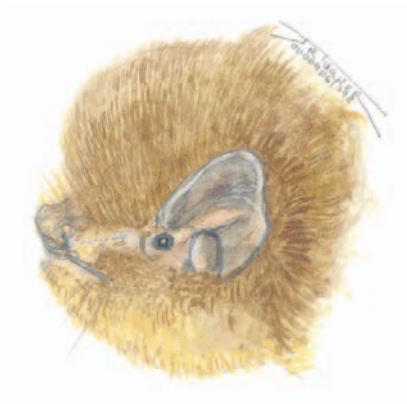
LATIN NAME: *Axis axis* (Erxleban, 1777)
SUBSPECIES: Two subspecies. Australian population derived from *Axis axis axis*, from peninsular India.
FAMILY NAME: Cervidae
MEANING: *Axis* - "deer"; *axis* - "deer"
FOOD: Grasses and shrubs.
HABITAT: Subtropical forest edges and woodland.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 1.3-1.9 m Tail: 250 mm; 79-90 kg
BEHAVIOUR: It lives either solitarily or, more often, it moves in herds of up to 100 individuals. Gregarious. In the mating season males segregate from the herd but visit groups of females, attempting to copulate with those that are on heat. Predominantly a grazer but also browsers on shrubs. Its favourite haunts are thickets near water.
DEVELOPMENT: Mating occurs February to May, August and September. After a gestation of 30 to 32 weeks, they give birth to one to three young, most often twins. Calves are spotted white at birth.



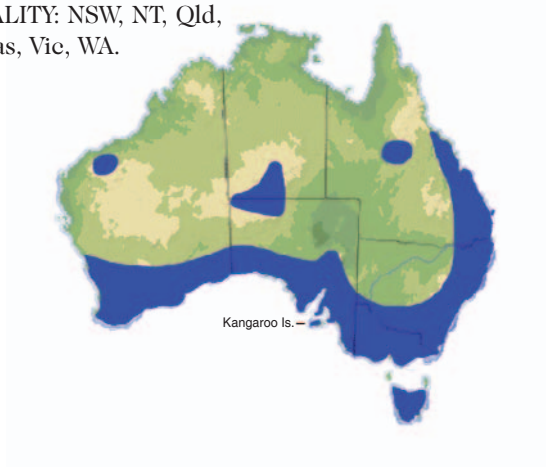
DESCRIPTION: A native of India, it was introduced to Australia early in the 19th century for hunting. Large populations were developed in captivity but the species failed to thrive except in a small area of northern Queensland. The Chital is noted for its dappled pattern of white spots on a light brown back and sides and its lyre-shaped antlers with widely separated points. Upper canines are usually lacking. Synonyms: Axis Deer; Spotted Deer; Indian Spotted Deer.
LOCALITY: Qld.

Chocolate Wattled Bat

LATIN NAME: *Chalinolobus morio* (Gray, 1841)
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Chalinolobus* - "bridle-lobe"; *morio* - " Greek mythological Moros - Night"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Wet and dry sclerophyll forests, woodlands and arid regions.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 50-60 mm Tail: 40-50 mm Forearm: 35-43 mm; 7-14 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active at night and soon after sunset, roosting in colonies of up to several hundred bats by day in tree-holes or similar cavities staying within a home range of about 5 km, but occupies caves in the Nullarbor Plain. Their long narrow wings allow faster flying between the tree canopy and understorey sweeping low over forest trails hunting for small moths and insects. They take off from the ground if necessary making agile attacking movements. Hibernate in cold climates if food is short, they enter later and emerge earlier than other bats in the same habitat to take advantage of food resources. Have good vision and navigate and detect insects using echo-location.
DEVELOPMENT: Males produce sperm in spring and store it until mating in autumn. Females store sperm through winter, fertilising their ova in early spring and giving birth usually to two young in summer. Suckle from teats in mother's armpits and are carried until well-furred and become independent in January or February.



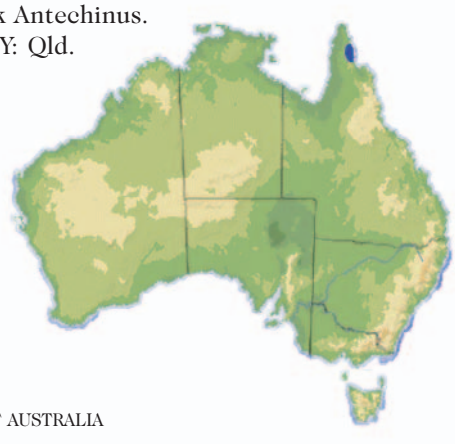
DESCRIPTION: A uniform chocolate brown colour of its woolly fur. Muzzle is short, forehead high with a ridge of fur between eyes and nose. Ears relatively small and rounded with a small lobe at bottom of ear and at corner of bottom lip. Eyes small and tail projects slightly beyond tail-membrane. Synonyms: *Scotophilus morio*; Chocolate Bat, Chocolate Lobe-lipped Bat.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Tas, Vic, WA.



Cinnamon Antechinus

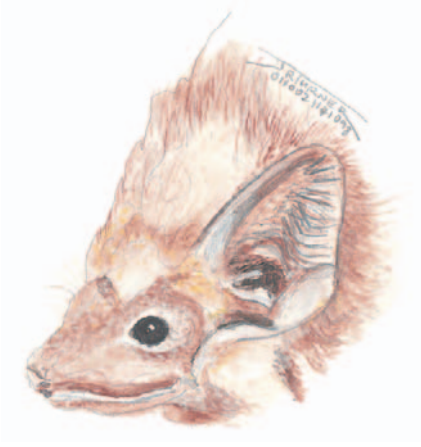
LATIN NAME: *Antechinus leo* Van Dyck, 1980
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Antechinus* - "hedgehog-equivalent"; *leo* - "lion-like" colour and also refers to Leo Creek, in the McIlwraith Range, Qld, where many specimens were trapped.
FOOD: Ants, beetles, caterpillars, spiders, worms, centipedes and cockroaches.
HABITAT: Tropical vine-forest.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 90-160 mm Tail: 80-140 mm; 32-124 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in a nest in tree-holes. An agile climber, probably forages at night for insects high in the rainforest as well as on the ground where it tends to run silently along logs and buttresses rather than scamper noisily through leaf litter.
DEVELOPMENT: Mating probably occurs in mid-September. Copulation can last up to 12 minutes or even longer. Males persue females relentlessly and mated females often have patches of hair missing from the back. Males rapidly loose condition towards the end of mating season, some too weak to run away. The female has 10 teats and all males die shortly after mating. Males are notably larger than females.

DESCRIPTION: This antechinus has cinnamon-brown fur on the sides, belly, rump and feet with white patches on the throat and belly. The head is long and pointed with protruding eyes and thin, crinkled ears. The hindfeet are very broad, retain a small first digit and have transversely striated pads. Synonyms: confused with *Antechinus flavipes rubeculus* and *Antechinus godmani*; Iron Range Antechinus; Cape York Antechinus.
LOCALITY: Qld.



Coastal Sheathtail-bat

LATIN NAME: *Taphozous australis* Gould, 1854
FAMILY NAME: Emballonuridae
MEANING: *Taphozous* -"tomb-dweller"; *australis* - "southern"
FOOD: Flying insects such as beetles.
HABITAT: Dune scrubs and coastal paperbark swamps.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 80-90 mm Tail: 20-30 mm; 30-50 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, roosting by day in sea caves, rock fissures or the spaces in rock piles. Forages just above the canopy. Usually roosts singly, but may form into small groups in response to the cold. Body-fat is built-up in autumn and in the southern part of the range they may go into a state of torpor.
DEVELOPMENT: Mating occurs in April and a single young is born in October or November.

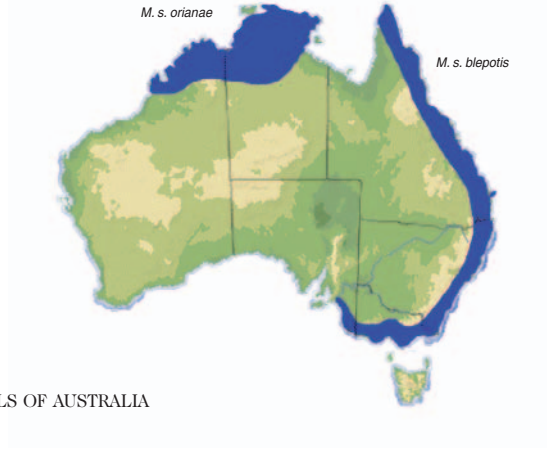


DESCRIPTION: This species is similar to the Common Sheathtail-bat but smaller, paler in colour and presence of a throat-pouch. It also occurs in New Guinea. Fawn or light grey colourings. Synonyms: *Taphozous fumosus*; *Saccolaimus australis*; Neck-pouched Taphozous; Little Sheathtail-bat; North-eastern Sheathtail-bat, Northern Free-tail Bat.
LOCALITY: Qld.

Common Bentwing Bat

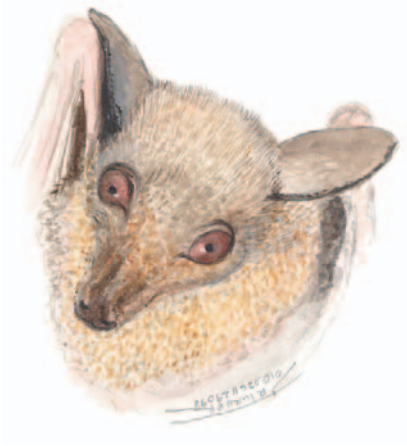
LATIN NAME: *Miniopteris schreibersii* (Kuhl, 1817)
SUBSPECIES: Three subspecies in Australia: *M. s. bassanii*, (Cardinal, B.R. & Christidis, L. 2000) e SA to w Vic; *M. s. orianae*, NT; *M. s. oceanensis,* from Qld to central Vic.
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Miniopteris* - "small-wing"; *schreibersii* - " after K. F. A. von Schreibers"
FOOD: Flying insects
HABITAT: Wet and dry sclerophyll forests and rainforests.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 50-60 mm Tail: 50-60 mm Forearm: 45-50 mm; 13-20 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, roost communally, colonies of up to 100,000 in caves, mines and buildings, same roosts every year. Both sexes congregate in spring, pregnant females from various colonies relocate to maternity roosts up to 250 km away to raise young. Caves may contain thousands of young. In Feb and Mar will migrate to winter roosts, hibernate in coldest months in southern areas. Flight swift, direct, hunt above forest canopy, travel up to 70 m in one night. Have good vision, navigate and detect insects by echo-location.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature between 12-24 months, may live to 20 years. Mate in September in north, May to June in south (embryo dormant until August). Single young born in December, suckles from mother's armpit teat until weaned in February.

DESCRIPTION: This species occurs most areas of world. Fur is chocolate brown above, paler below. Bright rufous fur appears in annual moult, older bats gingerish. Forehead high, well-furred, muzzle short. Tail enclosed in tail-membrane, folded under body at rest. Synonyms: *M. blepotis*; Schreibers' Long-tailed Bat; Schreibers' Bat; Eastern Bent-winged Bat; Bent-winged Bat; Long-fingered Bat (Europe).
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Vic, WA



Common Blossom-bat

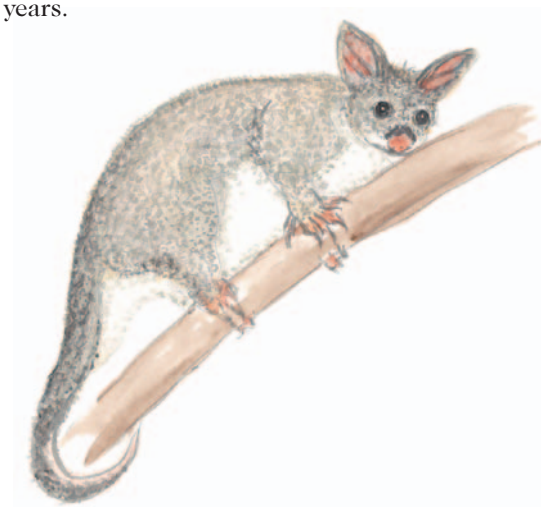
LATIN NAME: *Syconycteris australis* (Peters, 1867)
FAMILY NAME: Pteropodidae
MEANING: *Syconycteris* - "fig-bat"; *australis* - "southern"
FOOD: Nectar/pollen of banksias, paperbarks, bottlebrushes, bananas, trees and shrubs.
HABITAT: Rainforests and wet sclerophyll forests.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 40-50 mm Forearm: 38-43 mm; 13-19 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, roosting by day alone or in small groups in thick foliage such as tangled vines and mango trees, hanging upside down with wings wrapped around the body. When feeding they hover over a selected blossom and repeatedly slap the sides of the body with their wings to establish a feeding territory and deter any intruders. Have a strong sense of smell and good vision. Navigate by sight and avoid flying in total darkness. They fly 3-5 m above ground, often follow tracks through forest to feeding sites.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. Mating takes place in October or November and a single young is born 11 months later which suckles from a teat in the mother's armpit and is carried with her until well-furred.



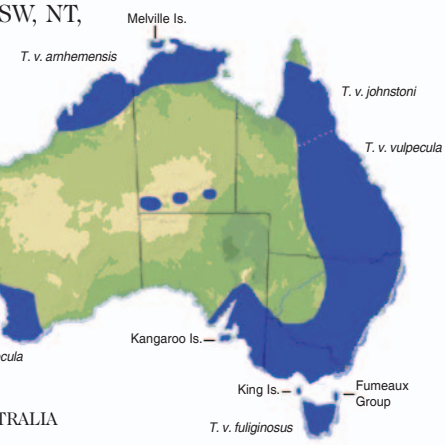
DESCRIPTION: A small, important polllinator in the tropics, this placental mammal has a long, thin, brush-like tongue and a slim, pointed muzzle. The long soft fur extends to the ankle. It is reddish-brown to fawn above, paler below and flecked with white. The head is fox-like with simple curved ears and no tail. They have a large claw on the first finger and a tiny claw on the second finger. The incisor teeth are slender and weak. Synonyms: Queensland Blossom-bat; Eastern Blossom-bat.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld.

Common Brushtail Possum

LATIN NAME: *Trichosurus vulpecula* (Kerr, 1792)
SUBSPECIES: *T. v. vulpecula*, se and sw Australia; *T. v. arnhemensis*, tropical n NT and WA; *T. v. eburacensis*, Cape York; *T. v. fuliginosus*, Tas.
FAMILY NAME: Phalangeridae
MEANING: *Trichosurus* - "hairy-tail"; *vulpecula* - "little-fox-like"
FOOD: Eucalypt leaves, fruits, blossoms, grass, insects.
HABITAT: All wooded areas including rainforests, and urban areas.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 350-550 mm Tail: 250-400 mm; 1.5-4.0 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, resting in tree hollows, logs, dense undergrowth, rabbit holes and roof spaces. Use 2-5 dens, sharing with others in high density areas. Solitary, they defend den sites marked by scent glands, home range up to 5.5 ha, may overlap those of females. Agile climbers, travel long distances. Calls include loud chattering and screeching.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature at 12 months, males at 24 months. Breeds all year in north. A single juvenile is born 17-18 days after mating and attaches to one of two teats in forward-opening pouch for 94 days, leaves pouch at 140-150 days. Left in den or rides mother's back, weaned at 6-7 months. Many young males die, may live 8 years.



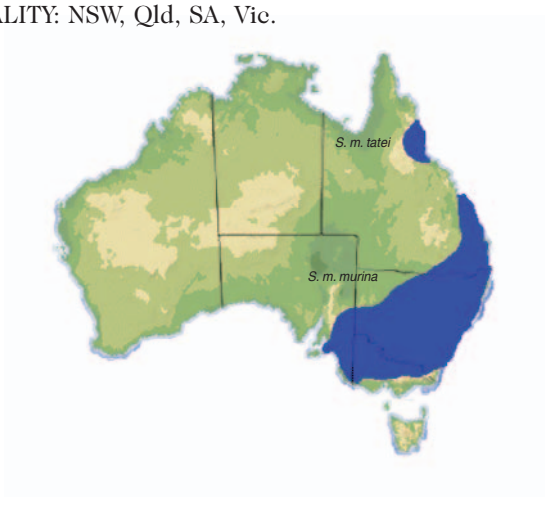
DESCRIPTION: A rabbit-size arboreal marsupial, silver-grey above, off-white to cream below. May be black in south or coppery-coloured with a rufous belly in rainforest habitats. Tail, bushy, bare area beneath tip, black, relatively short, moderately prehensile. Ears, large and pointed. Dark patches on muzzle, white patches below ears. Hindfeet have opposing first toe, second and third joined with a double claw. Synonyms: *T. fuliginosus*; *T. arnhemensis*; Silver-grey Possum; Brushtail Possum; Northern Brushtail Possum.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Vic, WA, Tas.



Common Dunnart

LATIN NAME: *Sminthopsis murina* (Waterhouse, 1838)
SUBSPECIES: *S. m. murina*, se Australia; *S. m. tatei*, ne Qld.
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Sminthopsis* - "mouse-appearance"; *murina* - "mouse-like"
FOOD: Spiders, beetles, caterpillars, cockroches, small lizards and mice.
HABITAT: Woodland, open forest and heathland with an annual rainfall above 250 mm.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 64-105 mm Tail: 68-100 mm; 16-28 g
BEHAVIOUR: A nocturnal species,resting during the day in cup-shaped nests 70-100 mm wide of dried grass and leaves constructed in hollow logs, grassy tussocks, natural crevices or grass-trees. Males are very aggressive during the mating season, often fighting over females who attract them by a repetitive chit-chit call.
DEVELOPMENT: They breed from August to January, giving birth to 2 litters of 8-10 young each season, born only 11-14 days after mating. Newborn attach firmly to the mother's 8-10 teats and are completely enclosed in a well-developed circular pouch with a central opening. They develop rapidly, vacating the pouch at about 34 days and are left in the nest while the mother forages. Weaning occurs at about 65 days and they reach adult size at about 150 days. The pouch regresses after weaning.

DESCRIPTION: A small carnivorous marsupial, fur slate grey above, white below. Head is long, pointed with protruding eyes, large ears and a slender muzzle. Hindfeet less than 3 mm wide with a very small first toe. Tail is slender, sparsely-haired with visible scales. Synonyms: Common Marsupial Mouse; Mouse-sminthopsis; Slender Mouse-sminthopsis.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, SA, Vic.



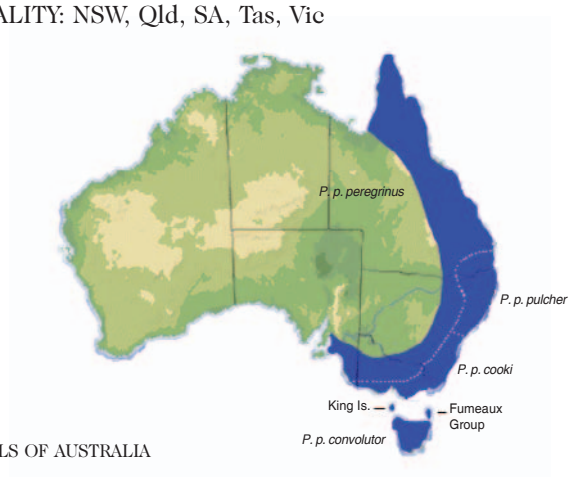
Common Planigale

LATIN NAME: *Planigale maculata* (Gould, 1851)
SUBSPECIES: *Planigale maculata maculata*, mainland.
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Planigale* - "flat-weasel"; *maculata* - "spotted"
FOOD: Insects and small vertebrates, some as large as themselves.
HABITAT: Wet areas with cover of trees, shrubs, sedges or grass.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 65-100 mm Tail: 51-95 mm; 6-22 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, they sleep by day in saucer-shaped nests lined with grass and shredded bark in crevices, hollow logs, beneath bark or under rocks. They bask in the sun on cold days and become torpid for short periods when food is short. Males fight often in breeding season and scent-mark with chest gland, establishing dominance hierarchies which give largest mating preferences. Excellent climbers, freeze if disturbed.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 10 months, with both sexes breeding for at least 2 years. Breed from October to January in east, peaks in spring and summer, lasts all year in NT with several litters per year. Females have 8-13 teats in a rear-opening pouch, give birth to 5-15 young 20 days after mating. Newborn attach to teats for 21 days, leaving pouch at 45 days stays in nest until weaned at 70 days.

DESCRIPTION: A small, ferocious, carnivorous marsupial, cinnamon to grey-brown fur above, sometimes flecked with white, pale brown to white below with a white chin. Head is triangular and flattened with small eyes and large ears with notched margins. The thin tail is shorter than head and body. Synonyms: *Antechinus maculatus*; Pygmy Marsupial Mouse; Coastal Planigale.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, WA

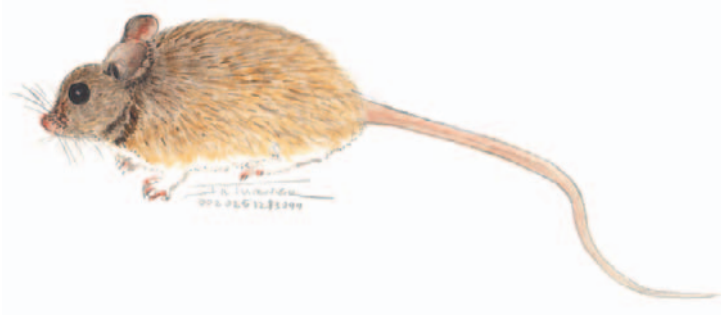
Common Ringtail Possum

LATIN NAME: *Pseudocheirus peregrinus* (Boddaert, 1795)
SUBSPECIES: *P. p. peregrinus*, Cape York to Kangaroo Isl; *P. p. cooki*, coastal scrubs se mainland; *P. p. convolutor*, Tas, Bass Strait Isl; *P. p. pulcher*, se Qld ne NSW rainforest.
FAMILY NAME: Pseudocheiridae
MEANING: *Pseudocheirus* - "false-hand"; *peregrinus* - "foreign"
FOOD: Mainly eucalypt leaves, also flowers and fruits.
HABITAT: Forests, woodlands, rainforests, tea tree thickets, shrublands and gardens.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 300-390 mm Tail: 300-390 mm; 660-1100 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, they sleep in spherical nests (300-350 mm diameter) in tree hollows, dense undergrowth, the forks of tree trunks or shrubs. Nests have a circular entrance and are lined with shredded bark or grass carried in the curled tail. Male and female pairs build and use a number of nests. Have overlapping home ranges, young are forced to disperse. Emit soft, high-pitched twittering calls and secrete a strong-smelling liquid from their anal glands when handled. Almost exclusively arboreal, agile climbers and good leapers. On the ground they move quadrupedally and are good swimmers.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 13 months. Twins are usually born from late April to November and 2 litters a year may be raised. Newborn attach to one of the 4 teats in the mother's forward-opening pouch for 42-49 days, leaves pouch at 125-130 days. Juveniles remain in nest, or carried on mother's back until weaned at 180-210 days. May live 5 years.
DESCRIPTION: A rabbit-size marsupial, often in suburban gardens. Variable grey to almost black back may be tinged with rufous, is white to bright rufous below with pale patches below ears and eyes, rufous-tinged legs. Long white-tipped prehensile tail has a broad base and tapers to a narrow tip with a friction pad below. Carried in a coil when not in use. Ears small and curved. Hands are grasping with two digits opposing the other three. Hindfeet have an opposing first toe, second and third are joined with a double claw. Synonyms: *P. rubidus* (part); *P. laniginosus* (part); *P. convolutor* (part); *P. occidentalis* (part); *P. victoriae* (part); Grey Queensland Ringtail; Banga; Rufous Ringtail; South-eastern Ringtail; Tasmanian Ringtail.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, SA, Tas, Vic



Common Rock-rat

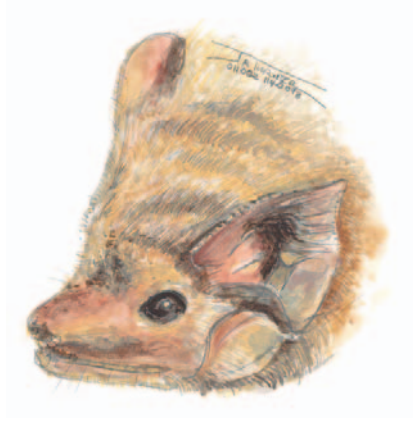
LATIN NAME: *Zyzomys argurus* (Thomas, 1889)
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Zyzomys* - "significance unknown"; *argurus* - "silver-tailed"
FOOD: Plant stems, leaves, seeds, grasses, fungi and insects.
HABITAT: Woodlands, low open forests and grasslands, always in rocky areas.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 85-140 mm Tail: 90-125 mm; 29-65 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, this species inhabits rocky areas, particularly where outcrops, screes or rock-piles create cavities in which nests can be made. They are susceptible to heat stress and soon die if exposed to the hot sun. They fight aggressively when first caged together, which suggests they may establish dominance hierarchies in the wild. Few are seen towards the end of the wet season when they probably form breeding pairs.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexual maturity is reached at 5-6 weeks. Breeding may occur at any time of the year but appears to be greatest from March to May, in the early part of the dry season. The female rears 1-4 young, which are left in the nest while she forages. Fully furred at 10 days, eyes open at 12 days. Young independent at 4-5 weeks, live to 2 years.



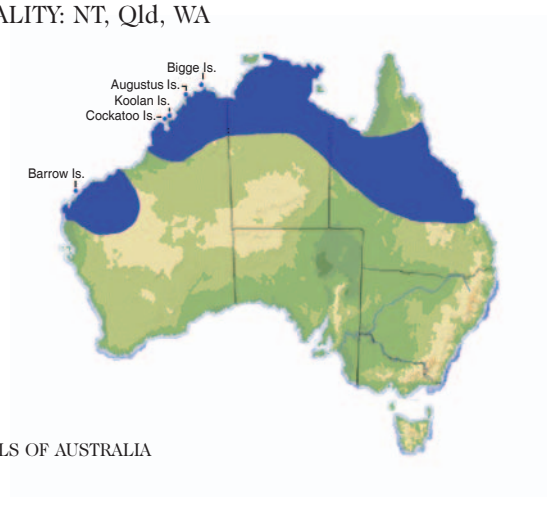
DESCRIPTION: This mammal is the size of a large mouse and inhabits rocky areas, particularly where outcrops, screes or rock-piles create cavitities for nesting. Fur is rough, golden brown above, white below. Thinly-haired tail has overlapping scales, is swollen at the base with fat deposits and is easily lost. Soles of the feet are smooth, the eyes are big and protruding, ears curved, muzzle protrudes with long whiskers. One pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth, three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *Z. indutus*; White-tailed Rat; White-tailed Rock-rat.
LOCALITY: WA, NT, Qld.

Common Sheathtail-bat

LATIN NAME: *Taphozous georgianus* Thomas, 1915
FAMILY NAME: Emballonuridae
MEANING: *Taphozous* -"tomb-dweller"; *georgianus* - "Georgian, - King Sound, WA"
FOOD: Beetles and other flying insects.
HABITAT: Wet and dry sclerophyll forests and woodlands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 65-85 mm Tail: 25-35 mm Forearm: 65-75 mm; 17-15 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active at night, roosting in caves, rock crevices and mine shafts, clinging crab-like to the walls with up to 100 others. They gather together in cold conditions and become torpid. When alarmed they scuttle quickly around the walls and hide in crevices. They relocate regularly and may form maternity colonies. Their vision is good. They emit high-pitched sounds through the mouth and echo-locating insects up to 10 m away while flying high and fast, often following a grid pattern.
DEVELOPMENT: Females are sexually mature at 9 months, males at 21 months mating from late August to September and giving birth to a single young from November to December. Newborn suckle from a teat in the mother's armpit and are carried until independent at 18-33 days. They live to 5 years or more.



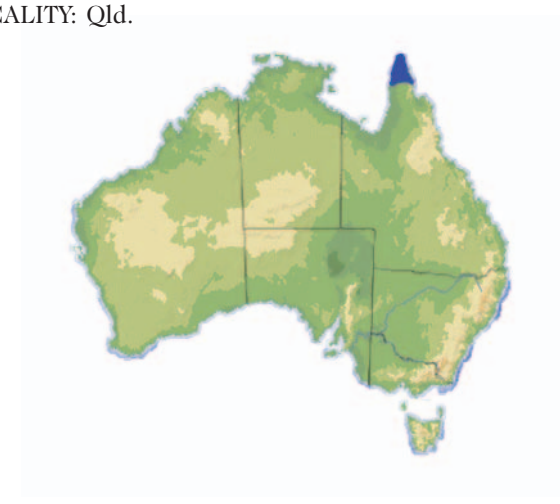
DESCRIPTION: Dark brown fur and a creamy-white base above. Light brown below flecked with grey under arms. A few yellow hairs under the base of tail. Both sexes have wing pockets of unknown function below wrists. Tail projects through tail-membrane and slides freely, increasing hindlimb movement. Face is dog-like, large ridged ears and a prominent lobe partially covering ear opening. Tail may be shorter in NT population. Synonyms: *Saccolaimus georgianus*; Unpouched Freetail Bat; Sharp-nosed Bat.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, WA



Common Spotted Cuscus

LATIN NAME: *Spilocuscus maculatus* (Desmarest, 1818)
SUBSPECIES: Australian form *S. m. nudicaudatus*.
FAMILY NAME: Phalangeridae
MEANING: *Spilocuscus* - "spotted-cuscus" ; *maculatus* - "spotted"
FOOD: Omnivorous, they eat leaves, fruits, insects, small birds and mammals.
HABITAT: Mainly rainforests to 820 m, some open forests and mangroves.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 350-440 mm Tail: 315-430 mm; 1.5-3.6 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night and on cool, overcast days. Usually solitary, they rest on exposed branches in clumps of foliage or sleep on small temporary platforms of leaves pulled under themselves. Males are territorial and aggressively defend an area defined by scent-marking. Slow climbers, they deliberate through canopy without leaping, holding branches in a vice-like grip with feet, using the tail as a fifth limb. Move with a bounding gait on ground. Vocalisations include gutteral screeches and grunts.
DEVELOPMENT: May breed all year, give birth to 1-2 young, attach to one of 4 teats in her forward-opening, well-developed pouch. Carried on mother's back after leaving pouch.

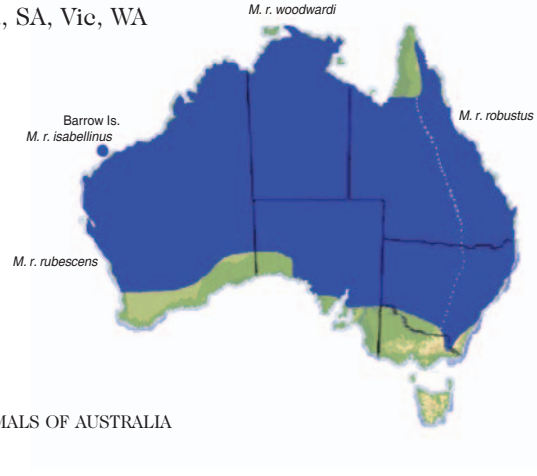
DESCRIPTION: Heavily built with a very short snout, flat round face with large, forward-pointing, red-rimmed eyes. Thick woolly fur is grey above, creamy-white below hiding the small ears. Males have irregular creamy-white spots on back, females more uniformly grey, usually with a white rump. Bare skin is yellowish-pink. Long, strongly prehensile tail is bare for terminal two-thirds with a rough undersurface, coiled up tightly when not in use. Feet have strong curved claws, first two toes of forefeet oppose other three. Long canine teeth. Synonyms: *S. nudicaudatus*; *Phalanger maculatus*; Spotted Phalanger.
LOCALITY: Qld.



Common Wallaroo

LATIN NAME: *Macropus robustus* Gould, 1841
SUBSPECIES: Eastern Wallaroo - *M. r. robustus*, e non-arid, temp/trop mainland, the Euro - *M. r. erubescens*, rest of mainland except extreme n and s. Two smaller *M. r. woodwardi*, Kimberley, WA, nw NT; *M. r. isabellinus*, Barrow Island, WA.
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Macropus* - "long-foot"; *robustus* - "robust"
FOOD: Native grasses and some shrubs. They can survive without drinking.
HABITAT: Wet sclerophyll forest to arid tussock grassland. Tropical to subalpine regions; usually associated with rocky slopes with caves or rocky shelves.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 570-1085 mm Tail: 530-900 mm; 25-60 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, resting in caves, under rock ledges or among dense trees, often above their feeding sites. Often solitary, they have small overlapping home ranges, forming small impermanent groups varying in size and composition. Males rub chest gland over low vegetation during courtship, fight over females with ritualised boxing matches establishing dominance. If threatened they hiss, make clucking calls and thump ground with hindfeet.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 14-24 months living to 15 years. Breed all year, mating soon after giving birth, embryo dormant until pouch vacated. Pregnancy is 32-34 days, newborn attaches to one of 4 teats in mother's pouch which it leaves at 36 weeks, suckling at foot until 16 months of age.

DESCRIPTION: A large wallaroo with coarse shaggy fur, dark grey-black above and paler below. Females are bluish-grey and males may have a reddish band across the shoulders and neck. Base of the ear, forelimbs and tail may be orange. The nose is bare, tail short and thick and the limbs relatively short. Hindfeet have no first digit, second and third are joined with a double claw, fourth is much longer than the others. Forelimbs are weakly developed in females. Synonyms: *Osphranter robustus*; *O. erubescens*; *O. isabellinus*; *O. reginae*; *O. antilopinus woodwardi*; *O. antilopinus cervinus*; Euro; Eastern Grey Wallaroo; Red Wallaroo; Roan Wallaroo; Barrow Island Wallaroo; Hill Kangaroo.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Vic, WA



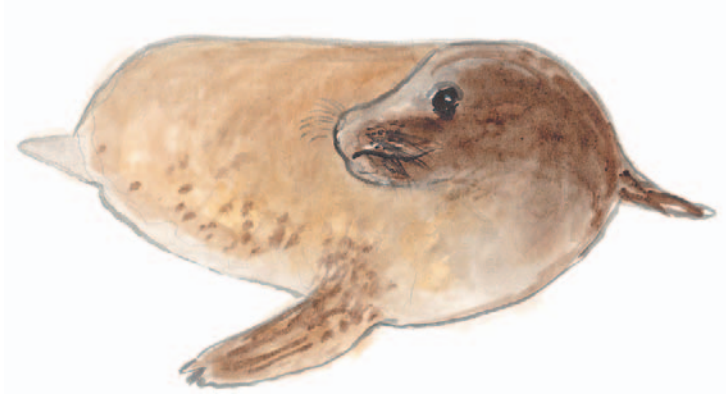
Common Wombat

LATIN NAME: *Vombatus ursinus* (Shaw, 1800)
SUBSPECIES: *V. u. ursinus*, Flinders Is; *V. u. tasmaniensis*, Tas; *V. u. hirsutus*, se mainland.
FAMILY NAME: Vombatidae
MEANING: *Vombatus* - "wombat"; *ursinus* - "bear-like"
FOOD: Graze on native grasses, herbs and roots.
HABITAT: Forested areas with nearby grassy sites, scrub and heath.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 850-1150 mm Tail: 20-30 mm; 22-39 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, foraging by day in winter. Sleep in burrows dug in slopes above creeks and gullies up to 20 m long, many entrances and nesting chambers with connecting tunnels. Use up to 10 burrows, visiting 1-4 sites each night, alternate between 3 main sleeping burrows. Solitary, aggressive, they move slowly and clumsily within overlapping home ranges of 5-23 ha that have been scent-marked.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 2 years, breeds all year on mainland, winter in Tas. Single young attaches to one of two teats in mother's rear-opening pouch for 5 months, follows mother until weaned at 17 months. Live 5 years in wild, 20 years in captivity.

DESCRIPTION: Has long, coarse fur, patchy brownish-grey or dull sandy-brown above, paler below. Head broad, large, a flattened bare nose, small eyes, small hairy ears. Tail short, hidden by fur. Limbs short with short toes bearing stout, flattened claws. First toe of hindfoot is very small; second and third toes joined with a double claw. Synonyms: *Phascolomis* or *Phascolomys mitchelli*; *P.* or *P. ursinus*; *V. hirsutus*; Naked-nosed Wombat; Coarse-haired Wombat; Island Wombat; Tasmanian Wombat; Forest Wombat.
LOCALITY: Qld, NSW, Vic, SA, Tas.

Crab-eater Seal

LATIN NAME: *Lobodon carcinophagus* (Hombron and Jacquinot, 1842)
FAMILY NAME: Phocidae
MEANING: *Lobodon* - "lobe-tooth"; *carcinophagus* - "to eat crab"
FOOD: Krill
HABITAT: Antarctic pack ice.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: 2.6 m; Up to 225 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Feeds at night on krill, taking in a mouthful of water and crustaceans and expelling the water through its clenched teeth, which act as a sieve. Very occasionally stranded upon the Australian coast.
DEVELOPMENT: Males and females are similar in size. Females are sexually mature at three to four years, males somewhat later. Mating occurs on pack ice in November or December, about five weeks after the female has given birth. A single young from a previous mating is weaned and independent at about four weeks.



DESCRIPTION: A "true" seal, lacking external ears and with hindlimbs turned backwards to make a propulsive tail-fin. Silvery brownish-grey in winter and yellowish-white in summer. Uniquely multicusped cheek-teeth. They cannot walk on land but are able to propel themselves by a caterpillar-like undulation. Species occur in both hemispheres but they are not resident in Australian coastal waters. Some come ashore to breed on Australian antarctic or subantarctic territories and occasional vagrants from these stocks become stranded on Tasmania and mainland beaches or reefs. Synonyms: White Seal; Crab-eating Seal.
LOCALITY: NSW, Tas, Vic, Antarctic regions

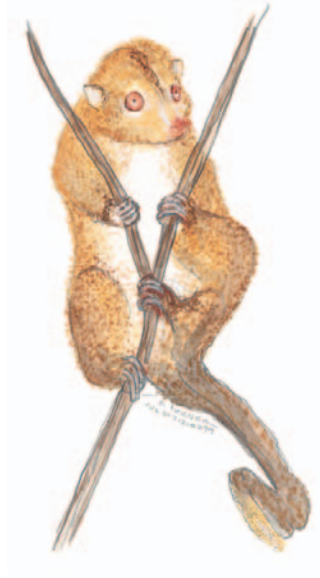
Crescent Nailtail Wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Onychogalea lunata* (Gould, 1841)
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Onychogalea* - "nailed-weasel"; *lunata* - "crescent (moon)"
FOOD: Native grasses
HABITAT: Semi-arid to arid woodland and tussock grassland.
STATUS: Extinct
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 370-510 mm Tail: 150-330 mm; 3.5 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, it slept by day lying on its side in a scrape under a low bush, sometimes basking in the sun. When chased, it has been seen to take refuge in a hollow log or tree.
DEVELOPMENT: Unknown

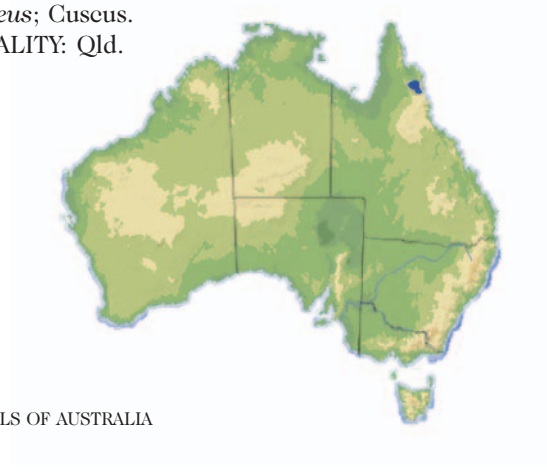
DESCRIPTION: Apparently abundant when described in 1841, but disappeared from south-western Australia by 1910. Said to be still surviving in central Australia as late as the 1950s. Generally ash-grey above with a crescentic white stripe behind each shoulder. Ill-defined pale hip stripe. Horny nail at tip of tail. The upper incisor teeth are very slim and inclined forward. The forefeet have long, well-developed claws. The long hindfeet have no first digit, the second and third are joined with a double claw and the fourth is much longer than the others. Synonyms: Lunated Nailtail Wallaby.
LOCALITY: WA, NT, SA, NSW

Daintree River Ringtail Possum

LATIN NAME: *Pseudochirulus cinereus* (Tate, 1945)
FAMILY NAME: Pseudocheiridae
MEANING: *Pseudochirulus* - "little-Pseudocheirus"; *cinereus* - "ash-coloured"
FOOD: Leaves and figs.
HABITAT: Tropical rainforests.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 335-368 mm Tail: 325-395 mm; 700-1450 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in tree hollows and epiphytic clumps. Mainly arboreal, climbs cautiously, making small leaps between large, steady branches. Usually solitary. Males are more aggressive than females. Vocalisations include a short, hissing grunt when disturbed and a 'sik-sik-sik' call is given by fully-furred pouch-young when handled.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. The female has two teats in the pouch and usually two young are reared. Appears to have an extended breeding season since single pouch-young have been recorded from July, November and December; back-riding young in July, September, October, November, December and January and young at heel in July. Matings have been recorded in July, October, December and January. Young are recorded to have been left in low foliage in October, November, December and February.

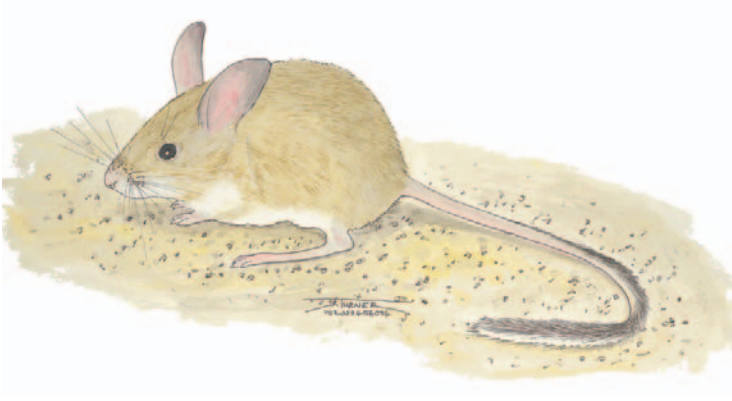


DESCRIPTION: Pale caramel-fawn to dark brown, darker on top, grading to creamy white below; dark longitudinal stripe from between eyes to lower back. Tail tapering and terminal one-third white. Bare skin pinkish colour. Eyes soft brown to honey coloured; bright red eye-shine in spotlight. Juveniles paler. Synonyms: *Pseudocheirus herbertensis cinereus*; Cuscus.
LOCALITY: Qld.



Darling Downs Hopping-mouse

LATIN NAME: *Notomys mordax* Thomas, 1922
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Notomys* - "southern-mouse"; *mordax* - "biting"
FOOD:
HABITAT:
STATUS: Extinct
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Skull 33 mm long, 17 mm wide;
BEHAVIOUR: Unknown
DEVELOPMENT: Unknown

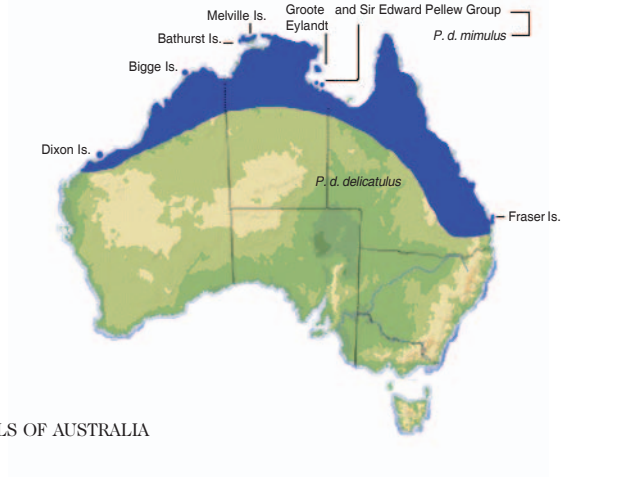


DESCRIPTION: Nothing is known of this extinct species, which was described on the basis of a single skull, collected around 1844, supposedly from the Darling Downs. Differs from Mitchell's Hopping-mouse in having broader incisor teeth, larger molars and a supplementary cusp on the front of the first upper molar.
LOCALITY: Qld, NSW

Delicate Mouse

LATIN NAME: *Pseudomys delicatulus* (Gould, 1842)
SUBSPECIES: *P. d. delicatulus*, mainland and most offshore islands; *P. d. mimulus*, Groote Eylandt, Sir Edward Pellew Group.
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Pseudomys* - "false-mouse"; *delicatulus* - "rather delicate"
FOOD: Seeds of native grasses.
HABITAT: Coastal sand dunes with sparse vegetation of grasses, herbs and stunted trees; low woodlands, open scrublands and hummock grasslands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 55-75 mm Tail: 55-80 mm; 6-15 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in grass-lined nests in burrows, hollow logs or under bark. Burrows short and shallow in hard granite soils with false passages and a single nest chamber. In soft soil, can be up to 400 mm deep with a single tunnel which may be 2 m long with a spherical nest chamber. Spoil heaps to 100 mm high found by the entrance.
DEVELOPMENT: Males and females are sexually mature at 10 to 11 months. Mating occurs in June and July and the female normally rears 2 to 4 young which weigh only 1 g. They become independent at 3 to 4 weeks when they are fully-furred.

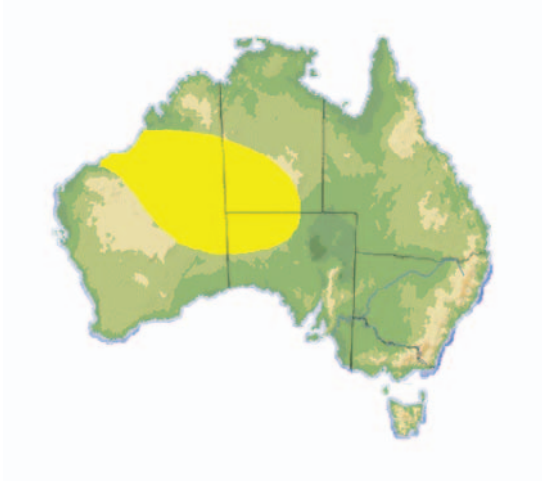
DESCRIPTION: This mammal is Australia's smallest native rodent. Dainty and graceful in appearance, this species has yellow-brown to grey-brown fur above and white or cream below. The nose and feet are bright pink, the tail is slim with overlapping scales. The ears are quite large and curved (10-13 mm long), the eyes big and protruding. They have one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *Leggadina delicatulus*; *L. mimula*; *L. patria*; *Gyomys pumilus*.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, WA



Desert Bandicoot

LATIN NAME: *Perameles eremiana* Spencer, 1897
FAMILY NAME: Peramelidae
MEANING: *Perameles* -"pouched-badger"; *eremiana* - "desert"
FOOD: Termites, ants including honey-pot ants and beetle larvae.
HABITAT: Arid spinifex grassland on desert sand plain and ridges.
STATUS: Extinct
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 240-280 mm Tail: 120-140 mm;
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, it slept by day in a nest of vegetation made in a scrape in the sand and lined with grass and twigs. The nest had an entry and exit hole.
DEVELOPMENT: It had 8 teats in a backwardly directed pouch and is reported to have reared 2 young in a litter.

DESCRIPTION: Not collected since the 1930s, this small bandicoot (a little larger than the Western Barred species) had rather long ears (acting as thermal "radiators") and hairy soles to the fore and hindfeet. In some areas a dull orange colour dorsally and laterally, otherwise brown to dark brown and white ventrally. Synonyms: Orange-backed Bandicoot.
LOCALITY: WA, NT, SA



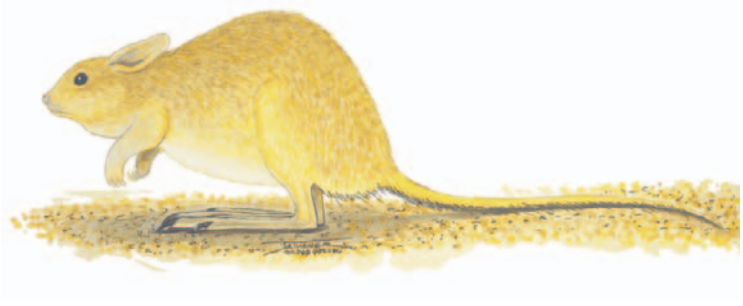
Desert Mouse

LATIN NAME: *Pseudomys desertor* Troughton, 1932
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Pseudomys* - "false-mouse"; *desertor* - "desert"
FOOD: Sedges and grasses.
HABITAT: Arid hummock grassland and shrubland, often on dunes.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 80-100 mm Tail: 80-100 mm; 15-35 g
BEHAVIOUR: A solitary mouse in captivity, not so in the wild, with males and females occupying separate nests, coming together only for brief periods of mating. Sleeps by day in shallow burrows or in dense vegetation, through which it also makes runways. It does not need to drink.
DEVELOPMENT: Males and females are sexually mature at about 10 weeks. Breeding probably occurs at any time of the year but is usually determined by rainfall. Females rear about 3 young which are independent at about 3 weeks. In favourable conditions, several litters may be reared in quick succession.

DESCRIPTION: Bright chestnut brown above with long dark guard hairs giving it a spiny appearance; belly pale grey-brown. Tail slightly bicoloured, with scaly appearance and equal to or shorter than head-body length. Eyes are large with conspicuous pale orange eye-ring. Synonyms: *Gyomys desertor*; Brown Desert Mouse.
LOCALITY: NT, SA, WA

Desert Rat-kangaroo

LATIN NAME: *Caloprymnus campestris* (Gould, 1843)
FAMILY NAME: Potoroidae
MEANING: *Caloprymnus* - "beautiful rump"; *campestris* - "open-country"
FOOD: Unknown
HABITAT: Arid stony desert.
STATUS: Extinct
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 250-280 mm Tail: 300-380 mm; 637-1060 g
BEHAVIOUR: Slept by day in a well-constructed nest of grass and twigs. The entrance was at the side and, from a hole in the roof of the nest, the animal was able to protrude its head and look at the surroundings. No nest was ever found to be occupied by more than one animal, except a female with its suckling young. Juveniles did not associate with their mothers after weaning. Foraged at night, but diet unknown. It hopped at speed in a peculiar manner, with the right foot touching the ground in front of the left, which was inclined outwards at an angle of about 30 degrees to the line of travel. It hopped fast and for long periods; one individual was chased nearly 20 km by men on horseback.
DEVELOPMENT: The female had a deep pouch containing four teats. Females with one large, furred pouch-young have been found in December and August.

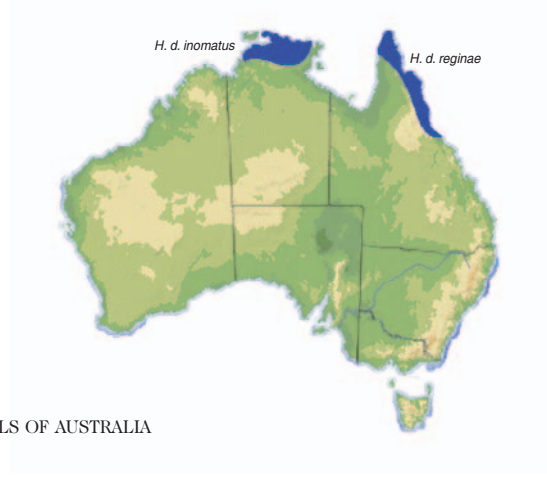


DESCRIPTION: This species once inhabited one of the hottest, driest and most exposed areas in Australia, not seen since 1935. Had a very broad head, its tail and hind feet were each longer than the combined head and body. Feet were hair-fringed and thigh muscles not well developed. It hopped with an unfaltering, easy stride the body leaning forwards and tail almost straight. Synonyms: Plains Rat-kangaroo; Bluff-nosed Rat-kangaroo.
LOCALITY: Qld, SA

Diadem Leafnosed-bat

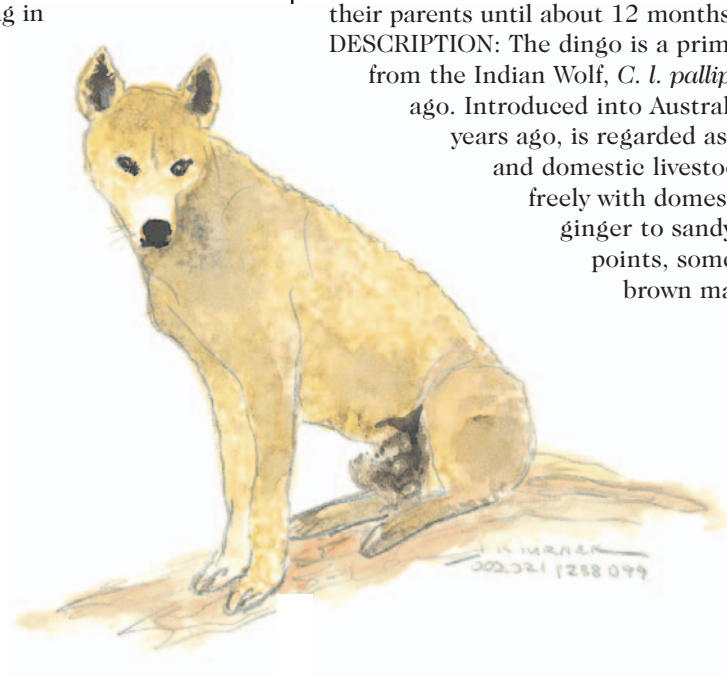
LATIN NAME: *Hipposideros diadema* (Geoffroy, 1813)
SUBSPECIES: There are 17 subspecies. The Australian population comprises two subspecies, *H. d. inornatus* from NT and *H. d. reginae* from northern Qld.
FAMILY NAME: Hipposideridae
MEANING: *Hipposideros* - "horse-iron"; *diadema* - "diadem"
FOOD: Large insects.
HABITAT: Tropical rainforest and monsoon forest.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 70-90 mm Tail: 30-40 mm; 30-50 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, roosting by day in almost any available shelter - cave, crevice, hollow tree, tree canopy or human construction. At night it flies to foraging areas, often some kilometres from the roost to hunt for large insects, either by patrolling an area or hanging from the branch of a tree, ready to swoop on passing prey. Its flight is more direct and less fluttering than other Australian horseshoe-bats. Females form maternity colonies.
DEVELOPMENT: A single young is born around November.

DESCRIPTION: A very large bat, three to four times the weight of other Australian horseshoe-bats and is distinguishable by the scattered white patches in its fur which is light brown, slightly paler below. The ears are very large and broad with a slight point. The eyes are small and a simple noseleaf with a horseshoe-shaped lower ridge protrudes above the snout. The tail projects slightly beyond the tail membrane. Synonyms: Large Horseshoe-bat; Diadem Bat. Diadem Horseshoe-bat.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld.



Dingo

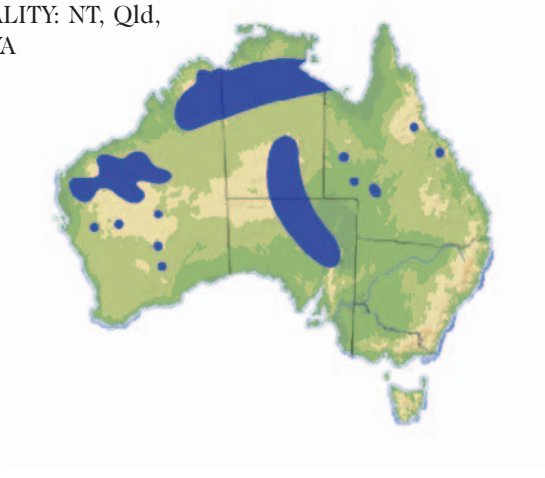
LATIN NAME: *Canis lupus dingo* Linnaeus, 1758
SUBSPECIES: The Australian population is *Canis lupus dingo*.
FAMILY NAME: Canidae
MEANING: *Canis* - "dog"; *lupus* - "wolf"
FOOD: Mammals are their most important food source, supplemented by reptiles, birds and even insects. Rodents and rabbits are the most common prey in central Australia, and macropods constitute the major part of the diet in south-eastern Australia. Domestic livestock is taken, and sheep losses may be large at certain times of the year.
HABITAT: Most habitats including arid and semi-arid areas with access to drinking water. In south-eastern Australia they prefer the margins of forests bordering on heathlands and grasslands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 860-980 mm Tail: 260-380 mm; 9.5-19.5 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, sleeping by day in a cave or shady spot. Females rear their young in a den in a cave, hollow log or in an excavated rabbit warren, usually within 3 km of water. Intelligent and secretive animals, often solitary, foraging alone for small game. They group to hunt larger game such as kangaroos and cattle, forming packs with a dominant male and female and 4 or 5 subordinates. They are able to survive for long periods without drinking, obtaining sufficient water from their prey. They rarely fight, hierarchies are maintained by ritualised postures. The pack is integrated and distinguished from other groups by scent-marking. They are not territorial, although they usually remain in a well-defined home range which varies in size according to the terrain and abundance of prey. Dingos are not usually vocal. They howl to keep contact with others when hunting, to avoid intruders and to attract mates during the breeding season. A howl-bark is used as an alarm signal.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 9-12 months, they breed once a year from April to June, giving birth to 4-5 pups 63 days after mating. Newborn are blind and well-furred and are mobile at 4 weeks. They are weaned at 2 months and remain in the den for another month. If food is in short supply they move to another den and may change sites frequently. The mother regurgitates water and provides food for her pups until they are about 4 months old. Juveniles often follow their parents until about 12 months old.
DESCRIPTION: The dingo is a primitive dog which evolved from the Indian Wolf, *C. l. pallipes*, about 6000 years ago. Introduced into Australia more than 3,000 years ago, is regarded as a pest, preying on sheep and domestic livestock. They interbreed freely with domestic dogs. The Dingo is ginger to sandy-brown with white points, some are black with sandy-brown markings. Ears are held erect, snout is narrower than the domestic dog, the canine teeth are larger and more slender. They have a bushy tail with a scent gland at the base. Legs are slender with 5 toes on the forefeet and 4 on the hindfeet. Claws are straight and non-retractable. Synonyms: *C. dingo*; *C. antarticus*; *C. familiaris dingo*; Wild dog; Warrigal; Australian Native Dog.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Vic, WA



Donkey

LATIN NAME: *Equus asinus* Linnaeus, 1758
FAMILY NAME: Equidae
MEANING: *Equus* - "horse"; *asinus* - "ass"
FOOD: Grasses and shrubs.
HABITAT: Temperate to tropical woodland, shrubland, tussock and hummock grassland, gibber desert, rocky dissected country.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: to 2.5 m Tail: to 300 mm; 200-230 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Despite intensive control measures, the population appears to be between one and two million. Herds of up to 30 when food is plentiful but may form groups of several hundred when watering points are limited during the dry season or in times of drought. A grazer it also browses a wide range of shrubs. Able to drink brackish water.
DEVELOPMENT: Females become sexually mature at about 2 years of age. Males are usually older before they have the opportunity to mate. Breeding can occur at any time of the year. One young is born after a pregnancy of 53 to 54 weeks.

DESCRIPTION: The Donkey was introduced to Australia from north-eastern Africa as a pack and draught animal, better adapted to arid conditions and rough terrain than the Horse. The basic body colour is grey, and greyish-white around the muzzle and on the underparts. The mane is comparatively short and the tail is not entirely covered by the long 'horsehair' of the tails of horses; only the tip bears a tuft of long hair. The feet of donkeys are reduced to a single (third) toe, which bears a large hoof. They are grazing animals which crop grasses with their upper and lower incisor teeth. Synonyms: Ass; Burro.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, SA, WA



Dugong

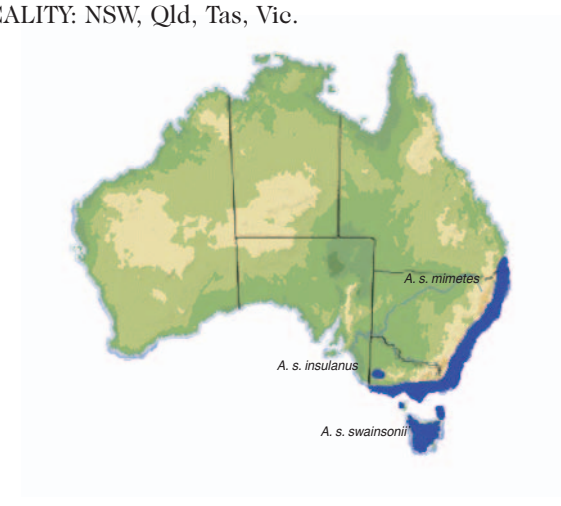
LATIN NAME: *Dugong dugon* (Muller, 1776)
FAMILY NAME: Dugongidae
MEANING: *Dugong* - "from Malay, duyong, name for this animal"; *dugon* - "dugong"
FOOD: Seagrasses, supplemented with algae.
HABITAT: Shallow tropical coastal waters and estuaries.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: 2.5-3.3 m; 250-450 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Dugongs spend their lives in the water alone or in herds of up to several hundred, feed close to shore in daylight, moving 25 km daily. Dive repeatedly for food, staying up to 8.5 minutes underwater. Powerful swimmers, can move at 22 kph with up-and-down strokes of tail flukes, using the flippers to direct and stop their motion. Active and alert, form herds of several hundred, no evidence of migration. Give birth in shallow water to avoid sharks. Good vision, hearing and utter whistling and chirping sounds.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 9-15 years, they mate from May to November at 3-6 year intervals, giving birth to a single young 12-14 months later. Females have 2 teats in the armpits and males have internal testes. Calves weigh 2-35 kg, are 1-1.25 m long and ride on mother's back when not suckling, staying with her for 2 years. May live to 73 years.

DESCRIPTION: An aquatic herbivore, with a bulky, steamlined body, grey to bronze above, lighter below with fine scattered hairs; older animals have large white patches. They lack hindlimbs, have paddle-like forelimbs and horizontal tail-fluke. Head is broad and flat with nostrils on the top which close when diving, small eyes, small ear-openings on each side, a large mouth opening below the head and short bristles on the muzzle. Males have a pair of protruding, tusk-like upper incisors. Synonyms: *D. dugong*; *D. australis*; Sea Cow.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, WA

Dusky Antechinus

LATIN NAME: *Antechinus swainsonii* (Waterhouse, 1840)
SUBSPECIES: *A. s. swainsonii*, se Qld, e NSW, s Vic, except Grampians range; *A. s. insulanus*, Grampians range, western Vic.
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Antechinus* - "hedgehog-equivalent"; *swainsonii* - "after W. Swainson"
FOOD: Worms, insects, lizards and small animals. Prey captured/handled with forepaws.
HABITAT: Wet sclerophyll forests with a dense understory, rainforests and alpine heaths.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 90-190 mm Tail: 75-130 mm; 35-180 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active both day and night, they sleep in shallow burrows often dug into creek banks or under logs. Less than 1 m long, they end in a spherical, grass-lined nest chamber 100 mm across. Females may use several burrows, moving young if disturbed. Generally solitary, males aggressive in mating season, all adult males die within 3 weeks of mating. Very active, fast-moving, climb lower limbs of trees, digging, search leaf litter.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at about 11 months, they mate in June or July (September in colder areas). Copulation violent, may last 6 hours. Up to 10 young are born 28-35 days later, but only those able to attach to the mother's 6-8 teats survive. Females have no true pouch. Ridges of skin enlarge around the teats before birth, forming a shallow pouch divided by a central ridge. Young remain firmly attached to teats for 33-43 days. Then left in nest, make excursions from nest at 75 days, they are weaned at 3 months.

DESCRIPTION: A small, stocky carnivorous marsupial with soft, thick fur, deep chocolate to blackish-brown above, pale grey below. Head has long pointed snout, small eyes and ears. Hindfeet broad, first toe opposed to other four, forefeet have long curved claws for digging. Synonyms: Swainson's Antechinus; Dusky Marsupial Mouse.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, Tas, Vic.



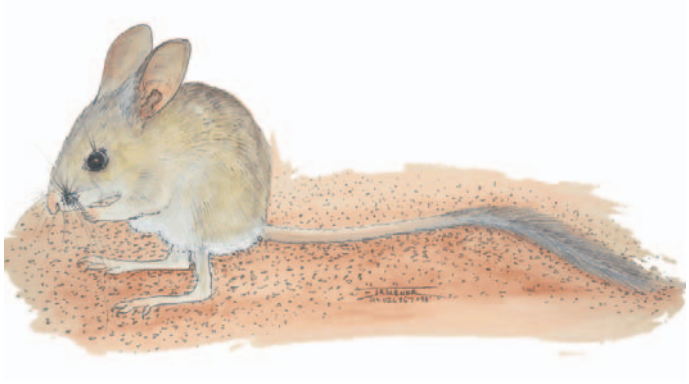
Dusky Flying-fox

LATIN NAME: *Pteropus brunneus* Dobson, 1878
FAMILY NAME: Pteropodidae
MEANING: *Pteropus* - "wing-foot"; *brunneus* - "dark brown"
FOOD: Unknown
HABITAT: Unknown
STATUS: Extinct
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: approx. 210 mm Forearm: 118 mm; Approx. 200 g
BEHAVIOUR: Unknown
DEVELOPMENT: Unknown

DESCRIPTION: The only known specimen of this animal is an adult male held in the Museum of Natural History, London. According to its label it was collected on Percy Island by Captain Denham of HMS Herald. In the late 19th century it was said to be plentiful on Percy Island and had been seen flying over the nearby Australian coast. Reference was also made to the odour of its glandular secretions, 'resembling musk'. It seems it was vulnerable to habitat alteration and destruction of food sources. Mid-brown; reddish-gold tinge due to pale tips on hairs. Mantle across shoulder area slightly paler brown, with partially hidden buff-coloured glandular tufts at sides of neck (male). Head softer golden brown. Ventral surface scarcely lighter than dorsal. Dorsal surface of tibia furred along proximal three-quarters of length. Synonyms: Percy Island Flying-fox.
LOCALITY: Qld.

Dusky Hopping-mouse

LATIN NAME: *Notomys fuscus* (Jones, 1925)
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Notomys* - "southern-mouse"; *fuscus* - "dusky"
FOOD: Seeds, grasses, shoots and insects.
HABITAT: Desert dunes.
STATUS: Endangered
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 80-120 mm Tail: 110-160 mm; 30-50 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in extensive burrows communicating with the surface by a number of vertical shafts. It forages for seeds, grasses and some insects on the surface of the dunes but does not go into gibber areas, even when these are quite close. (Gibber areas are utilised by the Fawn Hopping-mouse). Does not need to drink.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexual maturity is reached at two and a half to three months and, although breeding can occur at any time of year, it is probably determined mainly by rainfall. The female has 4 teats and usually rears 3 young which are weaned at about 4 weeks.

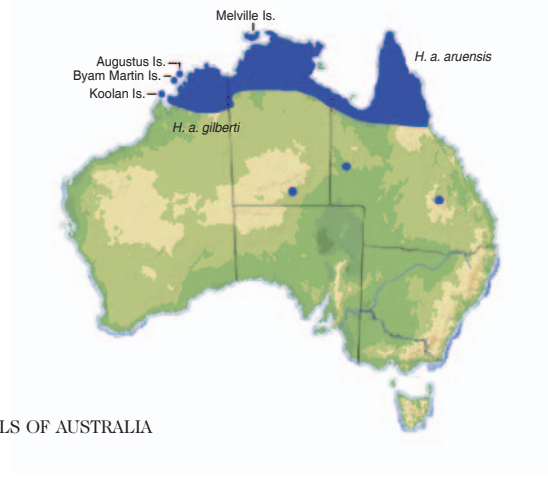


DESCRIPTION: This mouse is distinguished by its long hindlegs and bipedal hopping gait. The fur is dark grey above, often grizzled, and grey-white below. The tail is brown or grey above and lighter below with a brush of dark hairs at the tip. The ears are long and oval-shaped with sparse brown hairs outside. They have one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *Ascopharynx fuscus*; *Notomys fuscus eyrius*; *Notomys filmeri*; Birdsville Hopping-mouse; Wood Jones' Hopping-mouse.
LOCALITY: Qld, SA, NSW

Dusky Leafnosed-bat

LATIN NAME: *Hipposideros ater* Templeton, 1848
SUBSPECIES: Are; *H. a. aruensis*, ne Qld; *H. a. gilberti*, Kimberley regions and NT.
FAMILY NAME: Hipposideridae
MEANING: *Hipposideros* - "horse-iron"; *ater* -"black"
FOOD: Flying insects caught on the wing.
HABITAT: Rainforests, open forests and dry vine thickets.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 40-50 mm Tail: 20-30 mm Forearm: 37-41 mm; 8-10 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, roosting by day in caves, crevices and mines, hanging from the roof with the wings enveloping the body and the head hanging down. Both sexes share roosts without territoriality or segregation forming colonies during the summer breeding season, and many disband during winter. Often feeding in small groups, returning to the cave entrance to digest food before leaving to forage again. Have good sight and ultrasonic signals emitted through the nose and directed by noseleaf allow them to echo-locate prey and navigate. Have broad wings, fly slowly through forest understorey.
DEVELOPMENT: Mates in April giving birth to a single young in October or November. Females have two false teats in pubic area and one functioning teat under each armpit from which the newborn suckles until December or January.

DESCRIPTION: This small, insectivorous winged mammal has long soft fur, light grey above tipped with blackish-brown to orange, slightly paler below. Ears very large and broad with a slight point. Eyes small, a simple noseleaf with a horseshoe-shaped lower ridge protrudes above snout. Tail projects slightly beyond tail membrane. Synonyms: *H. bicolor*; Dusky Horseshoe-bat.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, WA



Dusky Rat

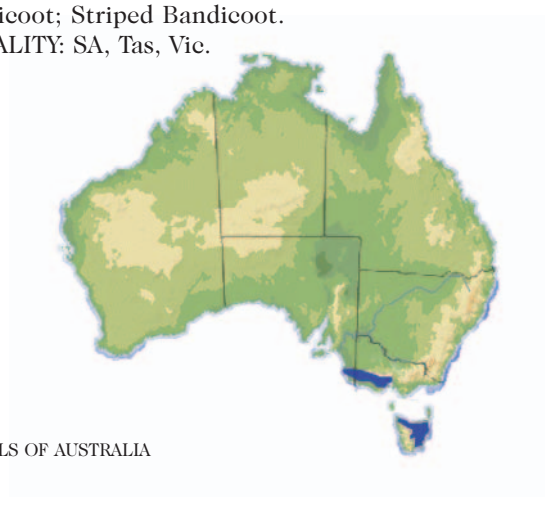
LATIN NAME: *Rattus colletti* (Thomas, 1904)
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Rattus* - "rat"; *colletti* - "named after R. Collett, Norwegian zoologist"
FOOD: Grass roots and sedge corms.
HABITAT: Coastal floodplains, swamps and tidal rivers fringed with mangroves.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 145-210 mm Tail: 105-150 mm; 85-215 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, sheltering by day in shallow burrows dug in soft soil, beneath tree roots or logs. During the floods of the wet season, it moves to higher ground, feeding on the bases of grasses and the corms of sedges. As the floods subside, it spreads out over the plains, feeding on sedges and sheltering in the cracks that develop in the drying soil. Populations increase greatly when food is available but there is usually a heavy mortality in the dry season.
DEVELOPMENT: Females become sexually mature at about 6 weeks old. They have 12 teats and usually rear about 9 young in a litter. These become independent at 3 to 4 weeks. Breeding can continue throughout the year but has a peak from May to June. In good conditions they can produce about 100 young in 6 months.

DESCRIPTION: This is a species of tropical monsoonal flood plains. It has long, rough and spiny fur, greyish, dark brown to black above, yellowish on the sides and throat and greyish-buff below. Ears are small and the long, stout, hairy tail is dark brown. One pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth, three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw.
Synonyms: *R. gestri colletti*; *R. sordidus colletti*; Collett's Rat; Territory Dusky Rat.
LOCALITY: NT

Eastern Barred Bandicoot

LATIN NAME: *Perameles gunnii* Gray, 1838
FAMILY NAME: Peramelidae
MEANING: *Perameles* - "pouched-badger"; *gunnii* - "after R. Gunn"
FOOD: Insects, larvae, worms and berries. They can survive without drinking.
HABITAT: Savannah woodlands and grasslands.
STATUS: Vulnerable
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 270-400 mm Tail: 70-110 mm; 0.45-1.2 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Strictly nocturnal, they sleep in domed nests over shallow depressions in dense undergrowth. Solitary, they use several nests and rabbit burrows for temporary shelter. Males have overlapping home ranges of 25 ha, females average 3 ha. When alarmed they stand upright sniffing the air and run with an agile galloping or bounding gait with leaps up to 1 m. Food is located by digging conical holes with the forefeet and probing with the snout. Vocalisations include snuffles, squeaks, hisses and grunts.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 3-4 months, live 3 year or more, breed from winter to early autumn, peak from Jul to Nov. Females raise 3-4 litters of 2-3 young per year. Born only 12.5 days after mating, atttach to one of 8 teats in mother's rear-opening pouch, which they vacate after 48-53 days. In nest until weaned at 60 days.

DESCRIPTION: Has 3-4 pale bars on each side of rump. Fur soft, dense with prominent coarse guard hairs, mottled greyish-fawn above, paler on flanks, pale grey to white below. Short pointed tail white above with dark base. Elongated head, large pointed ears, small eyes. Short forelimbs have strong curved claws on long feet. Hindfeet long with very large, strongly-clawed fourth toe; second and third toes joined, double claw used for grooming.
Synonyms: Tasmanian Barred Bandicoot; Gunn's Bandicoot; Striped Bandicoot.
LOCALITY: SA, Tas, Vic.



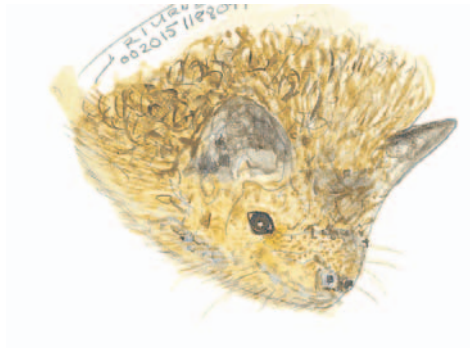
Eastern Broad-nosed Bat

LATIN NAME: *Scotorepens orion* (Troughton, 1937)
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Scotorepens* - "dark-creeper"; *orion* - "eastern"
FOOD: Flying insects.
HABITAT: Temperate to cool temperate wet and dry sclerophyll forest.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 40-50 mm Tail: 30-40 mm
Forearm: 32.5-37.5 mm; 7-15 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, roosting by day in tree-holes and old buildings, intruding into urban areas. A fast-flying bat, feeding mainly below the canopy of flying insects.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. Sperm is stored in both males and females with ovulation and fertilisation occurring in spring. A single young is born in late spring or early summer.

DESCRIPTION: Closely related to the Inland Broad-nosed Bat, but prefers the wetter, cooler areas of coastal south-eastern Australia. Warmish brown dorsally, ventral surface paler. Tragus with leading edge slightly concave and posterior edge more convex; apex a little more acute than in congeners. Synonyms: *Nycticeius balstoni orion*.
LOCALITY: NSW, Vic, Qld.

Eastern Cave Bat

LATIN NAME: *Vespadelus troughtoni* (Kitchener, Jones and Caputi, 1987)
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Vespadelus* - "hidden-bat"; *troughtoni* - "Troughton's"
FOOD: Unknown
HABITAT: Drier forest and tropical woodlands from the coast and Dividing Range to semi-arid zone.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 37-43 mm Tail: 31-38 mm
Forearm: 33-37 mm; 4-7 g
BEHAVIOUR: Roosts in small groups in sandstone overhangs and in mine tunnels, sometimes in buildings. Sites are frequently in well-lit areas.
DEVELOPMENT: Unknown

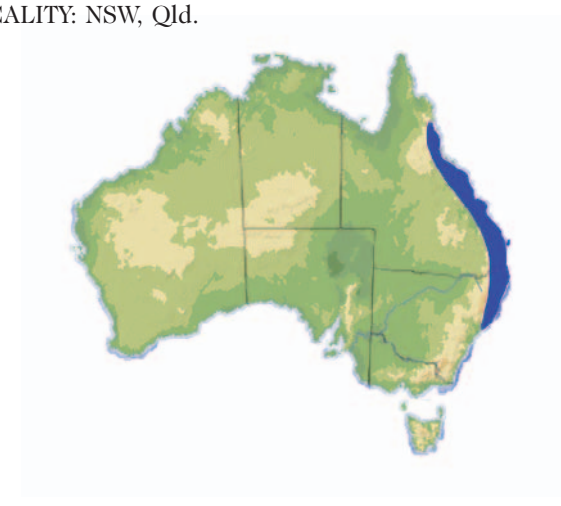


DESCRIPTION: Similar to *V. regulus* but larger. Definite identification by penis morphology. Synonyms: *Eptesicus troughtoni*; Troughton's Vespadelus.
LOCALITY: Qld, NSW

Eastern Chestnut Mouse

LATIN NAME: *Pseudomys gracilicaudatus* (Gould, 1845)
SUBSPECIES: *P. g. gracilicaudatus*, south-eastern Qld and NSW; *P. g. ultra*, north-eastern Qld. Their status is uncertain.
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Pseudomys* - "false-mouse"; *gracilicaudatus* - "slender-tailed"
FOOD: Grasses and seeds.
HABITAT: Wet swampy heathland with dense shrubs, woodland with dense grass cover.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 100-150 mm Tail: 80-120 mm; 45-118 g
BEHAVIOUR: Sleeps by day in a nest of grass at ground level or within a burrow. Runways are constructed in the dense ground vegetation that is its normal habitat. Feeds at night on grass, seeds and stems.
DEVELOPMENT: Mating occurs from August to March. Females may rear three successive litters of about three young in quick succession. Newborn are partly furred and young are independent at about four weeks. Population density is at its peak in the period of vigorous plant growth following a bushfire.

DESCRIPTION: A close relative of the Western Chestnut Mouse but significantly larger. The fur is brownish-grey above and creamy white below. The tail is slender and bare with overlapping scales. The ears are small and curved, the limbs short and the body stout. They have one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld.



Eastern False Pipistrelle

LATIN NAME: *Falsistrellus tasmaniensis* (Gould, 1858)
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Falsistrellus* - "false-pipistrelle; *tasmaniensis* - "Tasmanian"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Wet and dry sclerophyll forests, preferring highland areas.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 55-70 mm Tail: 40-50 mm Forearm: 45-55 mm; 14-26 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, roosting by day in tree-holes, abandoned buildings and sometimes caves, probably forming maternity colonies. They migrate from cold inland sites to warmer coastal areas in winter, hibernating from late autumn to early spring in Tasmania. It is a large bat with a fluttering flight, that hunts larger insects above or in the upper layers of the forest canopy. They have good vision and navigate and detect insects using echo-location.
DEVELOPMENT: Males produce sperm in the late summer or autumn when food supplies are plentiful. They store it through the colder months and mate in spring. A single young in born and suckles from a teat in the mother's armpit.

DESCRIPTION: This large Tasmanian bat has soft fur, rich brown to reddish-brown above and slightly lighter below. The head has a short, thinly-haired muzzle with glandular swellings. The ears are long and narrow with curved tips, a notch on the outer margin and a narrow, sharply-pointed lobe partly covering the opening. The tail projects slightly from the tail-membrane. Synonyms: *Pipistrellus tasmaniensis*, *Vespertilio tasmaniensis*; Tasmanian Pipistrelle; False Pipistrelle.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, Tas, Vic.

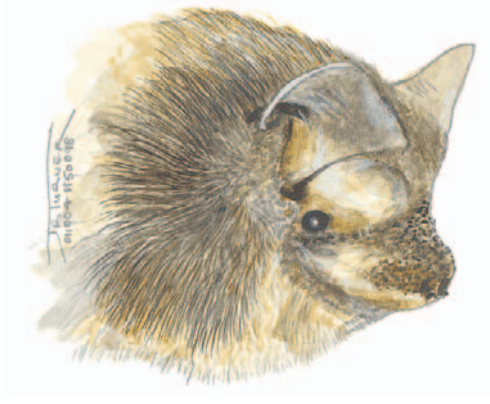
Eastern Forest Bat

LATIN NAME: *Vespadelus pumilus* (Gray, 1841)
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Vespadelus* - "hidden-bat"; *pumilus* - "dwarf"
FOOD: Unknwn
HABITAT: Moist forests.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 35-44 mm Tail: 27-34 mm Forearm: 29-33 mm; 3.5-6 g
BEHAVIOUR: Presumbly roosts in tree hollows.
DEVELOPMENT: Young are born around December.

DESCRIPTION: Similar to *V. darlingtoni* but smaller. Dark brown fur with a brown base and light brown or grey tips. Ears and wings are dark brown to black. The forehead rises abruptly from the short muzzle and is well-furred. The ears are curved with a narrow lobe partly covering the opening. The tail is enclosed in the tail-membrane. Males have a short, angled penis. Synonyms: *Eptesicus sagittula* (part); *Eptesicus pumilus pumilus*; Little Bat, Little Cave Eptesicus.
LOCALITY: Qld, NSW

Eastern Freetail-bat

LATIN NAME: *Mormopterus norfolkensis* (Gray, 1839)
FAMILY NAME: Molossidae
MEANING: *Mormopterus* - "monster-wing, from Mormo, a Greek mythical monster"; *norfolkensis* - "mistakenly named after Norfolk Island"
FOOD: Flying and terrestrial insects.
HABITAT: Wet sclerophyll forests and woodlands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 45-55 mm Tail: 30-40 Forearm: 35-40 mm; 6-10 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, roosting by day alone or in small colonies in tree-holes, cracks and human constructions. Fly quickly and directly with limited movement above forest canopy and clearings. Good sight, detect insects by echo-location, emitting high-pitched calls from mouth. Forage on ground scurrying around for crawling insects.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. They give birth to a single young that suckles from a teat in the mother's armpit.

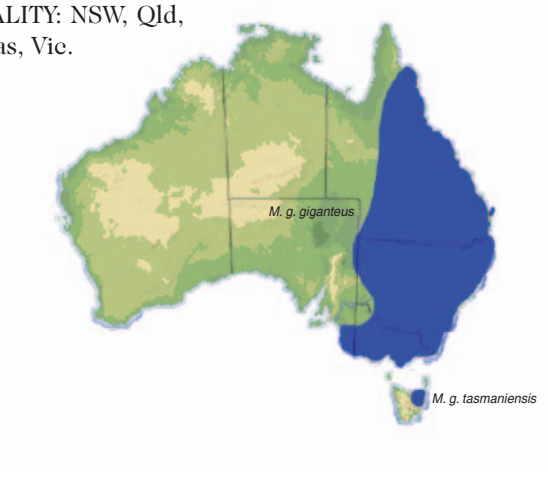


DESCRIPTION: This small winged mammal was mistakenly assumed to come from Norfolk Island. The upturned snout and projecting upper lip give it a bull-dog appearance. Fur is soft, dark brownish-grey to reddish-brown above, paler below. Large triangular ears are not joined above head. Males have neck pouch of unknown use. Feet have thick fleshy toes fringed with long, rigid, curled hairs. Tail protrudes well beyond the tail-membrane. Synonyms: *Micronomus norfolkensis*; *Nyctinomus norfolkensis*; *Tadarida norfolkensis*; Norfolk Island Mastiff-bat; Norfolk Island Scurrying Bat; Norfolk Island Freetail-bat; Eastern Wrinkle-lipped Bat; Eastern Micronomus and Eastern Little Mastiff-bat.
LOCALITY: Norfolk Is., NSW, Qld.

Eastern Grey Kangaroo

LATIN NAME: *Macropus giganteus* Shaw, 1790
SUBSPECIES: *M. g. giganteus*, e Aust; *M. g. tasmaniensis*, Tas; *M. g. major*, Sydney.
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Macropus* - "long-foot"; *giganteus* - "giant"
FOOD: Native grasses and shrubs.
HABITAT: Dry sclerophyll forests, woodlands and low open scrub.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 950-2300 mm Tail: 430-1090 mm; 40-95 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Mostly nocturnal, resting in the shade and feeding from dusk to dawn in groups of 10 or more with overlapping home ranges up to 2 square kms. Males establish dominance hierarchies by fighting and ritualised acts including grass-pulling with forefeet. Range extensively searching for females in heat. Females congregate with female relatives, mate with dominant males. Old males solitary. If threatened make guttural coughs, thump hindfeet as they hop away, body erect, tail curved up. Will swim to avoid predators.
DEVELOPMENT: Females mate at 18 months, males at 2 years, live 10-12 years. Breed all year. Females mate 11 days after pouch vacated or in good seasons when pouch young 4 months old. Embryo dormant until pouch empty. Pregnancy 33-38 days, young attaches to one of 4 teats in her pouch, leaves at 11 months, suckling at foot until 18 months of age.

DESCRIPTION: A large strong marsupial, soft deep fur varying from light silver-grey to dark grey flecked with light grey above, usually paler below. Females have a white chest. Forehead is grey. Paws, feet and tail tip dark grey to black. Nose hairy. Hindfeet no first digit, second and third joined with double claw fourth much longer than others. Synonyms: *M. canguru*; *M. major*; Great Grey Kangaroo; Forester; Scrub Kangaroo; Scrubber.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, SA, Tas, Vic.



Eastern Hare-wallaby

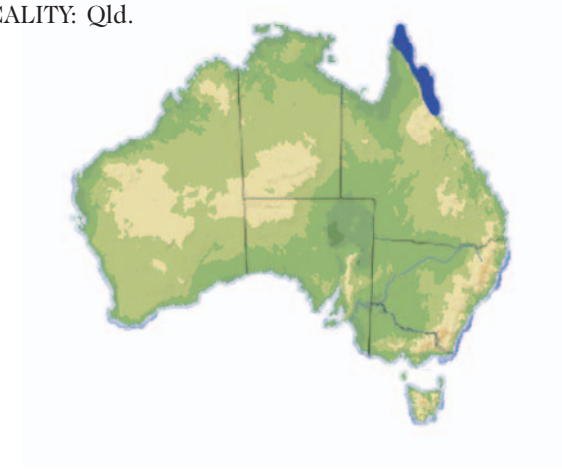
LATIN NAME: *Lagorchestes leporides* (Gould, 1841)
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Lagorchestes* - "dancing-hare"; *leporides* - "hare-like"
FOOD: Probably tough grasses.
HABITAT: Tussock grassland.
STATUS: Extinct
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 450 mm Tail: 320 mm;
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, it slept by day in a shelter excavated under a large tussock, and when disturbed from this, ran in a zigzag manner like a hare, often making prodigious leaps (as high as 1.8 metres).
DEVELOPMENT: Unknown

DESCRIPTION: Apparently common in its range until the 1850s. Last specimen collected in 1890. Probably resembled the other members of the genus. Grizzled brown above, hairs tipped white, grey below. Slight rufous area around the eyes; faint hip stripe; feet and paws greyish; tail brown above and white below. Distinguished by black patch on elbow. Synonyms: Brown Hare-wallaby.
LOCALITY: NSW, Vic, SA

Eastern Horseshoe-bat

LATIN NAME: *Rhinolophus megaphyllus* Gray, 1834
SUBSPECIES: Four subspecies recognised. Australian population *R. m. megaphyllus*.
FAMILY NAME: Rhinolophidae
MEANING: *Rhinolophus* - "nose-crest"; *megaphyllus* -"great-leaf"
FOOD: Large flying and aquatic insects.
HABITAT: Rainforests, open coastal scrub and tall forests.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 40-60 mm Tail: 35-45 mm
Forearm: 44-50 mm; 9-14 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, roosting by day in humid caves, mines and buildings, hang from roof 15-20 cm apart with feet together, head hanging down and wings enveloping body. Colonies exceeding 1,000 bats in large caves. Adult females disperse in Sep-Oct to form maternity colonies. Good vision, echo-locate prey, emitting high-pitched sounds through nose, directing them with noseleaf. Fly slowly or hover, make short flights every few minutes to catch insects. Insects taken from surface of water.
DEVELOPMENT: Males are sexually mature at 2 years, females at 2-3 years, mating from April to June and giving birth to a single young from October to December. Females have 2 false teats in the pubic region and one functional teat under each armpit from which the newborn suckles. Young carried clinging to her false teats and fur until well-furred. Then left clustered in a maternity cave while she forages, are weaned at 2 months.

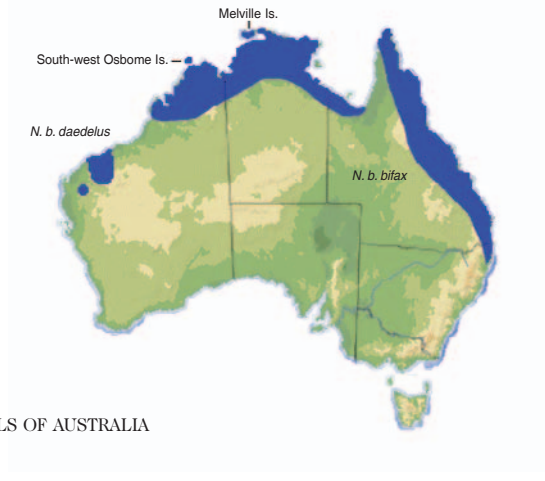
DESCRIPTION: Has long, soft, greyish-brown fur. Some northern bats are orange-brown. Large, sharply-pointed ears, eyes very small. Complex noseleaf above snout with a horseshoe-shaped lower part, a scalloped upper section and a fleshy central projection. Tail does not protrude beyond tail membrane. Synonyms: *Rhinophyllotis megaphyllus*.
LOCALITY: Qld.



Eastern Long-eared Bat

LATIN NAME: *Nyctophilus bifax* Thomas, 1915
SUBSPECIES: *N. b. bifax*, ne Australia; *N. b. daedalus*, nw Australia.
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Nyctophilus* - "night-lover"; *bifax* - "two-faced"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Tropical rainforests, woodlands, dry sclerophyll forests, near watercourses.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 45-55 mm Tail: 40-45 mm
Forearm: 32-45 mm; 8-12 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, roosting by day in tree-holes and in human constructions. At night it hunts flying insects, often close to the ground and is able to hover while gleaning insects from leaves and can alight on, and take off from, the ground. They usually hang from trees 5-10 m high, rotating back and forth to make short flights every few minutes. They have excellent vision and navigate and detect insects by echo-location, emitting low-intensity calls.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. Females give birth usually to twins around December. Newborn suckle from teats in the mother's armpits. They are left in the maternity roost while the mother is foraging.

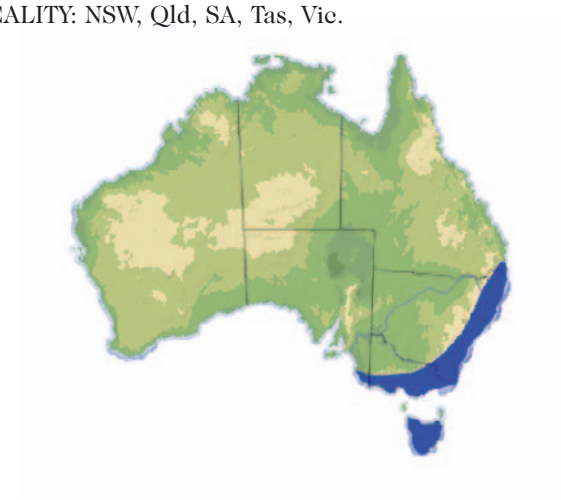
DESCRIPTION: Light brown or tawny-brown above and greyish-brown below. Eyes are large and ears are long and ribbed with a short, broadly triangular lower lobe partially covering the opening. The poorly-developed noseleaf forms a low ridge behind the snout and the tail is enclosed in the tail-membrane. Synonyms: *Nyctophilus gouldi bifax*; North Queensland Long-eared Bat.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, NT, WA



Eastern Pygmy-possum

LATIN NAME: *Cercartetus nanus* (Desmarest, 1818)
SUBSPECIES: Two subspecies proposed: *C. n. nanus*, Tas and *C. n. unicolor* mainland.
FAMILY NAME: Burramyidae
MEANING: *Cercartetus* - "possibly tail-in-air"; *nanus* - "dwarf"
FOOD: Pollen and nectar gathered with the brush-tipped tongue, insects and soft fruits.
HABITAT: Open forests, heath and shrubland, rainforests.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 70-110 mm Tail: 75-110 mm; 15-45 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sometimes emerging on overcast days. Small spherical nests about 60 mm across are constructed from shredded bark and located in hollows in tree trunks and stumps, under the bark of eucalypts or in the forks of tea trees. Several nests are used by individuals and females may share with juvenile offspring. They are largely arboreal, moving at a moderate pace among foliage, sometimes suspending themselves by the tail. In cold conditions become torpid for up to 12 days, conserving energy using fat reserves stored in tail. They are solitary and docile. When provoked they utter a loud hiss.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 5 months, give birth to 4-5 young between September and April, may be 2 litters per season. Shallow pouch has 4 or 5 teats. Young born 30 days after mating and attach to teats, outgrow pouch quickly, suckling clinging to mother's belly fur. Left in nest at 42 days, weaned at 60 days, may live 5 years.

DESCRIPTION: Size of a large mouse, soft thick fur, fawn-grey to olive brown above, light grey to white below. Rounded head has very large eyes, ears and long whiskers. Prehensile tail has seasonally fattened base, almost bare, tapers to fine point. First toes of hindfeet oppose other three, second and third joined with a double claw.
Synonyms: Pygmy-possum; Common Dormouse-phalanger; Dormouse Opossum; Possum Mouse.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, SA, Tas, Vic.



Eastern Quoll

LATIN NAME: *Dasyurus viverrinus* (Shaw, 1800)
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Dasyurus* - "hairy-tail"; *viverrinus* - "ferret-like"
FOOD: They are opportunistic carnivores, scavenging the carcasses of larger animals, and preying on small mammals, birds, insects and worms.
HABITAT: Wet and dry sclerophyll forests, heath and scrubland.
STATUS: Vulnerable
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 280-450 mm Tail: 170-280 mm; 0.6-2 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, sleeping in grass-lined dens in hollow logs, rock crevices or in short burrows by day. Usually solitary, they have overlapping home ranges, occasionally sharing a number of dens, particularly during the breeding season when social interactions increase and fighting frequently occurs between males. Males change dens often but do not share with other males. Although mostly ground-dwellers, they are good climbers, often stand erect on hindlegs sniffing the air. When alarmed utter guttural growl.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 1 year, they breed from May to August. Females do not have a pouch, ridges of skin develop on either side of 5-8 teats during breeding season. Eight or more young are born, only those able to attach to a teat survive. Suckled for 6-8 weeks, left in den or carried on back if she changes dens until weaned at 5 months.

DESCRIPTION: The size of a small cat, is a medium to slender build with soft dense fur. Two distinct colour phases exist: either black with brown belly or fawn with white belly; both have white spots on back but not on tail. Have large rounded ears, relatively short legs, only four toes on the hindfeet. Synonyms: Eastern Native Cat; Quoll.
LOCALITY: Tas.

Eastern Tube-nosed Bat

LATIN NAME: *Nyctimene robinsoni* Thomas, 1904
FAMILY NAME: Pteropodidae
MEANING: *Nyctimene* - "night-moon"; *robinsoni* - "after H. C. Robinson, who collected the first specimen"
FOOD: Fruits, particularly those of trunk-fruiting trees, nectar and pollen. They can survive without drinking.
HABITAT: Rainforests, wet and dry sclerophyll forests and woodlands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 100-110 mm Tail: 20-25 mm Forearm: 60-70 mm; 30-50 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, roosting alone in trees close to their feeding sites hanging from a branch with the head pointing forward and the wings wrapped around the body. Some bats change their roosts daily, depending on the food supply. Nomadic and aggressive, sometimes forming large feeding groups around fruiting trees, probably defending feeding territories. Good vision and avoid flying in total darkness. Forage in forest understorey, flying close to ground along forest tracks, often making whistling calls.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. They give birth to a single young between Oct-Dec which suckles from a teat in mother's armpit and is carried with her until well-furred.

DESCRIPTION: This spotted winged placental mammal is characterised by its prominent tubular nostrils which extend from muzzle by 5-6 mm and by the pale yellow-green spots on wings and ears. Fur is long and soft, grey-brown to light brown above, paler below, usually a dark brown stripe along centre of back. Short, round face, simple curved ears, short tail, claws on first and second fingers. Synonyms: *N. tryoni*; *N. albiventer* (part); Queensland Tube-nosed bat.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld.

Fallow Deer

LATIN NAME: *Dama dama* (Linnaeus, 1758)
SUBSPECIES: *D. d. dama*, from Mediterranean region of southern Europe. Introduced to Australia, New Zealand, Africa, North and South America; *D. d. mesopotamica*, Iran.
FAMILY NAME: Cervidae
MEANING: *Dama* - "deer"; *dama* - "deer"
FOOD: Grasses, shrubs and the foliage and bark of trees.
HABITAT: Temperate woodland and woodland edges.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 1.2-1.7 m Tail: 190-230 mm; 50-90 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Feeds by day, except when subject to harassment. During the period when males are regrowing their antlers, they associate with females in mixed herds. As the antlers become large, males segregate into bachelor groups. During the mating season, males become quite aggressive and the successful combatants establish territories within which they dominate groups of females. The tail is flicked continuously while feeding undisturbed; curled back in alarm.
DEVELOPMENT: Mating occurs in April and May. After a pregnancy of 33 to 34 weeks, a single young is born in November or December.

DESCRIPTION: This species was introduced into Australia from Great Britain between 1830 and 1880 and feral populations extend from northern Queensland to South Australia. A slender built deer. Colouration varies but the commonest form has white spots on the pale brown back and upper sides. The many-branched antlers are flattened and webbed. It lacks upper canines.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, SA, Tas, Vic.

False Water-rat

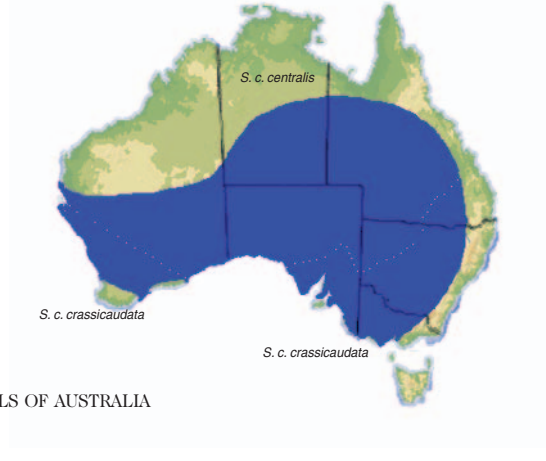
LATIN NAME: *Xeromys myoides* Thomas, 1889
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Xeromys* - "dry-mouse"; *myoides* - "mouse-like"
FOOD: Soldier crabs and a wider range of prey.
HABITAT: Tropical rainforest and mangroves, always close to water.
STATUS: Vulnerable
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 110-130 mm Tail: 90-100 mm; 32-54 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active in the early morning and evening, even in the middle of the day. The nest is sometimes in a burrow, on the ground or sometimes on a mound of clay that raises it above high-tide level. Nests can contain up to eight individuals of all ages, juveniles, subadults and adults. Usually one adult male and more than one adult female were present. An opportunistic predator, living near shallow water. An excellent swimmer.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. The female has 4 teats. Births can occur in any month of the year and up to four young have been found in a nest.

DESCRIPTION: Related to the Water-rat, but somewhat less aquatic and without webs on the hindfeet. The dense fur is water-repellent, short and very silky. Dark slate-gey to brown above and pure white below. The head is flattened, with a long blunt muzzle and small eyes and rounded ears. They have one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and unlike other rodents have only two molars on each side of the lower jaw. They have a strong musty odour.
Synonyms: Water Mouse.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld.

Fat-tailed Dunnart

LATIN NAME: *Sminthopsis crassicaudata* (Gould, 1844)
SUBSPECIES: *S. c. crassicaudata*, se mainland; *S. c. centralis*, temperate Australia.
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Sminthopsis* - "mouse-appearance"; *crassicaudata* - "fat-tailed"
FOOD: Insects and other small invertebrates. Can exist without drinking if food is moist.
HABITAT: Moist coastal to arid inland, woodlands, shrubland, grasslands or gibber plains.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 60-90 Tail: 40-70 mm; 10-20 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleep during day in nests of dried grass or other plant material beneath logs, rocky crevices or fissures in cracked soil in arid areas. Often group together in a nest in cold conditions to keep warm. Become torpid if food is short, dropping body temperature to conserve energy and utilising fat reserves in tail. Usually solitary with large unstable home ranges that change according to food supply.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 4-5 months, females do not breed in year of their birth. Breed from June to February, two birth peaks in August and September, coinciding with seasonal abundance of food. Newborn attach to mother's 8-10 teats, completely enclosed in a circular pouch with a central opening. Detach at 43 days, leave pouch permanently at 60 days. Left in nest while mother forages until weaned at 70 days.

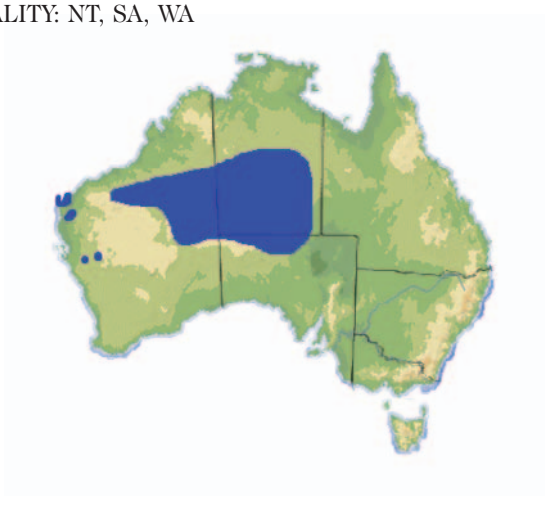
DESCRIPTION: Mouse-sized. Brownish-grey above, light grey to white below. Fur has dark base, sandy-grey tips. Tail short with fat base in well-nourished individuals, tapers to a point. Head pointed, protruding eyes, very large ears. Interdigital pads of hindfoot with uniformly finely granualted pads, tending towards development of mid-line rows of slightly enlarged granules in northern populations.
Synonyms: Fat-tailed Marsupial Mouse.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Vic, WA



Fat-tailed Pseudantechinus

LATIN NAME: *Pseudantechinus macdonnellensis* (Spencer, 1895)
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Pseudantechinus* -"false-antechinus"; *macdonnellensis* - "named after MacDonnell Range, NT"
FOOD: Insects and other small invertebrates.
HABITAT: Arid rocky hills and desert country.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 95-105 mm Tail: 75-85 mm; 20-45 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, sleeping during the day in rocky crevices or in burrows in termite mounds, often emerge during day in winter to bask in sun. Insects form main part of its diet and tail, which is shorter than body, is enlarged when food is plentiful.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 10-11 months. Breed once a year in June-July or August-September depending on region, births timed to coincide with plentiful food supplies. Females have no true pouch although ridges of skin develop on either side of the six teats during breeding season. Up to six young are born and attach themselves to teats while being dragged around by mother as she forages for food until they detach. Male has an appendage on penis, function is unknown. Both sexes may survive to breed twice.

DESCRIPTION: A small carnivorous marsupial, named for swollen base of tail where deposits of fat are stored when food is plentiful. Poorly-nourished individuals use fat reserves and have thin tail. Fur greyish-brown above, greyish-white below, light reddish-brown patches behind ears. Head long with black-tipped, pointed muzzle, large eyes and ears. Hindfeet broad. Upper third premolar very small; absent from lower jaw. Synonyms: *Antechinus macdonnellensis*; Red-eared Antechinus; Fat-tailed Marsupial Mouse.
LOCALITY: NT, SA, WA



Fawn Antechinus

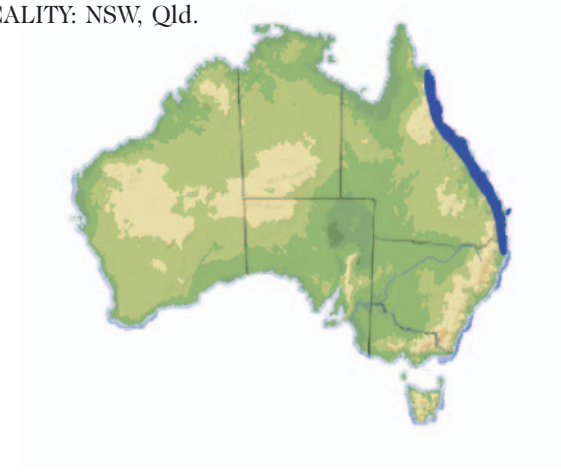
LATIN NAME: *Antechinus bellus* (Thomas, 1904)
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Antechinus* - "hedgehog-equivalent"; *bellus* - "beautiful"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Tropical dry eucalypt forest to woodland with abundant tree-holes or hollow logs.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 110-150 mm Tail: 90-130 mm; 34-55 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, sleeping by day in a nest in tree hollows or fallen hollow logs. Preys at night upon insects taken on the ground or on the trunks of trees.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at about 11 months; mating occurs in August or September. During sexual activity the male displays a sternal gland, usually bare of hair, with surrounding fur stained yellow to brown. The female has 10 teats and carries up to 10 young. Young remain attached to the teats for four to five weeks and are suckled in the nest until weaned in early January. Males die shortly after mating.

DESCRIPTION: This species resembles the Yellow-footed Antechinus but lives in open forest and woodland where leaf litter is sparse and dry. Males are notably larger than females. A small carnivorous marsupial, this antechinus has slate grey fur on the sides, belly, rump and feet with white patches on the throat and belly. The eyes protrude and it has a fully haired tail. The hindfeet are very broad, retain a small first digit and have transversely striated pads.
Synonyms: Fawn Marsupial Mouse.
LOCALITY: NT

Fawn-footed Melomys

LATIN NAME: *Melomys cervinipes* (Gould, 1852)
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Melomys* - "Melanesian-mouse"; *cervinipes* - "fawn-footed"
FOOD: Leaves, shoots, fruits and seeds.
HABITAT: Wet sclerophyll forests, rainforests, pandanus clumps and mangroves.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 95-200 mm Tail: 115-210 mm; 45-115 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in grass-lined nests in a forked branch in the canopy, shrubs and pandanus fronds, utilising burrows occasionally for refuge. They form stable breeding pairs and occupy distinct home ranges of some 70 m diameter. Good climbers, they forage in and around trees, climbing creepers and vines, using tail for balance and as fifth limb, leaping short distances between branches. Can swim if necessary.
DEVELOPMENT: Breeding occurs throughout the year, with a peak from September to June. Males are larger than females. The female has 4 teats and usually rears 2 young which are weaned at 3 weeks. As many as 5 litters may be reared in a year. Suckling young attach themselves firmly to mother's teats, are dragged behind her when she moves about.

DESCRIPTION: This rat-size mammal has long, soft, fine fur, sandy-brown to dark grey-brown above and white, cream or grey below. The bare tail is partly prehensile with non-overlapping scales. They have a thick-necked appearance with short curved ears, a broad head, protruding eyes, long dark whiskers and broad hindfeet. One pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *Uromys banfieldi*; *Melomys limicauda*; Large Khaki Rat; Fawn-footed Scale-tailed Rat.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld.



Fawn Hopping-mouse

LATIN NAME: *Notomys cervinus* (Gould, 1853)
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Notomys* - "southern-mouse"; *cervinus* - "fawn"
FOOD: Seeds, green plant matter and some insects. They will drink salty water and can survive without drinking if necessary.
HABITAT: Gibber plains, tussock grasslands, low shrublands with hard clay/stony soils.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 95-120 mm Tail: 105-160 mm; 30-50 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, resting by day in simple, humid burrows dug into hard clay or stony soil to 300 mm deep, with 1-3 entrances, shared with up to 6 others. They live in family groups utilising wide areas and are more aggressive than other hopping-mice, avoiding sandy areas occupied by the rare Dusky Hopping-mouse.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 6 months, opportunistic breeders, reproducing after periods of good rainfall and rearing litters of usually 3 young. Pregnancy lasts 38-43 days. Newborn cling to the mother's teats and are dragged around by her if disturbed. Young are well-furred at birth, their eyes open at 3 weeks and are weaned at 4 weeks.

DESCRIPTION: Found in the arid gibber plains of central Australia, this mammal has long hindlegs, a distinctive bipedal hopping gait and a long tufted tail. Fur is pale pinkish-fawn to grey above, white below. Males have a naked, raised, flat glandular area on the chest, often stained by orange-yellow secretions in sexually active animals. Ears are long, curved and thinly-haired. One pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth, three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *Podanomalus aistoni*; *Notomys aistoni*; Oorarrie.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA

Fawn Leafnosed-bat

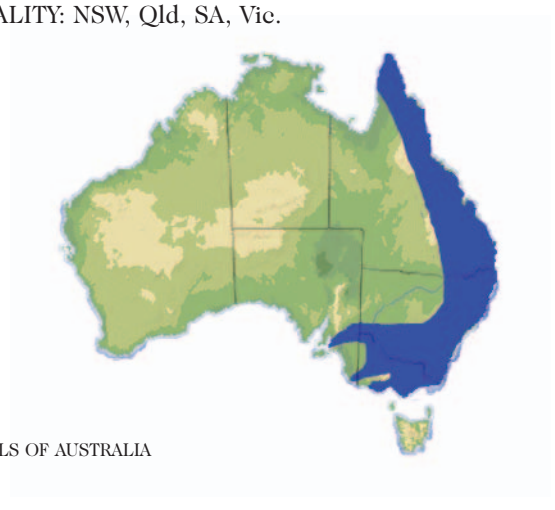
LATIN NAME: *Hipposideros cervinus* (Gould, 1854)
SUBSPECIES: There are four subspecies, the Australian from being *H. c. cervinus*.
FAMILY NAME: Hipposideridae
MEANING: *Hipposideros* - "horse-iron"; *cervinus* - "fawn-coloured"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Tropical rainforest and vine-thickets.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 50-60 mm Tail: 20-30 mm; 6-9 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, roosting by day, often singly, in a cave, hanging from the roof and well separated from other individuals. It feeds on medium-sized flying insects which it takes in the understorey of the forest or over water. Its flight is slow but very manoeuvrable, therefore it is able to hover and then dart upon passing prey.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. A single young is born around Novmeber and is carried for some time by the mother.

DESCRIPTION: The Australian population is an outlier of a species, *H. galeritus*, that is common from South-East Asia to the Philippines. Despite its name, it is not always fawn-coloured. Some individuals are grey, some grey-brown with a reddish tinge, and a few are bright orange. The ears are very large and broad with a slight point. The eyes are small and a simple noseleaf with a horseshoe-shaped lower ridge protrudes above the snout. The tail projects slightly beyond the tail membrane. Synonyms: *Hipposideros galeritus*; Fawn Horseshoe-bat.
LOCALITY: Qld.

Feathertail Glider

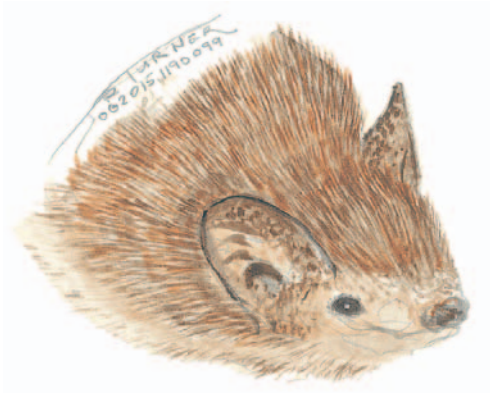
LATIN NAME: *Acrobates pygmaeus* (Shaw, 1794)
SUBSPECIES: A subspecies *A. p. frontalis* n Qld based on poorly described juveniles.
FAMILY NAME: Acrobatidae
MEANING: *Acrobates* - "acrobat"; *pygmaeus* - "pygmy"
FOOD: Pollen, nectar, insects and sap.
HABITAT: Wet and dry sclerophyll forests and woodlands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 65-80 mm Tail: 60-80 mm; 10-17 g
BEHAVIOUR: Usually active at night, sleeping in spherical nests of leaves, ferns and bark strips in tree hollows or crevices. Family groups consist of male one or two females and offspring in breeding season. Males solitary at other times of year. Use one or two nests, often share them with others, huddling together in cold weather, become torpid for several days if food short. Up to 40 seen in profusely flowering trees. Fast, highly manoeuvrable, agile in flight, leaping through tree canopy and gliding more than 20 m, steering with tail.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature 8-10 months, males at 12 months. Breeding from Jul-Jan in south, all year round in north, rear several litters of 2-3 in quick succession. Has 4 teats in forward-opening pouch where young remain for 60-65 days, stay in nest until weaned at 95-100 days. They live for 3 years or more.

DESCRIPTION: Named for the flattened prehensile tail which has long stiff hairs on each side, closely resembles a feather. Fur grey-brown above, white to cream below. A small, thick gliding membrane extends from elbows to knees. Hindfeet have an opposing first toe and large gripping pads enable them to cling to smooth vertical surfaces. Second and third toes join with a double claw. Synonyms: Pygmy Glider; Pygmy Phalanger; Flying Mouse.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, SA, Vic.



Finlayson's Cave Bat

LATIN NAME: *Vespadelus finlaysoni* Kitchener, Jones and Caputi, 1987
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Vespadelus* - "hidden-bat"; *finlaysoni* - "named after Hedley Finalyson in honour of his work on mammals of arid Australia"
FOOD: Insects such as small moths, mosquitos and flying ants.
HABITAT: Deserts to coastal eucalypt shrublands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 34.3-46.4 mm Tail: 30.7-42.0 mm Forearm: 29.8-36.7 mm; 3-7 g
BEHAVIOUR: Roosts in caves, cracks and fissures. Sometimes abandoned mine shafts and adits. A single colony may have more than 500 individuals but smaller groups are usual. Its fluttering flight is fast, and erratic changes of direction are common at waterholes, foraging for insects and occasionally dipping into the water to drink. Maternity colonies are not formed. Captured animals are fragile, dehydrating quickly and are easily stressed.
DEVELOPMENT: Females give birth to a single young throughout the year with peaks in March and September or October. Young are carried on mother's back for a short time after birth. They are capable of trial flights at three to four weeks of age.

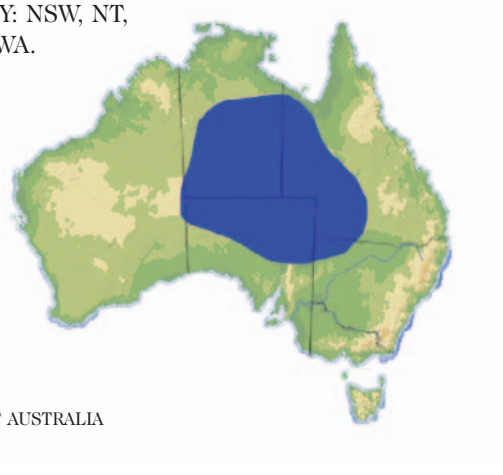


DESCRIPTION: Dark brown fur with a rust-red look. Lighter below. Long fur extends from forehead well onto rostrum. Skin of ears and wings dark. Synonyms: *Pipistrellus finlaysoni*; *Eptesicus finlaysoni*; *Eptesicus pumilus*; *Scotophilus pumilus*; Little Cave Eptesicus; Little Brown Bat, Inland Cave Bat.
LOCALITY: WA, NT, Qld, SA.

Forrest's Mouse

LATIN NAME: *Leggadina forresti* (Thomas, 1906)
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Leggadina* - "little-Leggadina-like" (Leggada a genus of Indian mice); *forresti* - "named after Sir John Forrest, explorer"
FOOD: Seeds and green vegetation. They can probably survive without drinking.
HABITAT: Arid/semi-arid habitats, grasslands, shrublands, mulga woodlands, sand plains.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 65-105 mm Tail: 50-75 mm; 15-25 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in grass-lined nests in short burrows with several blind tunnels and a single nest chamber around 150 mm deep to avoid the heat. Usually solitary, living alone or with young. Females with young intolerant of other adults.
DEVELOPMENT: They breed after rainfall and in favourable conditions, may rear several litters. Females have 4 teats and give birth to 3-4 young. The young are welll-furred by 10 days, have their eyes open at 20 days and become independent at 4 weeks.

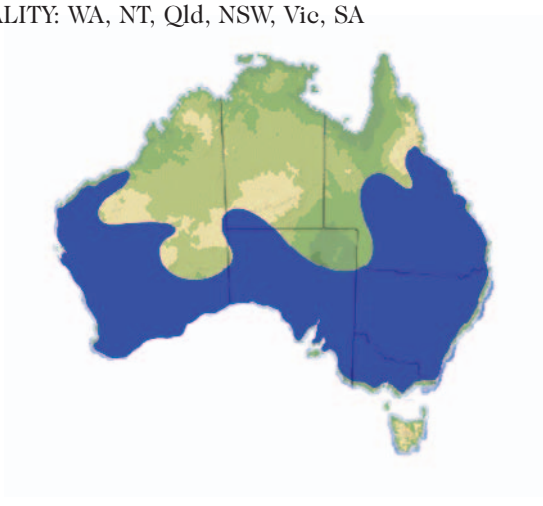
DESCRIPTION: A small mammal of the arid regions of Australia, distinguished by its short stumpy tail, plump body and blunt muzzle with many long whiskers. Fur is rough and shiny, yellow-brown to grey above with scattered dark hairs, pure white below and on the feet. Tail is grey above and white below with overlapping scales. The pinkish-grey ears are short and curved, eyes large and protruding. One pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth, three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *L. messoria*; *L. waitei*; *Gyomys berneyi*; Melrose Desert Mouse; Waite's Mouse; Berney's Queensland Mouse; Short-tailed Mouse; Southern Short-tailed Mouse; Forrest's Territory Mouse, Desert Short-tailed Mouse.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, WA.



Fox

LATIN NAME: *Vulpes vulpes* Linnaeus, 1758
SUBSPECIES: The Australian subspecies is probably *Vulpes vulpes vulpes*.
FAMILY NAME: Felidae
MEANING: *Vulpes* - "fox"; *vulpes* - "fox
FOOD: Rabbits, rodents and birds but also eats carrion, large insects, berries and fruits.
HABITAT: Temperate to sub-tropical forest to desert, where drinking water is available. Absent from tropical regions.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 570-740 mm Tail: 360-450 mm; 4.0-8.3 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Usually nocturnal, spending the day in a den, thicket, hollow log or leaning tree but may be active during the day in cold weather. Mainly carnivorous, with wild fruits and insects eaten in summer and small mammals in winter. Urine and faeces are used to define territories by scent marking.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature in the first year. Mating occurs in June or July which usually leads to a monogamous union. Usually four young are born in late winter or early spring. The male brings food to his mate and they both cooperate in rearing the weaned cubs. They can be assisted in this by elder offspring that are mature but sexually inactive for a year or more.

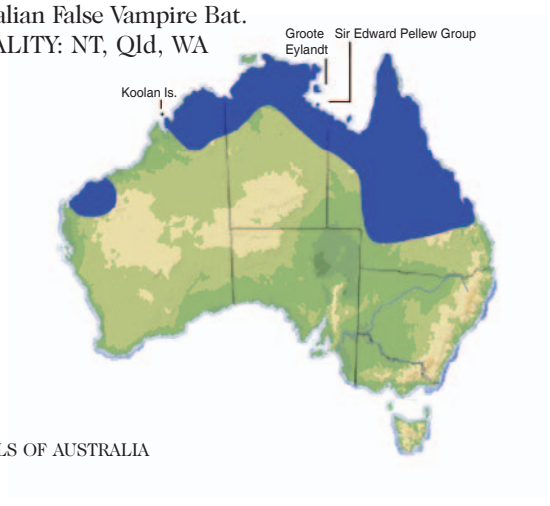
DESCRIPTION: The fox was introduced into Australia in the 19th century to be hunted on horseback. Reddish-brown above with a greyish-white chest, belly, chin and throat. Has a white tail tag but can be black or dark red. Synonyms: *Canis vulpes*, Red Fox.
LOCALITY: WA, NT, Qld, NSW, Vic, SA



Ghost Bat

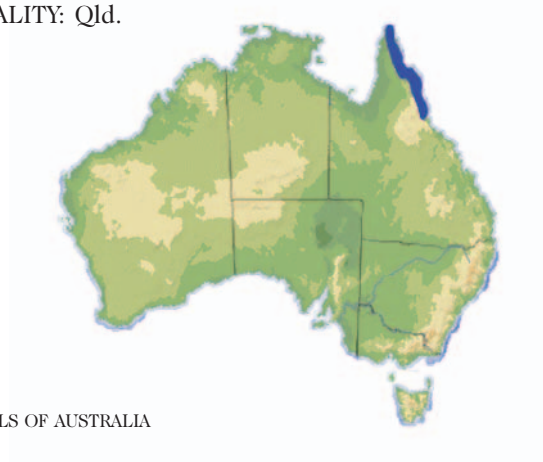
LATIN NAME: *Macroderma gigas* (Dobson, 1880)
FAMILY NAME: Megadermatidae
MEANING: *Macroderma* - "great skin - in reference to the wings"; *gigas* - "giant"
FOOD: Insects, birds, lizards, frogs, mice, bats and other vertebrates.
HABITAT: Rainforests, wet and dry sclerophyll forests and arid woodlands.
STATUS: Vulnerable
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 100-130 mm Forearm: 102-112 mm; 100-165 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, roosting in deep caves, rock crevices and mines, at least 2 m above floor. Colonies of up to 400 are formed in breeding season. Males and females often occupy separate caves after mating. Pregnant females congregate in warmest caves in early spring, may move young to nursing caves. Whole colony reunites in warmest caves in early winter, disbands in July. They fly smooth and straight with head held high, orienting by sight and intermittent use of echo-location, emitting signals through mouth. Locate prey visually or by sound while sitting on a branch. Small terrestrial animals are killed by wrapping them in their wings and biting them to death. Other bats may be caught in flight. They feed in their roost or perch.
DEVELOPMENT: They mate from Apr-Aug, a single young is born from Sep-Nov and suckles from a teat in mother's armpit. Is carried until well-furred at 4 weeks, then left in the roost until able to fly by 7 weeks.

DESCRIPTION: Long soft fur, fawn-grey to dove-grey above, pale grey to white below. Ears very large, joined above head, sparsely-haired with forked lobe partially covering aperture. Has no tail, eyes large, a simple large noseleaf bulges above snout. Synonyms: *Megaderma gigas*; False Vampire; False Vampire Bat; Australian False Vampire Bat.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, WA



Giant White-tailed Rat

LATIN NAME: *Uromys caudimaculatus* (Krefft, 1867)
SUBSPECIES: *U. c. caudimaculatus*, ne Australia; *U. c. aruensis*, Aru Islands;
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Uromys* - "tailed mouse"; *caudimaculatus* - "spotted-tailed"
FOOD: Nuts, fruits, insects, fungi, small reptiles, eggs. Enter houses searching for food.
HABITAT: Wet sclerophyll forests, rainforests and woodlands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 255-365 mm Tail: 240-360 mm; 245-815 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeps by day in a nest in a tree-hole, may make a burrow lined with vegetation. Found alone or in pairs, have large home ranges. Males very aggressive to other males in breeding season, emit harsh threatening growls. An excellent climber, using semi-prehensile tail to grasp branches. Feeds on seeds, fruits of rainforests trees. Eats insects, fungi, raids camps or homesteads for food (opens cans with its incisors).
DEVELOPMENT: Males larger. Sexually mature at 10 months. Mating Oct or Nov. Female has four teats, usually rears two or three young. They attach to teats, dragged behind her as she moves about. Weaned at five weeks, leave mother when eight weeks old.
DESCRIPTION: Fur rough with long spiny guard hairs, grey-brown above, creamy-white below, pale paws. Tail almost bare, non-overlapping scales; terminal third white, remainder dark grey mottled with white patches. Muzzle long with many black whiskers. Eyes and ears small. Limbs short with large, strongly-clawed hindfeet. One pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth, three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *U. sherrini*; *U. exilis*; White-tailed Rat; Giant Rat; Giant Naked-tailed Rat; Giant Mosaic-tailed Rat; Cape York Uromys; Atherton Uromys; Hinchinbrook Island Uromys.
LOCALITY: Qld.



Gilbert's Dunnart

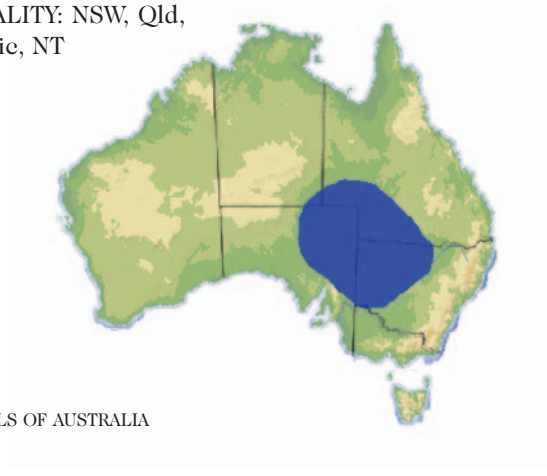
LATIN NAME: *Sminthopsis gilberti* Kitchener, Stoddart and Henry, 1984
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Sminthopsis* - "mouse-appearance"; *gilberti* - "named after John Gilbert, who collected fauna extensively for John Gould between 1843 and 1844.
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Heathland, mallee shrublands, open eucalypt woodland.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 81-92 mm Tail: 75-92 mm; 14-25 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, nesting above the ground in logs or vegetation.
DEVELOPMENT: Breeding occurs in spring to early summer. Pouch young are present in October and November and juveniles are present in February. Females have eight teats. Males do not appear to die-off like other small dasyurids.

DESCRIPTION: Similar to *S. dolichura* and *S. griseoventer*, but larger. Light grey above; white below. Pointed muzzle, large ears and eyes. The third premolar teeth are almost as large as the second. Synonyms: *Sminthopsis murina* (part).
LOCALITY: WA

Giles' Planigale

LATIN NAME: *Planigale gilesi* Aitken, 1972
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Planigale* - "flat-weasel"; *gilesi* - "after Ernest Giles, explorer"
FOOD: Insects, small mammals and lizards. Ferocious hunters and efficient killers
HABITAT: Sandplains, floodplains, creek beds, woodlands, grasslands or sedges.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 44-85 mm Tail: 48-72 mm; 4-16 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active at night, sleep by day in nests in hollow logs, under bark, in grass clumps or in short burrows sometimes with a number of side tunnels and sleeping chambers. Share nests for warmth, bask in sun, torpid for short periods when food short. Shifting home ranges of 2,000 sqm, travel 1 km or more during night. More sedentary in breeding season when females stay in small home ranges. Males may establish dominance hierarchies. Calls include an aggressive 'chh-chh' or 'ca-ca', a high-pitched twittering when alarmed, a clicking sound during courtship. Walk moving hindfeet outside body line, keeping low to ground, a scurrying run, short leaps and bounds. Agile climbers, swimmers.
DEVELOPMENT: Breeds from Aug-Feb. Mating may last 2 hours, females can produce 2 litters per season. Six to eight young born 16 days after mating, each attaching to one of 12 teats in her rear-opening pouch, remain 37 days. Suckled in nest until 65-70 days old.

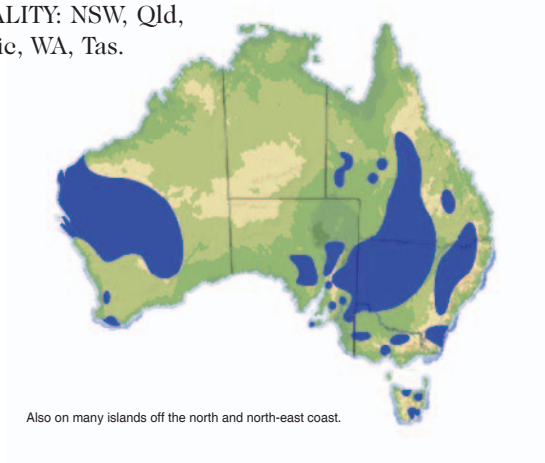
DESCRIPTION: A tiny desert-dwelling carnivorous marsupial. Soft, thick fur, cinnamon-grey with a black base above, olive-buff below. Head flattened, triangular, small rounded ears and bulging eyes. Tail tapers to tip, may be flattened for most if its length, sometimes with faint dark bands. Limbs short with five toes and granular pads on digits. Claws black. Unlike other planigales they have only two premolar teeth. Synonyms: Paucident Planigale.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, SA, Vic, NT



Goat

LATIN NAME: *Capra hircus* Linnaeus, 1758
FAMILY NAME: Bovidae
MEANING: *Capra* - "goat; *hircus* - "she-goat"
FOOD: Shrubs, low trees and grasses.
HABITAT: Preferably temperate to subtropical rocky hillsides with vegetation ranging from shrubs to open woodland but also on plains. Absent from very arid, very wet regions.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 1.1-1.6 m Tail: 120-170 mm; 35-65 kg
BEHAVIOUR: There is a need for shelter, preferably among rocks, but also in dense vegetation. Usually move about in groups of up to 20 but larger groups may occur where food is plentiful or water is scarce. Old males often solitary. Social organisation is not well understood but it seems that, for at least part of the year, mature males are excluded from the group. Escape into rocky hillsides when disturbed, they may inhabit almost any type of land and are able to climb into trees with low branches. A diurnal browser on shrubs and low trees; under pressure, a group will strip an area bare of almost all vegetation.
DEVELOPMENT: Females become sexually mature in first year, as early as six months. Mating takes place shortly after parturition, can occur at any time of year, slight peak in summer and early autumn. One or two young are born after a gestation of about 21 weeks.

DESCRIPTION: Introduced to Australia very early in late 18th century and rapidly established feral populations, now found over about half of the mainland but absent from rainforests, wetlands and driest deserts. Males have large, swept-back horns; those of the females are smaller. Males have a beard. Short, powerful legs, hooves of which can be employed as pincers to grip on rocky substrates. Synonyms: *Capra aegagrus hircus*.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, SA, Vic, WA, Tas.



Also on many islands off the north and north-east coast.

Godman's Rock-wallaby

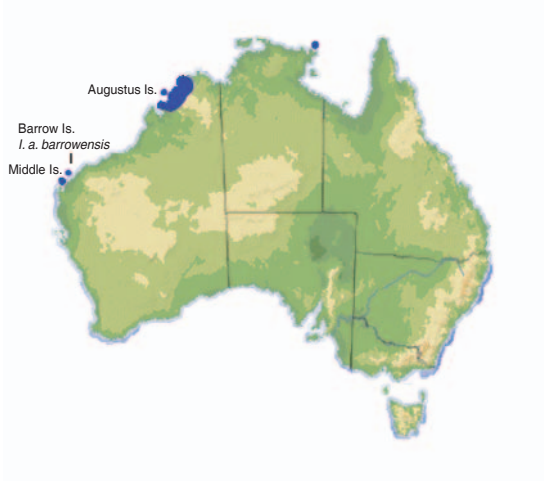
LATIN NAME: *Petrogale godmani* Thomas, 1923
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Petrogale* - "rock-weasel"; *godmani* - "named after F. D. Godman, sponsor of T. V Sherrin, who collected the first specimen"
FOOD: Grasses, forbs and shrubs.
HABITAT: Tropical rainforest to dry sclerophyll forest with rocky slopes.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 450-530 mm Tail: 480-590 mm; 4.3-5.2 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Sleeps by day in the shelter of rocks. Often forms aggregations to feed at night.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at one to two years. Probably breeds continuously throughout the year. Males are larger than females.

DESCRIPTION: They have adapted to life on rock-piles or rocky slopes by having a short, broad foot with granulations over the entire sole and a slim, barely tapering tail which is longer than the head and body. The tail is more mobile than other macropodids and is used as a balancer during leaps, which can include forward, vertical and lateral movements.
LOCALITY: Qld.

Golden Bandicoot

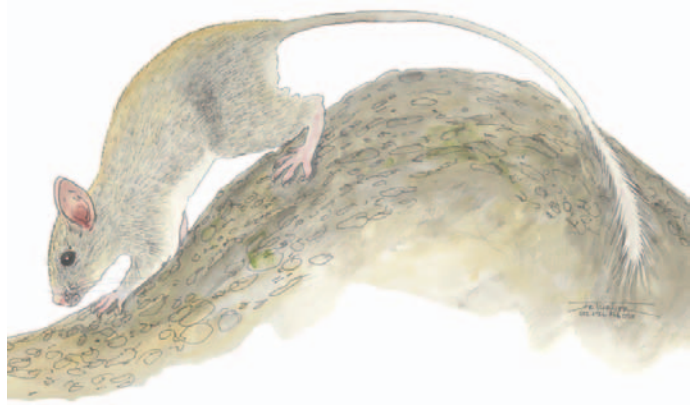
LATIN NAME: *Isoodon auratus* (Ramsay, 1887)
SUBSPECIES: *I. a. auratus*, mainland; *I. a. barrowensis*, Barrow Island, WA; *I. a. arnhemensis*, Arnhemland.
FAMILY NAME: Peramelidae
MEANING: *Isoodon* - "equal-tooth"; *auratus* - "golden"
FOOD: Beetle larvae, termites, moths, centipedes and succulent tubers.
HABITAT: From wet vine thickets to woodland and arid tussock grassland.
STATUS: Endangered
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 190-300 mm Tail: 80-120 mm; 250-670 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in a simple nest of grass in a cave or under a tussock. They move moderately fast with a galloping gait and walk quadrupedally. Food is found by digging conical holes with the forefeet and probing with the snout. They appear to be solitary and individuals are aggressive towards each other.
DEVELOPMENT: Breeds all year. Females have 8 teats in a backwardly directed pouch but seldom carries more than 3 young, of which only 1 or 2 survive to weaning.

DESCRIPTION: There has been a great reduction in distribution since the 1930s and the species is now restricted to a relatively small area of the coastal Kimberley region and Barrow Island. The island form is distinctly smaller than that of the mainland. This rabbit-size marsupial is a shiny russett-brown in colour pencilled with black; white below. The elongated head has relatively small pointed ears and small eyes. Tail is short and pointed. Forelimbs have strong curved claws on long feet. Hindfeet are long with a very large, strongly-clawed fourth toe; second and third toes are joined with a double claw used for grooming. Synonyms: Northern Golden Bandicoot; Northern Golden-backed Bandicoot.
LOCALITY: NT, WA

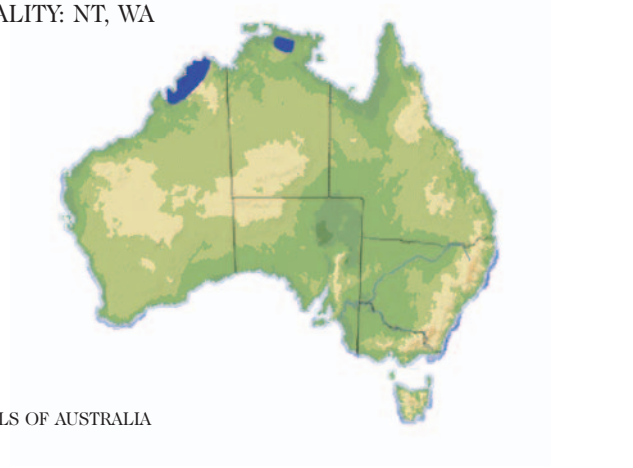


Golden-backed Tree-rat

LATIN NAME: *Mesembriomys macrurus* (Peters, 1876)
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Mesembriomys* - "southern-mouse"; *macrurus* - "long-tailed"
FOOD: Foliage, insects and shellfish. They will enter buildings searching for food.
HABITAT: High rainfall areas in rugged country with open forests and woodlands with a grassy or shrubby understorey, mangroves, palm forests, pandanus clumps and vine thickets.
STATUS: Vulnerable
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 180-275 mm Tail: 290-360 mm; 207-330 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, sleeping by day in tree hollows and among dense foliage in nests of loosely woven leaves. Mainly arboreal, but also spends time on the ground foraging along the tide-line in search of oysters or stranded fishes. It will enter houses where it eats food scraps, rice and flour.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. Probably breeds throughout the year. Females have four abdominal teats and rear 1-2 young. The gestation period is about 47 days and there is post-partum mating. The young are weaned at 6 or 7 weeks and are fully grown at four months.

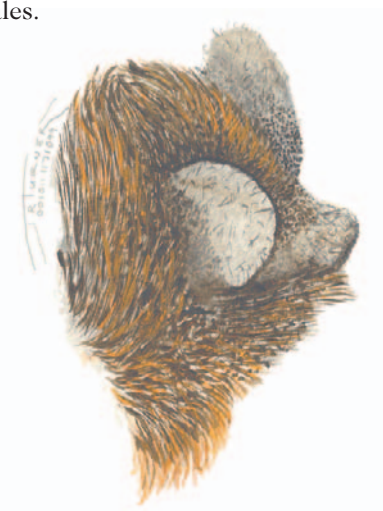


DESCRIPTION: An attractive rabbit-sized mammal with rough fur, golden-brown on the back, graduating to grey on the sides and white below. The base of the long tail is grey, the rest white with a brushy tip and overlapping scales. The ears are long and curved, the eyes protruding and the hindfeet broad with strong claws and well-developed sole pads. They have one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: Golden-backed Rabbit-rat; Western Rabbit-rat.
LOCALITY: NT, WA



Golden-tipped Bat

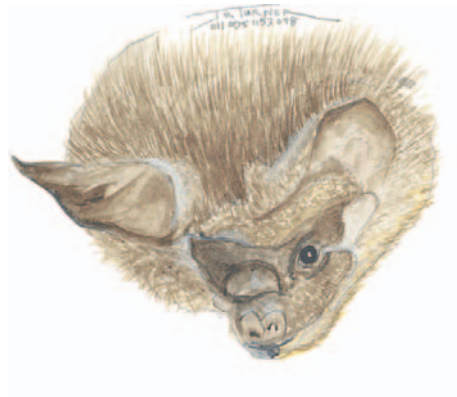
LATIN NAME: *Kerivoula papuensis* Dobson, 1878
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Kerivoula* - "from Kehevoulha, Sri Lankan name for a member of this genus; *papuensis* - "from Papua"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Cool-temperate to tropical rainforests.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 50-60 mm Tail: 40-50 mm; About 6 g
BEHAVIOUR: Roosts by day under dead, handing fronds of palms and in human constructions, probably also in tree-holes or cracks. At night it gleans insects from leaves and branches below, or in, the canopy of rainforest. It flies fast or slow and can hover. They form relatively small seasonal maternity colonies and males are transient members.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. Could breed during the wet season in the northern part of its range and during the early spring elsewhere. Males are slightly smaller than females.



DESCRIPTION: This species occurs in New Guinea and has been found in widely distant locations on the eastern coast of Australia from Cape York to the vicinity of Eden. A small bat with dark brown woolly fur with golden tips to the hairs. It has a long muzzle and a notably domed cranium (they are sometimes called dome-headed bats). The upper canine teeth are long and dagger-like and have a groove along the outer side. Synonyms: *Phoniscus papuensis*; Dome-headed Bat.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld.

Gould's Long-eared Bat

LATIN NAME: *Nyctophilus gouldi* Tomes, 1858
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Nyctophilus* - "night-lover"; *gouldi* - " after J. Gould, British naturalist"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Wet and dry sclerophyll forests and woodlands, favouring higher rainfall areas.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 50-65 mm Tail: 45-55 mm Forearm: 35-45 mm; 6-14 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, roosting by day alone or in colonies of up to 25 in tree-holes, under loose bark, abandoned bird nests and in human constructions. Animals in the southern part of the range hibernate during the coldest months. Their broad wings allow them to fly slowly with great manoeuvrability while gleaning insects from leaves. They have excellent vision and navigate and detect insects by echo-location.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually active at 7-9 months, males at 12-15 months. Males produce sperm in summer and store it until mating in autumn. Females store this sperm through winter, fertilising ova in early spring, giving birth usually to two young in summer. Newborn suckle from teats in mother's armpits, are carried until weaned at 6 weeks.



DESCRIPTION: This species resembles the Greater Long-eared Bat but is smaller (about half the weight). Slate grey to grey-brown above and ash-grey below mottled with light buff. Small eyes and long ribbed ears which are joined above the head with a short, broad triangular lower lobe partially covering the opening. A poorly-developed noseleaf forms a well defined ridge behind the snout. The tail is enclosed in the tail-membrane. Synonyms: *N. timoriensis gouldi*; Greater Long-eared Bat.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld,
Vic, Tas, SA, WA

Gould's Mouse

LATIN NAME: *Pseudomys gouldii* (Waterhouse, 1839)
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Pseudomys* - "false-mouse"; *gouldii* - "named after J. Gould, British naturalist"
FOOD: Seeds
HABITAT: Sandhills and grassy plains.
STATUS: Extinct
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 100-130 mm Tail: 90-100 mm; 20-50 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in extensive burrow systems constructed about 15 cm below the surface with terminal grassy nests. Families of four to eight individuals occupied the same nest. Gregarious.
DEVELOPMENT: Unknown

DESCRIPTION: This extinct species was last collected in 1857. The soft fur was yellow-brown above, grey to white below. The long, slim hindfeet were characteristic of the species. Similar to *Pseudomys australis* but distinguished by the presence of an accessory cusp on the first upper molar. Synonyms: *Thetomys gouldii*; Gould's Native Mouse; Gould's Eastern Mouse.
LOCALITY: NSW, Vic, SA

Gould's Wattled Bat

LATIN NAME: *Chalinolobus gouldii* (Gray, 1841)
SUBSPECIES: *C. g. gouldii*, southern Australia; *C. g. venatoris*, northern Australia.
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Chalinolobus* - "bridle-lobe"; *gouldii* - " after J. Gould, British naturalist"
FOOD: Insects.
HABITAT: Closed and open forests, mallee, tall shrublands and urban areas.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 65-75 mm Tail: 40-50 mm Forearm: 40-50 mm; 10-18 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active at night and after sunset, roosts by day in tree-holes, under bark and in almost any natural or man-made cavity in colonies of up to 100 bats. Males and most of the juvenile females disperse after breeding season. Long narrow wings, flight is fast and direct foraging below canopy often close to ground, hunting for flying beetles and moths and gleaning some insects from foliage. In southern part of range bats may become torpid in colder months, in Tasmania they hibernate from late autumn to early spring. Good vision, navigate and detect insects by echo-location making high-pitched sounds in flight.
DEVELOPMENT: Females breed in first year. Mating around May, sperm is stored by females for fertilisation around July giving birth in Nov or Dec. Northern bats give birth in Sep or Oct. Two young are usually born which attach to teats in mother's armpit, carried by mother until well-furred, then left at roost. Independent at 2-3 months, live 5 years.

DESCRIPTION: Soft thick fur, dark chocolate brown to black above, often more brown towards rump, slightly paler below. Muzzle short, forehead high. Ears short and broad with a loose flap hanging down at corner of mouth, a prominent rounded lobe partially covering ear opening. Tail enclosed in tail-membrane. Synonyms: *Scotophilus gouldii*; Gould's Lobe-lipped Bat.
LOCALITY: Norfolk Is., NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Tas, Vic, WA

Grassland Melomys

LATIN NAME: *Melomys burtoni* (Ramsay, 1887)
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Melomys* - "Melanesian-mouse"; *burtoni* - "named after W. Burton; taxidermist"
FOOD: Grass stems, seeds, berries, sugar-cane and insects.
HABITAT: Grasslands, open forests and woodlands close to water.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 85-140 mm Tail: 90-150 mm; 25-80 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in spherical nests 200-500 mm diameter of shredded leaves and grass woven around stout grass stems, above the ground or in trees. Short burrows are sometimes constructed. Very aggressive if cornered, occupy distinct home ranges of up to 0.4 ha. Good climbers, forage in tall reeds, sedges and sugar-cane use partly prehensile tail for balance and grip. Cross waterways swimming or rafting.
DEVELOPMENT: Breeds all year but mainly Mar to July. Female has 4 teats, rears 2 or 3 young, weaned at 3 or 4 weeks. Young are dragged behind her as she moves about.

DESCRIPTION: Fur long, soft, grey to reddish-brown or khaki above, may have pale orange flanks, white, grey or cream below. Tail slim, partly prehensile, dark brown, bare, small non-overlapping scales. Thick-necked, short curved ears, broad head, protruding eyes, long whiskers, broad hindfeet. One pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth, three pairs of molars on each side of jaw. Synonyms: *M. cervinipes* (in NT); *M. australia*; *M. callopes*; *M. littoralis*; *M. melicus*; *M. mixtus*; *M. murinus*; Banana Rat; Cape York Scale-tailed Rat; Groote Eylandt Melomys; Hayman Is. Melomys; Khaki Rat; Little Cape York Melomys; Little Melomys; Long-tailed Melomys; Lonnberg's Scale-tailed Rat; Small Khaki Rat; Small Mosaic-tailed Rat; Tree Rat; Western Melomys; Burton's Melomys.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, WA

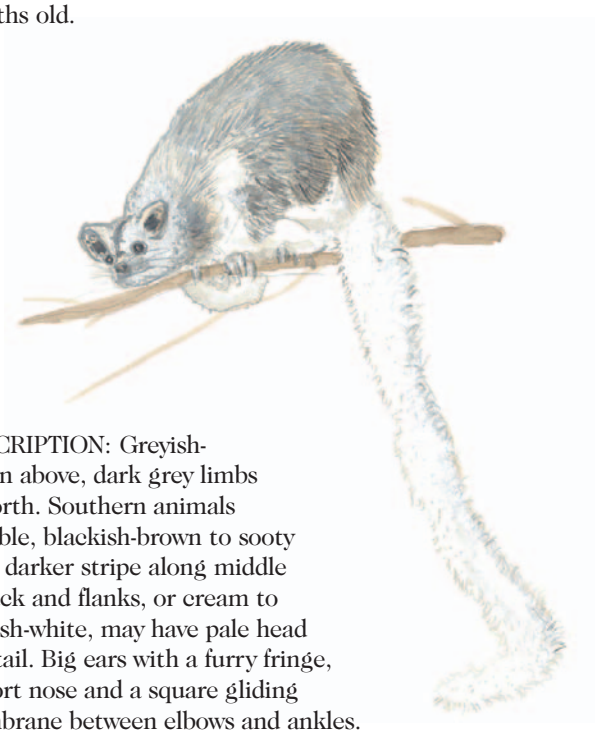
Greater Broad-nosed Bat

LATIN NAME: *Scoteanax rueppellii* (Peters, 1866)
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Scoteanax* - "darkness-chief"; *rueppellii* - "named after W. P. E. S. Rüppell, German zoologist"
FOOD: Insects, bats, mice and other small vertebrates.
HABITAT: Wet sclerophyll forests, rainforests and moist gullies.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 80-95 mm Tail: 40-55 mm Forearm: 50-56 mm; 23-35 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active at night and after sunset, roosting by day in tree-holes and buildings. They are aggressive to other bats. This species flies slowly and directly in the understorey of forests and over water, feeding on large, slow-flying insects and other small bats and mice. They have good vision and navigate and detect insects using echo-location.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. A single young is born in January and suckles from a teat in the mother's armpit.

DESCRIPTION: Largest of the Australian Broad-nosed bats with long, soft and dark fur, reddish-brown above, slightly paler below. It has a broad head which has a squarish outline if viewed from above and a thinly-haired muzzle with glandular swellings. The forehead is low, eyes small and the ears broadly curved with a narrow pointed lobe partially covering the opening. The tail is enclosed in the tail-membrane. This species has only two upper incisor teeth, distinguishing it from the externally similar Great Pipistrelle which occurs in the same area and has four upper incisors. Synonyms: *Scoteinus ruppellii*; *Nycticeius ruppellii*; Rüppell's Broad-nosed Bat.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, Vic.

Greater Glider

LATIN NAME: *Petauroides volans* (Kerr, 1792)
SUBSPECIES: *P. v. volans*, Vic to Tropic of Capricorn; *P. v. minor*, north of Tropic.
FAMILY NAME: Pseudocheiridae
MEANING: *Petauroides* - "Petaurus-like"; *volans* - "flying"
FOOD: Eucalypt leaves and buds. They can exist without drinking.
HABITAT: Wet and dry sclerophyll forests and tall woodlands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 350-450 mm Tail: 450-600 mm; 0.9-1.8 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Active at night, emerge from tree hollows at dusk to follow established routes to feeding sites. Solitary, pairs share dens during mating season until young leave pouch. Home ranges of 1-6 ha are scent-marked. Males have exclusive access to several females by defending area around home range. Agile climbers, can glide more than 100 m by extending limbs, bringing paws under chin. Clumsy loping gait on ground.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature at 18 months, males at 12 months. Mating Feb to May. Single young attaches to one of two teats in forward-opening pouch for 75 days. Leave pouch at 5 months, then rides mother's back or left in den until 9 months old.



DESCRIPTION: Greyish-brown above, dark grey limbs in north. Southern animals variable, blackish-brown to sooty grey, darker stripe along middle of back and flanks, or cream to greyish-white, may have pale head and tail. Big ears with a furry fringe, a short nose and a square gliding membrane between elbows and ankles. Tail long, bushy and pendulous. First two digits of forefeet oppose other three. Hindfeet have an opposing first toe; second and third joined with a double claw. Synonyms: *Schoinobates volans*; Greater Flying Phalanger; Dusky Glider; Greater Glider-possum; Squirrel.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, Vic.

Greater Long-eared Bat

LATIN NAME: *Nyctophilus timoriensis* (Geoffroy, 1806)
SUBSPECIES: *Nyctophilus timoriensis timoriensis*, mainland Australia; *Nyctophilus timoriensis sherrini*, Tasmania.
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Nyctophilus* - "night-lover"; *timoriensis* - "from Timor"
FOOD: Large insects
HABITAT: Semi-arid to arid temperate woodland, particularly in vegetation fringing watercourses.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body:60-80 mm Tail: 40-50 mm; 11-20 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, roosting by day in tree-holes and under loose bark. With a slow and deliberate flight it is even able to hover. It hunts large insects among the trees at the edges of rivers and creeks and over the water.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. It probably gives birth (perhaps to two young) from January to March.

DESCRIPTION: Light brown or tawny-brown above and greyish-brown below. Eyes are large and ears are long, connected by a low vertical membrane arising from the top of the head. The snout is short and bears a small, horseshoe-shaped noseleaf, seldom more than a ridge. The tail is enclosed in the tail-membrane. Synonyms: *Nyctophilus major*.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, SA, Tas, Vic, WA

Greater Stick-nest Rat

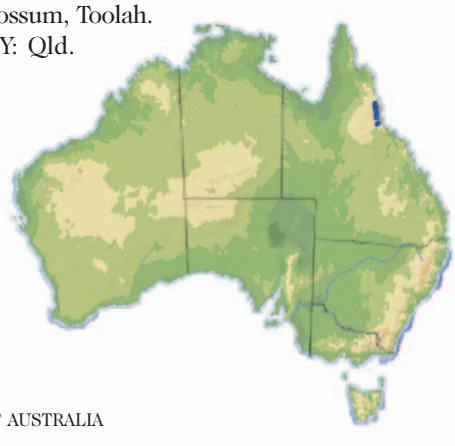
LATIN NAME: *Leporillus conditor* (Sturt, 1848)
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Leporillus* - "little-hare"; *conditor* - "builder"
FOOD: Succulent plants and some grasses.
HABITAT: Warm temperate to cool temperate arid woodland.
STATUS: Endangered
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 170-260 mm Tail: 140-180 mm; 180-450 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sheltering by day in a nest within a large structure of branches and leaves (often exceeding 2 cubic metres) which has been maintained and added to by successive generations. Ten to 20 individuals may inhabit the stick-nest. Where appropriate sticks and branches are not available, they may dig burrows or utilise those made by other animals. A placid rodent. They rest in a hunched posture similar to that of a rabbit.
DEVELOPMENT: Mating probably occurs from March to June. The female usually rears 1 or 2 young which attach themselves to the teats and are dragged about by the mother. Young become independent at about 4 weeks.

DESCRIPTION: The species has disappeared from the mainland and the only known population is on Franklin Island in the Nuyts Archipelago. It has thick, soft fluffy fur, grey to grey-brown and grey or creamy white below. The tail is grey to brown, thinly-haired with overlapping scales. They have one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *Leporillus jonesi*; House-building Rat; Large Stick-nest Rat; Stick-nest Rat; Franklin Island Stick-nest Rat; Franklin Island House-building Rat.
LOCALITY: SA

Green Ringtail Possum

LATIN NAME: *Pseudochirops archeri* (Collett, 1884)
FAMILY NAME: Pseudocheiridae
MEANING: *Pseudochirops* - "Pseudocheirus-like"; *archeri* - "Archer", the Archer family, living near Rockhampton, befriended C. Lumholtz, describer of the species
FOOD: Leaves, preferably of fig trees.
HABITAT: Dense upland tropical rainforest above 300 m.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 340-380 mm Tail: 310-330 mm; 1.1-1.4 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Usually active at night, sometimes feeding during the day, they sleep upright on an exposed branch curled into a tight ball with tail between the hindlegs and coiled under chin. Most active time is spent in canopy where they move with surprising speed and agility, they avoid leaping. They move quadrupedally on ground. Mostly solitary, seen in pairs occasionally, probably when mating or accompanied by their young.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 12 months, they breed all year with a peak from July to November, giving birth to a single young that attaches to one of the two teats in the mother's forward-opening pouch. They ride on the mother's back after leaving the pouch.

DESCRIPTION: A rabbit-sized arboreal marsupial with thick soft fur, greyish green to lime-green above with two silvery-yellow stripes from shoulders to the rump on each side of the spine. White below with white patches around eyes and ears. The pointed head has a pink nose, protruding eyes, small curved ears. The relatively short prehensile tail has a thick base and tapers to a slender tip that is curled up when not in use. First two digits of the forefeet oppose the other three. Hindfeet have an opposing first toe; second and third are joined with a double claw. Synonyms: *Pseudocheirus archeri*; Striped Ringtail Possum, Toolah.
LOCALITY: Qld.



Grey-bellied Dunnart

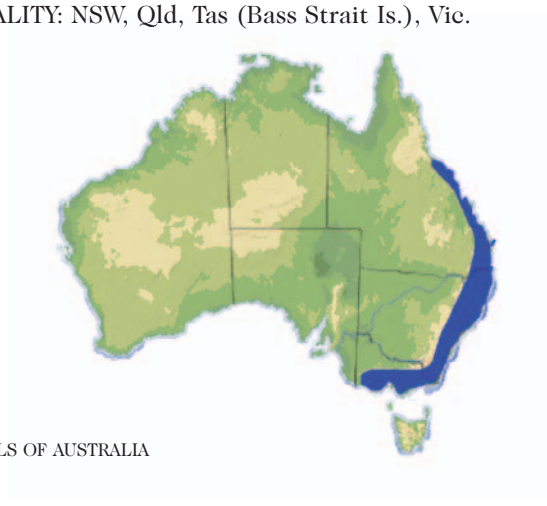
LATIN NAME: *Sminthopsis griseoventer griseoventer* Kitchener, Stoddart and Henry, 1984
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Sminthopsis* - "mouse-appearance"; *griseoventer* - "grey-bellied"
FOOD: Invertebrates, mice, lizards and soft fruits.
HABITAT: Warm-temperate to cool-temperate well-watered to semi-arid eucalypt woodland, mallee, banksia scrub and heathland.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 69-88 mm Tail: 56-66 mm; 18-27 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, active in the early and late parts of the night. It forages for prey under leaf litter, locating it by a combination of all senses, particularly smell. Prey longer than 3 centimetres is preferred and is held in the forepaws before being killed.
DEVELOPMENT: Males and females are sexually active at about one year and can live to two and a half years. Breeding occurs in winter and spring. Females give birth to one litter a year and up to eight young are born. They are in the pouch for five weeks, thereafter left in a nest lined with leaf litter just under the soil surface and emerge at ten weeks.

DESCRIPTION: Fur is long and fluffy. Dark, tipped light grey anteriorly and slightly darker on back and flanks. Olive-grey below, tipped with light grey, giving a grizzled appearance. Synonyms: *Sminthopsis murina* (part).
LOCALITY: WA

Grey-headed Flying-fox

LATIN NAME: *Pteropus poliocephalus* Temminck, 1825
FAMILY NAME: Pteropodidae
MEANING: *Pteropus* - "wing-foot"; *poliocephalus* - "grey-headed"
FOOD: Eucalypt blossom and nectar, fruits. They can drink seawater.
HABITAT: Wet and dry sclerophyll forests, mangroves.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 230-280 mm Forearm: 138-164 mm; 0.46-1.05 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, roosting in large trees, hanging from their feet with head pointing forward and wings wrapped around the body. During summer, camps of up to 5,000 are formed. Males use secretions from shoulder glands to attract females and mark territories which they define by fighting, slapping their folded wings against their sides and shrieking. Young adults and older males move to edges of the camp to keep guard. Pregnant females form maternity camps in September, rejoined by males after giving birth. In the south juveniles form winter camps with a few adults. Others disperse to live alone or in small nomadic groups. Navigate by sight and avoid complete darkness.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 18 months, they mate in March and April. A single young is born in September and October and suckles from a teat in the mother's armpit, clinging to her fur and carried for 3-4 weeks until well-furred. They are then left in the camp at night. They can fly at 8-10 weeks and are independent by 4 months.

DESCRIPTION: Has long fur, dark brown above, grey below often flecked with white or yellow-brown. Fox-like head is light grey with a reddish brown mantle around neck. Thick leg fur extends to ankle. Darker winter fur after moulting in June. Eyes large, ears simple, they lack a tail. First and second fingers are clawed. Synonyms: Grey-headed Fruit-bat.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, Tas (Bass Strait Is.), Vic.



Hairy-footed Dunnart

LATIN NAME: *Sminthopsis hirtipes* Thomas, 1898
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Sminthopsis* - “mouse-appearance”; *hirtipes* - “hairy-footed”
FOOD: Insects and their larvae.
HABITAT: Sandy arid to semi-arid low open woodlands, shrublands and hummock grasslands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 70-85 mm Tail: 75-95 mm; 14-20 g
BEHAVIOUR: Unknown
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. Lactating females have been found in February and April, suggesting a summer breeding season, although it is likely that the breeding season relates to rainfall with population increases after sufficient rain. Females have 6 teats enclosed in a circular pouch with a central opening.

DESCRIPTION: A small, mouse-sized carnivorous marsupial of the drier regions. Little-studied partly because of the unsuccessful collecting techniques used. The fur is yellowish-brown to grey-brown above and light grey to white below. The base of the tail is slightly swollen. The feet are unusual, being broad and long (16-19 mm) with fat digits covered with fine silvery hairs forming a fringe around the sole. The hairs are thought to help them walk on soft sand. The head is long with a narrow pointed muzzle, large ears and large protruding eyes. Synonyms: Fringe-footed Sminthopsis; Hairy-footed Pouched Mouse.
LOCALITY: NT, SA, WA, Qld

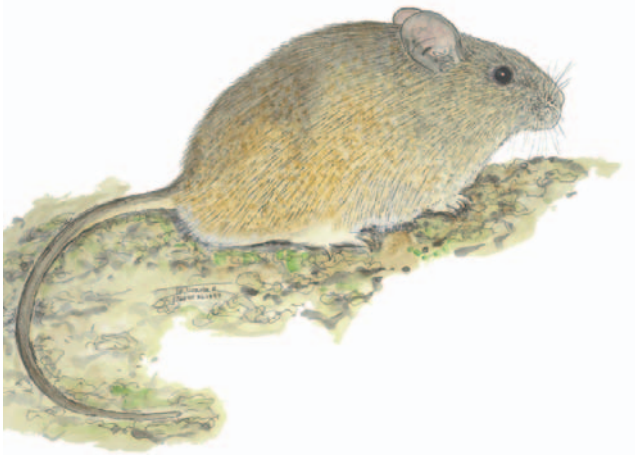
Hastings River Mouse

LATIN NAME: *Pseudomys oralis* Thomas, 1921
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Pseudomys* - “false-mouse”; *oralis* - “notable-mouth”
FOOD: Seeds
HABITAT: Well-watered sclerophyll forest, often with bracken understorey.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 130-170 mm Tail: 110-150 mm; 90-100 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day, probably in a nest at the end of a burrow.
DEVELOPMENT: Breeding seems to be opportunistic. Pregnant or lactating females have been recorded in all months from June to February. Two or three young are usually born.

DESCRIPTION: This is a large member of the genus, about 5 times the weight of a House Mouse. A plump mouse with a blunt muzzle and many long whiskers. The fur is brownish-grey above and creamy white below. The tail is grey with overlapping scales. Their feet are distinctly white. The pinkish-grey ears are short and curved, the eyes large and protruding. They have one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms*: Pseudomys australis oralis*.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld.

Heath Rat

LATIN NAME: *Pseudomys shortridgei* (Thomas, 1907)
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Pseudomys* - "false-mouse"; *shortridgei* - "named after G. C. Shortridge, British naturalist"
FOOD: Seeds, berries, flowers, stems and leaves of grasses, sedges and other vegetation. Underground fungi in winter.
HABITAT: Cool temperate dry heathlands.
STATUS: Endangered
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 90-120 mm Tail: 80-110 mm; 55-90 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly nocturnal, although it may also be active during part of the day. It sleeps in a nest which may be built above ground among vegetation or in a burrow made by another animal. It colonises suitable areas as these begin to regenerate after a fire; populations decline as regeneration slows down.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexual maturity is reached at about 11 months. Breeding occurs from about October to January. Females usually rear about 3 young in a litter. One or 2 litters may be produced in a year.

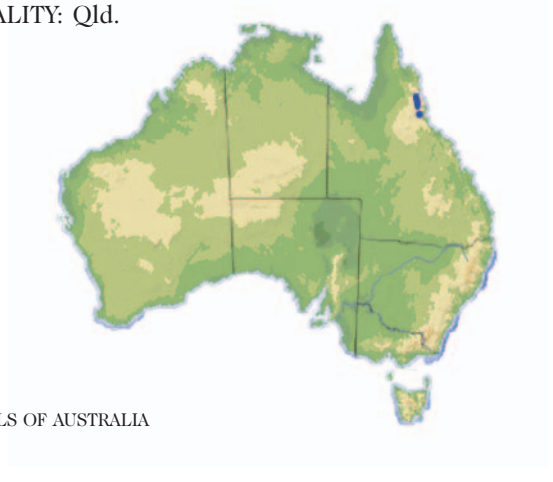


DESCRIPTION: Although almost rat-sized (and referred to by some as the Heath Rat), the Heath Mouse is a typical member of its genus. The fur is grey-brown, sometimes grizzled, with long dark hairs above and grey-white below. They have one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw.
Synonyms: Blunt-faced Rat; Blunt-faced Mouse; Shortridge's Native Mouse; Heath Mouse.
LOCALITY: Vic, WA, SA

Herbert River Ringtail Possum

LATIN NAME: *Pseudochirulus herbertensis* (Collett, 1884)
FAMILY NAME: Pseudocheiridae
MEANING: *Pseudochirulus* - "little-Pseudocheirus"; *herbertensis* - "Herbert (River)"
FOOD: Leaves, flowers and fruits.
HABITAT: Rainforest above 300 m and occasionally tall open eucalypt forest.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 300-380 mm Tail: 325-395 mm; 0.7-1.5 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping in tree hollows, fern clumps or dense vegetation by day, sometimes making spherical nests using shredded bark or other vegetation. Solitary, agile, cautious climbers, making small, careful leaps through the canopy. On the ground they walk quadrupedally. Vocalisations consist of quiet clicks, grunts and screeches.
DEVELOPMENT: Mating occurs from April to December with a peak in May-June, usually producing one litter of twins each year. Newborn attach to the two developed teats in the forward-opening pouch which they leave at 115-120 days. They ride on the mother's back for 2 weeks and are left in the nest until weaned at 150-160 days.

DESCRIPTION: The northern race of this arboreal marsupial are pale fawn above with a dark stripe along the head and a creamy white belly. The southern race are dark brown to black above and white below, usually with a white eye ring and white-tipped tail. They have a long pointed face, small curved ears, protruding eyes and a narrow, tapering, prehensile tail carried in a coil. The first two fingers of the forefeet oppose the other three. The hindfeet have an opposing first toe, the second and third are joined with a double claw. Synonyms: *Pseudocheirus herbertensis*; Mongan.
LOCALITY: Qld.



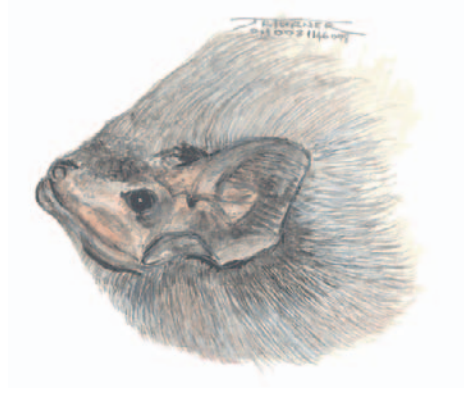
Herbert's Rock-wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Petrogale herberti* Thomas, 1926
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Petrogale* - "rock-weasel"; *herberti* - "Herbert's"
FOOD: Leaves, sedges, ferns, roots, bark, fruits and grasses.
HABITAT: Rocky sites in sclerophyll forests with a grassy understorey.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 470-615 mm Tail: 510-660 mm; 3.7-6.7 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sheltering in caves, rocky crevices.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied.

DESCRIPTION: Grey-brown above, darker on face and shoulders; buff to white below. Indistinct pale cheek-stripe, distinct black dorsal stripe from forehead to beyond shoulders. Ears black on exterior, buff inside. Blackish axillary patch. White side-stripe from axillary patch to thighs. Forearms and legs brown; forepaws and feet dark brown to black.
LOCALITY: Qld.

Hill's Sheathtail-bat

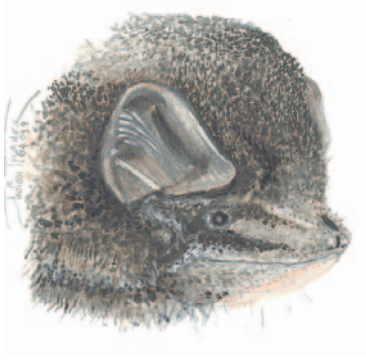
LATIN NAME: *Taphozous hilli* Kitchener, 1980
FAMILY NAME: Emballonuridae
MEANING: *Taphozous* - "tomb-dweller"; *hilli* - "named after J. E. Hill, British authority on bats"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Arid and semi-arid woodlands in rocky, hilly country.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 63-75 mm Tail: 25-35 mm Forearm: 63-72 mm; 20-25 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active at night, roosting in small colonies of up to 25 caves, rock crevices and mine shafts in the twilight zone, grasping crab-like to the walls. When alarmed they scuttle quickly around the walls and hide in gaps. Their vision is excellent and they navigate and detect insects by echo-location, emitting high-pitched sounds through the mouth while flying quickly above and around trees.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. Females give birth to a single young between December and April. Newborn suckle from a teat in the mother's armpit.



DESCRIPTION: Sometimes seen roosting with the Common Sheathtail-bat, Hill's Sheathtail-bat is a slightly different colour and the males have a small throat pouch. The fur is rich clove-brown fur above and graduates to light brown on the rump. Underside fur is light buff tipped with olive-brown. The wings are greyish-brown and the forearms are curved lacking wing pockets. The tail projects through the tail-membrane and slides freely for increased hindlimb movement. The face is dog-like with large ridged ears with a prominent lobe partially covering ear opening. Synonyms: Slender-toothed Sheathtail-bat.
LOCALITY: NT, SA, WA

Hoary Wattled Bat

LATIN NAME: *Chalinolobus nigrogriseus* (Gould, 1856)
SUBSPECIES: *C. n. nigrogriseus*, New Guinea, Cape York to Clarence River, NSW; *C. n. rogersi*, WA, NT and western Queensland.
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Chalinolobus* - "bridle-lobe"; *nigrogriseus* - "black-grey"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Wet sclerophyll forests, rainforests, woodlands, heath and scrub areas around sand dunes.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 45-55 mm Tail: 35-45 mm Forearm: 30-40 mm; 7-10 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, roosting by day in rock crevices and tree-holes. One of the first bats to emerge after sunset, they fly at a moderate speed with great manoeuvrability below canopy or over shrubs, feeding on moths and other insects from bark of trees or on ground. Good vision, navigate and detect insects using echo-location.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. Two young are born in mid-summer. Newborn suckle from teats in the mother's armpits and are weaned in January.



DESCRIPTION: This species is a little smaller than the Chocolate Wattled Bat and is characterised by white tips to its woolly dark grey fur. The Australian population is a subspecies of a New Guinean species. Forehead is high and the head foreshortened. Relatively short rounded ears with a small horizontal lobe extending from bottom of ear. It has small eyes and tail is enclosed in the tail-membrane.
Synonyms: Eastern Wattled Bat, Pied Bat, Blackish-grey Bat (*C. n. nigrogrisues*); Hoary Bat, Frosted Bat (*C. n. rogersi*).
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, WA

Hog Deer

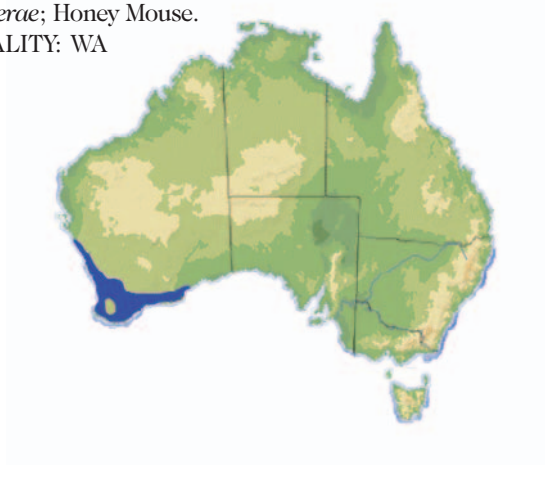
LATIN NAME: *Axis porcinus* (Zimmermann, 1780)
SUBSPECIES: Australian population is *A. p. porcinus*, from India and Sri Lanka.
FAMILY NAME: Cervidae
MEANING: *Axis* - "deer"; *porcinus* - "pig-like"
FOOD: Grasses and native shrubs.
HABITAT: Tropical to cool temperate swampy woodland.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 1.2-1.4 m Tail: 120-140 mm; 25-45 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Feeds late in the afternoon and continues intermittently until early morning. It lives solitarily or in small herds, preferring thick, grassy jungle and forest margins with ample humidity, seldom far from water into which it may flee when disturbed. Males very aggressive at mating time, attacking almost any moving object and even stationary objects such as trees.
DEVELOPMENT: Most mating appears to take place in February and March. The gestation period is 28 to 32 weeks and twins are rare.

DESCRIPTION: Introduced to Vic, NSW in 1860s and has become established in coastal scrubland and swamps in southern Gippsland. The Hog Deer bears no resemblance to a pig except for its rather short legs, which makes it look more robust and stout, and its preference for swampy areas. Males have smaller and rather simple antlers. Yellowish to reddish-brown above, darker below; sometimes pale cream spotting in summer; dark brown in winter coat. Tail quite long, white below and at tip. Antlers 30-35 cm long. One brow tine and terminal fork; additional tines in older animals. Synonyms: Para.
LOCALITY: Vic.

Honey Possum

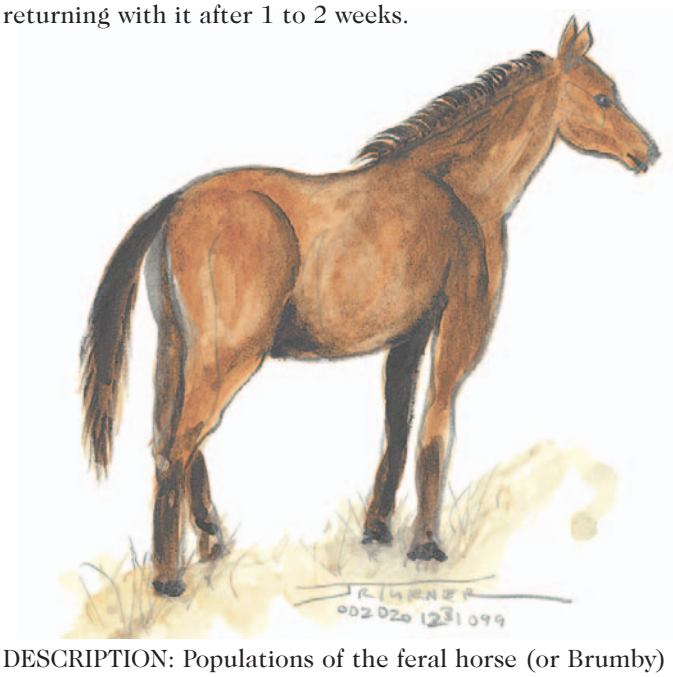
LATIN NAME: *Tarsipes rostratus* Gervais and Verraux, 1842
FAMILY NAME: Tarsipedidae
MEANING: *Tarsipes* - "tarsier-foot"; *rostratus* - "long-snouted"
FOOD: Pollen and nectar.
HABITAT: Sandplain heaths and shrublands with suitable flowering plants.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 40-95 mm Tail: 45-110 mm; 7-22 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, sleep in tree hollows, crevices or disused bird nests. May share nests for warmth, torpid for short periods if food scarce. Largest female is dominant over group members, including males to which she is most aggressive. Home ranges of about 1 ha. Agile and fast, dart rapidly between blossoms, can walk below branches and climb vertically. Move quadrupedally on ground with tail straight out behind.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 6 months breeding most of year, producing 2-3 litters of up to 4 young, born 21-28 days after mating. Newborn are smallest mammalian weighing about 5 mg. Has 4 teats in the forward-opening pouch, emerge at 65 days then ride on mother's back. Weaned at 90 days then independent. Live 1-2 years.

DESCRIPTION: Is mouse-sized, a very long muzzle, a long, brush-tipped tongue to probe into flowers. Fur, light brown to grey with three dark longitudinal stripes along back, cream below. Eyes near top of head, ears rounded. Strongly prehensile tail is long, thin, sparsely furred. Teeth are rudimentary pegs with 2 long pointed lower incisors. Hands and feet have opposing first digits and large rough pads, second and third toes of hindfeet are joined, claws reduced to small nails. Synonyms: *T. spenserae*; *T. spencerae*; Honey Mouse.
LOCALITY: WA

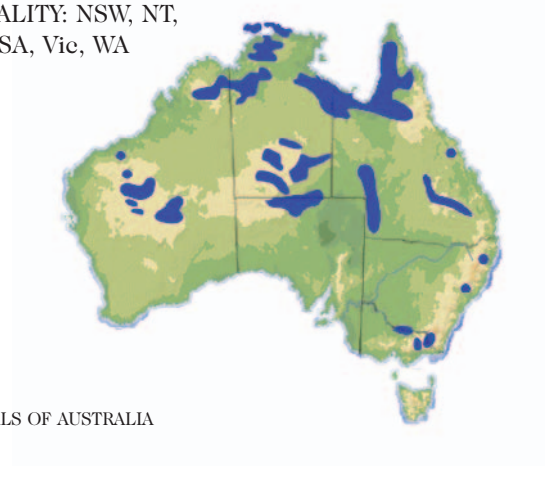


Horse

LATIN NAME: *Equus caballus* Linnaeus, 1758
FAMILY NAME: Equidae
MEANING: *Equus* - "horse"; *caballus* - "horse"
FOOD: Grasses
HABITAT: Mainly grassland but also open woodland (including sub-alpine areas), with access to drinking water.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: to 2 m Tail: to 400 mm; 200-300 kg
BEHAVIOUR: A social animal, moving in groups comprising a dominant male, up to six mature females and their immature offspring. Mature males are ejected from the parental group and lead a solitary existence until they are able to make a successful challenge for domination of an established group. When a female reaches maturity she may remain in the parental group or join another. Temporary aggregations of up to 100 may form where food is plentiful or water is short. The Horse is primarily a grazer but may browse to a limited extent. They require drinking water at intervals of no more than four days.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature at 18 to 24 months; males rarely mate until at least 5 years old. After a pregnancy of 47 to 48 weeks, a female separates from the social group and gives birth to a single young in seclusion, returning with it after 1 to 2 weeks.

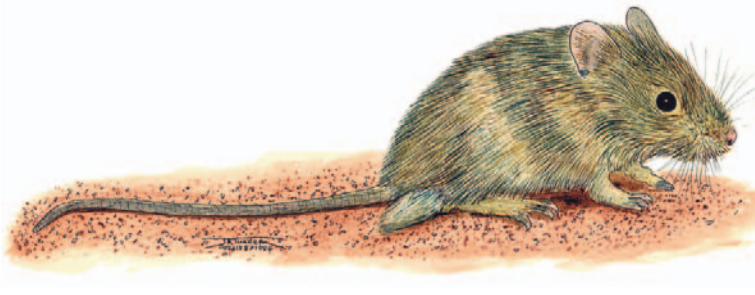


DESCRIPTION: Populations of the feral horse (or Brumby) are derived from stock that have escaped or have been deliberately let loose to breed since the late 18th century. They are grazing animals which crop grasses with their upper and lower incisor teeth. The feet of horses are reduced to a single (third) toe, which bears a large hoof.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Vic, WA



House Mouse

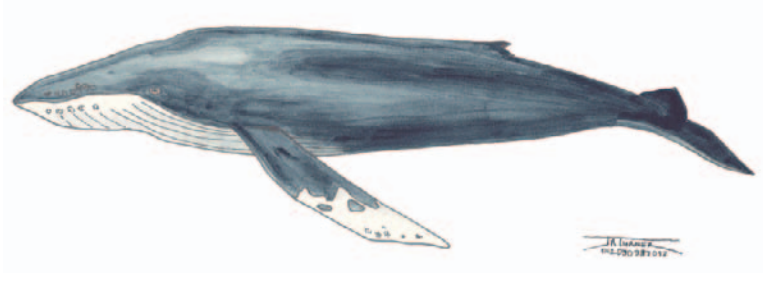
LATIN NAME: *Mus musculus* Linnaeus, 1758
SUBSPECIES: Four or five subspecies. Australian form *M. m. domesticus*.
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Mus* - "mouse-like"; *musculus* - "mouse"
FOOD: Seeds, fruits, fungi, insects and household scraps.
HABITAT: Most habitats, from deserts to wetter coastal areas.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 60-100 mm Tail: 75-100 mm; 10-25 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in nests of shredded material placed in secluded places in buildings, reed beds, cracks in the ground or at the centre of complex shallow burrow systems with several narrow tunnels and entrances. In buildings they live in small groups of related individuals and defend a fixed territory of about 6 m diameter against outsiders. Young adults are forced to disperse. Movements are slow, although they can move quickly and climb easily using their sharp claws. They are poor swimmers.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 7-8 weeks, breed all year, rearing up to 11 litters of 5-8 per year. Females mate soon after giving birth, embryo remaining dormant for up to 18 days if lactating. Pregnancy lasts 19-20 days, open eyes at 12 days, independent at 18 days.



DESCRIPTION: One of the most adaptable mammals in the world, probably originating in central Asia and accompanied humans to Australia. Fur is soft and thick, to 7 mm long, brownish-grey above and white to grey or pale yellow below. Ears large and curved, eyes protruding, tail thinly-haired with overlapping scales. Have a distinctive musty smell, inner surface of the upper incisors is notched, one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth, three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: Mus domesticus.
LOCALITY: Macquarie Is., NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Tas, Vic, WA

Humpback Whale

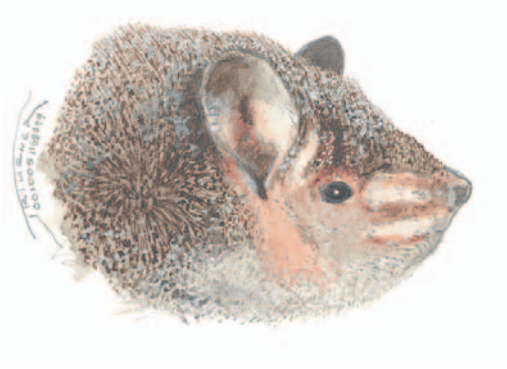
LATIN NAME: *Megaptera novaeangliae* (Borowski 1781)
FAMILY NAME: Balaenopteridae
MEANING: *Megaptera* - *novaeangliae* - "from New England coast of U.S.A."
FOOD: Small schooling fish and krill, rounded up by blowing a spray of bubbles around them and lunging into the school with the mouth open.
HABITAT: Coastal waters.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: 11-15 m; to about 65 tonnes
BEHAVIOUR: They migrate in winter from feeding grounds in the polar seas to subtropical and tropical breeding areas off the east and west coasts of Australia and other parts of the world. Males announce their arrival by singing a similar song with patterns of yups, cries and chirps, lasting 6-35 minutes. This is repeated day and night and changes each year. Males gather around females and often fight to determine which will mate with a particular female. Can swim at 4-10 kph, surfacing for 3-6 minutes between dives and can leap out of the water and roll in mid-air. Echo-location is used in dark, murky waters.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 4-5 years and can live to 30 years or more, mating every 2-3 years. A single calf is born 11.5 months after mating and is 4.3 m in length. It is weaned at 7 months and stays with the mother for 2-3 years.



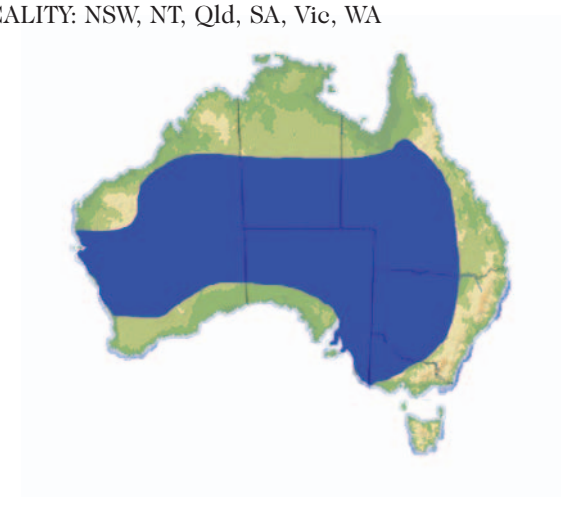
DESCRIPTION: A large marine mammal, grey-black on sides, underside and throat are usually black and white. Stocky body with a humpback and long flippers with knobs on trailing edges. Dorsal fin can vary from a small protuberance to a sickle-shaped fin. Head is wide and round, flattened above with barnacle-encrusted knobs on jaw and 270-400 short baleen plates on each side of upper jaw. These plates are used to sieve food from water.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, NT, WA, Tas, Vic

Inland Broad-nosed Bat

LATIN NAME: *Scotorepens balstoni* (Thomas, 1906)
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Scotorepens* - "dark-creeper"; *balstoni* - "named after W. E. Balston"
FOOD: Mosquitoes and other flying insects.
HABITAT: Arid woodlands and mallee near permanent water.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 50-65 mm Tail: 25-37 mm
Forearm: 30-38 mm; 7-14 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active at night and shortly after sunset, roosting by day in tree hollows, crevices and abandoned buildings, in small colonies often sharing roosts with larger colonies of the Little Mastiff-bat. Quick, agile predators of small flying insects, generally over or near to inland rivers or lakes. It usually drinks by skimming over the water surface. They have good vision and navigate and detect insects using echo-location.
DEVELOPMENT: Mating occurs around early May. One or two young are born in November. Newborn suckle from teats in the mother's armpits, clinging to mother until about 10 days old, then left in creche until independent at about 5 weeks.



DESCRIPTION: Found in dry inland areas, aggressive, variably coloured from grey to grey-brown, light brown or dark brown above, paler below. Head is broad with a low forehead and squarish outline viewed from above. Wide, thinly-haired muzzle has glandular swellings and slightly projecting nostrils. Bottom lip has a V-shaped cleft. Eyes are small and the ears broadly curved with a short rounded lobe partially covering the opening. The tail is enclosed in the tail-membrane and is arched under the body at rest and in flight. This species has only two upper incisor teeth.
Synonyms: *Nycticeius balstoni*; *Scoteinus balstoni*; *Scoteinus balstoni caprenus*; Western Broad-nosed Bat.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Vic, WA



Inland Forest Bat

LATIN NAME: *Vespadelus baverstocki* Kitchener, Jones and Caputi, 1987
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Vespadelus* - "hidden-bat"; *baverstocki* - "Baverstock's"
FOOD: Moths
HABITAT: Grassland, savanna and shrubland.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 36-43 mm Tail: 26-34 mm
Forearm: 26-32 mm; 3-6 g
BEHAVIOUR: Roosts by day in small tree-hollows, trees only a few metres high and sometimes abandoned buildings. It flies quickly and is sufficiently manoeuvrable to chase moths that may try to avoid capture. Colonies can range in size from a few to as many as 50 individuals. Females congregate in colonies in early summer to raise young. Males are excluded from these except for mating visits.
DEVELOPMENT: A single young in carried by its mother until it becomes too heavy for her flight and is then left in the roost.

DESCRIPTION: Fur soft sandy brown dorsally; much paler ventrally where the hair shafts are bi-coloured; dark brown at the base with cream or very soft brown tips. Skin of ears and membranes pale grey. A pale tragus is notable, as is the funnel-shaped glands of the penis.
LOCALITY: WA, NT, Qld, NSW, Vic, SA

Julia Creek Dunnart

LATIN NAME: *Sminthopsis douglasi* Archer, 1979
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Sminthopsis* - "mouse-appearance"; *douglasi* - "named after A. Douglas, Australian naturalist"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Probably sub-tropical woodland with dense grass cover.
STATUS: Endangered
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 130-135 mm Tail: 120-130 mm; 40-70 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, probably resting in the maze of underground cavities provided by the grass-coovered, cracking brown soils of the region.
DEVELOPMENT: The only female to be collected had six young on seven teats. In captivity, breeding may occur throughout the year. Young reach sexual maturity when 17-27 weeks old (females) and 28-31 weeks (males).

DESCRIPTION: This species is the largest of Sminthopsis. Brown, speckled with grey above; buff white below. Distinct face-stripe, dark hairs in ring around eyes. Rufous hairs on cheeks and at base of ears. Fattened, tapering tail slightly shorter than head and body; dark hairs towards tip.
LOCALITY: Qld.

Kakadu Dunnart

LATIN NAME: *Sminthopsis bindi* Van Dyck, Woinarski and Press, 1994
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Sminthopsis* - "mouse-appearance"; *bindi* - "small dasyurid"
FOOD: Unknown; captives have eaten moths, crickets and caterpillars.
HABITAT: Hilly areas with woodlands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 52-84 mm Tail: 61-105 mm; 12-14 g
BEHAVIOUR: Little is known. Shelters in a small burrow.
DEVELOPMENT: Unknown. Young have been reported in February, March and November and pouch young in October.

DESCRIPTION: Soft grey above, a dark eye ring and a pale area above the eye. Occasionally a poorly defined, darker head stripe. The species does not seem to develop a swollen-based tail like many other dunnarts. Unfused interdigital pads on slim hindfeet with large striate apical granules.
LOCALITY: NT

Kakadu Pebble-mound Mouse

LATIN NAME: *Pseudomys calabyi* Kitchener and Humphreys, 1987
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Pseudomys* - "false-mouse"; *calabyi* - "Calaby's"
FOOD: Seeds
HABITAT: Gravelly slopes carrying an open woodland with tall grass understorey.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 68-95 mm Tail: 64-94 mm; 12-31 g
BEHAVIOUR: Little has been studied in the wild. Observations in captivity demonstrate that the species is a pebble-mound builder, surrounding and blocking its tunnel entrance with large collections of small stones and pebbles.
DEVELOPMENT: Little is known. Captive animals were prolific breeders, an initial pair producing seven litters (total 22 young) over a nine-month period.

DESCRIPTION: Similar in appearance to the Delicate Mouse but larger in size and a tail slightly shorter than head-body length. Greyish above, tinged pale orange on flanks; white below. Synonyms: *Pseudomys laborifex calabyi*; Calaby's Mouse.
LOCALITY: NT

Kangaroo Island Dunnart

LATIN NAME: *Sminthopsis aitkeni* Kitchener, Stoddart and Henry, 1984
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Sminthopsis* - "mouse-appearance"; *aitkeni* - "named after P. F. Aitken, Australian zoologist"
FOOD: Unknown
HABITAT: Cool-temerate mallee heath.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 80-90 mm Tail: 90-100 mm; 20-25 g
BEHAVIOUR: Unknown.
DEVELOPMENT: Unknown.

DESCRIPTION: Described in 1984 and known only from Kangaroo Island, South Australia. Dark grey above, lighter below. It has a slim, pointed muzzle and the tail is always longer than the body and never incrassated. Synonyms: *Sminthopsis murina*; Sooty Dunnart.
LOCALITY: SA (Kangaroo Is.)

Kimberley Mouse

LATIN NAME: *Pseudomys laborifex* Kitchener and Humphreys, 1986
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Pseudomys* - "false-mouse"; *laborifex* - "work-maker", referring to difficulty of finding specimens.
FOOD: Unknown, probably seeds and grasses.
HABITAT: Laterite plateaus dominated by open low woodlands; valley woodlands with a ground cover of spinifex and cane grass.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 58-76 mm Tail: 63-87 mm; 7-20 g
BEHAVIOUR: Unknown.
DEVELOPMENT: Females give birth towards the end of the dry season through to the early wet season. Two females with two and three near-term foetuses were collected in late August. Another collected in late November had recently given birth; it was lactating and had four uterine implantation scars. Males collected in January, February and September were actively producing sperm.

DESCRIPTION: Yellow-brown to grey-brown fur above and white or cream below. It is heavier than the Delicate Mouse and has a longer skull. Synonyms: Kimberley Pebble-mound Mouse.
LOCALITY: NT, WA

Kimberley Rock-rat

LATIN NAME: *Zyzomys woodwardi* (Thomas, 1909)
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Zyzomys* - "significance unknown"; *woodwardi* - "named after B. M. Woodward, first curator of the Western Australian Museum"
FOOD: Seeds of grasses and of rainforest trees.
HABITAT: Tropical monsoon forest, dry sclerophyll forest and pandanus scrubland over fractured rock, scree or rock-piles.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 121-166 mm Tail: 111-130 mm; 80-186 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nests in deep crevices among rocks.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at five to six weeks. Breeding occurs throughout the year with a peak in March but this can depend on rainfall. Females have four teats and rear one to three young, becoming independent at three to four weeks.

DESCRIPTION: Cinnamon brown above; grey tipped with white below. Tail very fragile, moderately furred and thickened towards the base. Patches of fur on the tail rub off easily to expose the skin and the tail is often missing. Synonyms: *Laomys woodwardi*; Large Rock-rat, Woodward's Thick-tailed Rat.
LOCALITY: WA

Koala

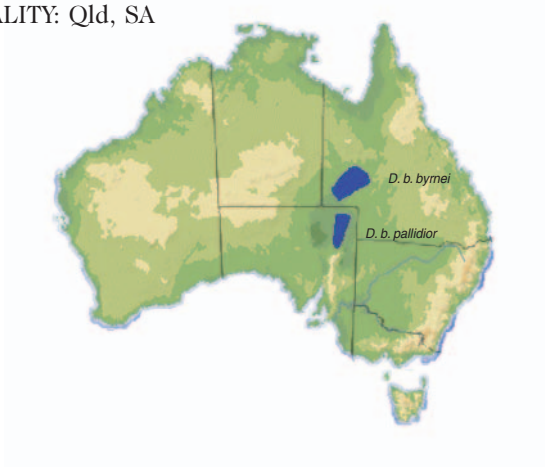
LATIN NAME: *Phascolarctos cinereus* (Goldfuss, 1817)
SUBSPECIES: *P. c. cinereus*, NSW; *P. c. adustus*, Qld; *P. c. victor*, Vic.
FAMILY NAME: Phascolarctidae
MEANING: *Phascolarctos* - "pouched-bear"; *cinereus* -"ash-coloured"
FOOD: Eucalypt leaves. They can survive without drinking in winter.
HABITAT: Eucalypt forests and woodlands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: 680-820 mm; 7-13.5 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, usually seen resting or feeding in upper branches of eucalypt trees. They are solitary and will sometimes attack other koalas in their home range (up to 240 m wide). Males use secretions from chest gland to mark a territory which may overlap that of a female. Juveniles disperse to find own home range at 2 years, then nomadic if no suitable area found. They climb slowly, grasping a tree trunk with forefeet, pulling the hindlimbs up. Can jump up to 2 m between branches. On ground they walk quadrupedally, run with bounding gait, can swim if necessary. Vocalisations include bellowing, high pitched yelps, soft grunts, snarls, wails and screams.
DEVELOPMENT: Females are sexually mature at 2 years and males at 3-4 years. Koalas mate in trees, giving birth to a single young (rarely two) from October to March, 34-36 days later. Newborn attach to one of two teats in rear-opening pouch, leave at 6-7 months and ride on mother's back until weaned at 12 months. Live 15 years most only 3-4 years.
DESCRIPTION: A short, stocky marsupial with fine woolly fur, light to dark grey above with brown and white patches and white to yellowish below. The head is broad and flat

with large hairy ears, a bare, flattened nose and small eyes. The tail is reduced to a stump. The limbs are long with long pointed claws. The first 2 fingers of the forefeet oppose the other three. The hindfeet have an opposing first toe, the second and third toes are joined with a double claw.
Synonyms: *Lipurus cinereus*; Koala Bear; Native Bear; Monkey Bear.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, SA, Vic.

Kowari

LATIN NAME: *Dasyuroides byrnei* Spencer, 1896
SUBSPECIES: *D. b. byrnei*, ne part of range; *D. b. pallidior*, sw part of range.
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Dasyuroides* - "Dasyurus-like (animal); *byrnei* - "after P. M. Byrne"
FOOD: Insects, small vertebrates and carrion. Can survive without drinking if food moist.
HABITAT: Stony deserts with sparse vegetation.
STATUS: Endangered
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 135-180 mm Tail: 110-140 mm; 70-140 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, they are active diggers, constructing or modifying a burrow for daytime shelter from heat. Sleep in nest lined with leaves and other vegetable matter, bask in the sun on winter days and become torpid for short periods when food is scarce. Solitary, they scent-mark home range with urine and secretions from chest gland. If defending they make a loud staccato chattering and threatening hiss accompanied by tail movements. Ground-dwellers, run with bounding gait, sitting up on hindlegs if disturbed.
DEVELOPMENT: Females breed in second year, mate May to Dec copulating up to 14 hours. May produce two litters of up to six young per year, born 30-35 days after mating. A shallow pouch forms leaving the six teats exposed. Newborn attach to teats, partially enclosed in pouch until 30 days old, then hang below mother, dragged around until detaching from teats at 3 weeks. Left in nest, cling to mother's back, weaned at 4 months.

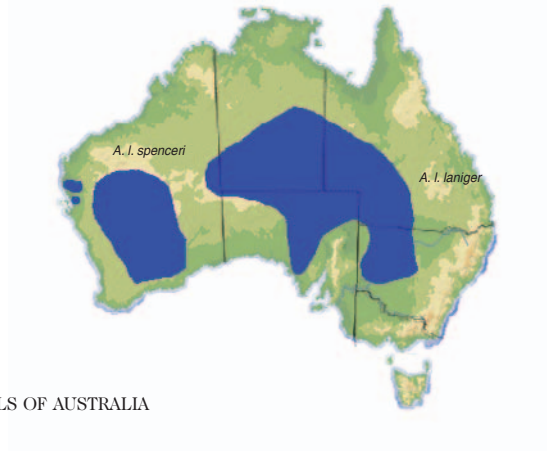
DESCRIPTION: Light grey-brown/sandy-brown above, often darker stripe on forehead, greyish-white below. Terminal half of tail has brush of dark brown hairs. Pointed head, large eyes, thin, sparsely-haired ears. Limbs long, four toes on hindfeet. Synonyms: Brush-tailed Marsupial Rat; Byrne's Crest-tailed Marsupial Rat; Bushy-tailed Marsupial Rat.
LOCALITY: Qld, SA



Kultarr

LATIN NAME: *Antechinomys laniger* (Gould, 1856)
SUBSPECIES: *A. l. laniger*, e Australia; *A. l. spenceri*, Central and Western Australia.
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Antechinomys* - "antechinus-mouse"; *laniger* - "wool-bearing"
FOOD: Insects and other small invertebrates.
HABITAT: Desert plains, arid and semi-arid grassland and scrubland.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 70-100 mm Tail: 100-150 mm; 20-40 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, they sleep by day under logs, rocks, grass tussocks, in cracks in the soil, in the burrows of other small animals, or they may dig shallow burrows, concealing the entrance with grass. Usually solitary, coming together during the mating season. They have a bounding gait, changing direction rapidly to escape predators and stand up on their hind legs if disturbed or enquiring.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 8 months, they breed from July to February. Females may produce more than 1 litter of 5 young per season. The newborn each attach to one of the mother's 6 or 8 teats and are partially enclosed in the rear-opening pouch for about 48 days. They are then left in the nest or ride on the mother's back while she forages for food, becoming independent at 3 months.

DESCRIPTION: This mouse-size carnivorous marsupial of the arid and semi-arid regions is fawn-grey to sandy brown above and white below, with a dark ring around the eye and a darker forehead. Long, thin tail with a bushy tip of darker hairs. Head large with protruding eyes and very large ears. Hind legs rather long with only four toes. Synonyms: *A. spenseri*; *Sminthopsis laniger*; Jerboa-marsupial, Jerboa Pouched-mouse; Jerboa Marsupial Mouse.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, WA



Lakeland Downs Mouse

LATIN NAME: *Leggadina lakedownensis* Watts, 1976
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Leggadina* - "little-Leggadina-like" (Leggada being a genus of Indian mice); *lakedownensis* - "from Lakeland Downs Station, northern Queensland"
FOOD: Grass seeds.
HABITAT: Wet tropical grassland and savannah.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 60-80 mm Tail: 40-50 mm; 15-20 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, it probably rests by day in a burrow but this has not been demonstrated. Its numbers may fluctuate greatly in response to the availability of grass seeds and green foods.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. It is probably capable of breeding throughout the year and of rearing a number of litters in rapid succession when food is abundant. Captive females have reared two to four young in a litter with a pregnancy of about 30 days. Females have four teats.

DESCRIPTION: This mammal is distinguished by its short stumpy tail, plump body and blunt muzzle with many long whiskers. The fur is rough and shiny, yellow-grey above with scattered dark hairs, pure white below and on the feet. The tail is grey above and white below with overlapping scales. The pinkish-grey ears are short and curved, the eyes large and protruding. They have one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: Tropical Short-tailed Mouse.
LOCALITY: Qld, NT, WA

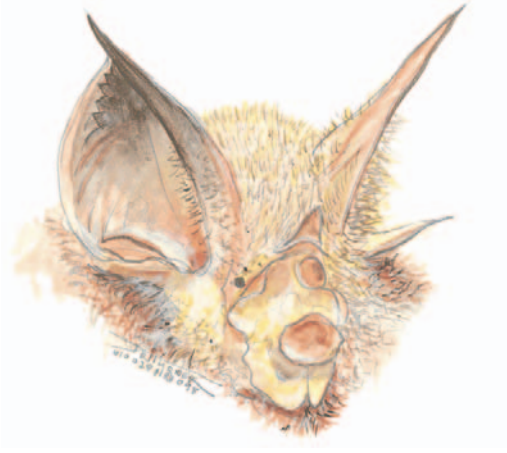
Large-eared Flying-fox

LATIN NAME: *Pteropus macrotis* Peters, 1867
SUBSPECIES: *Pteropus macrotis macrotis*, Indonesia and New Guinea; *Pteropus macrotis epularis*, Torres Strait Islands, coastal New Guinea.
FAMILY NAME: Pteropodidae
MEANING: *Pteropus* - "wing-foot"; *macrotis* - "large-eared"
FOOD: Flowers of the Coconut Palm, fruits and blossoms.
HABITAT: Mangrove-covered mud banks.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 197-217 mm Forearm: 136-142 mm; 315-142 mm
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, returning to a camp during the night or around dawn. Bats hang at all levels from the canopy to branches that are partly submerged at high tide.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. The subspecific name, *epularis*, refers to a tuft of hairs emerging from glandular tissue on the shoulder. An increase in size and secretory activity of this gland during the breeding season has been observed in other flying-foxes.

DESCRIPTION: Long known from New Guinea, this species has only recently been recorded from Australian territory in Torres Strait. Ears and long (31-37 mm) and pointed. Brownish fur all over head and body. Small size. Synonyms: *Pteropus epularis*; Sappur; Epauletted Flying-fox.
LOCALITY: Qld (Torres Stait Islands)

Large-eared Horseshoe-bat

LATIN NAME: *Rhinolophus philippinensis* Waterhouse, 1843
SUBSPECIES: Six subspecies are recognised. All Australian populations are *Rhinolophus philippinensis robertsi.*
FAMILY NAME: Rhinolophidae
MEANING: *Rhinolophus* - "nose-crest"; *philippinensis* - "Philippines"
FOOD: Large flying insects.
HABITAT: Tropical rainforest, vine thickets and adjacent sclerophyll forest.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 60-70 mm Tail: 30-40 mm Forearm: 50-60 mm; 8-15 g
BEHAVIOUR: Roosts by day in small, humid caves and mines, hanging individually from the ceiling. Does not appear to form large colonies. At night it flies slowly among the dense vegetation of the understorey or over water, hovering and then darting at its prey.
DEVELOPMENT: Females have a teat-like structure or a false teat in each groin, on which the single young bites firmly when being carried by its mother.



DESCRIPTION: Characterised by having the most elaborate and three-dimensional noseleaf of all the Australian horseshoe-bats. Grey-brown above, slightly lighter below. Very long ears (more than 20 mm) and forearms.
Synonyms: *Rhinolophus maros*.
LOCALITY: Qld.

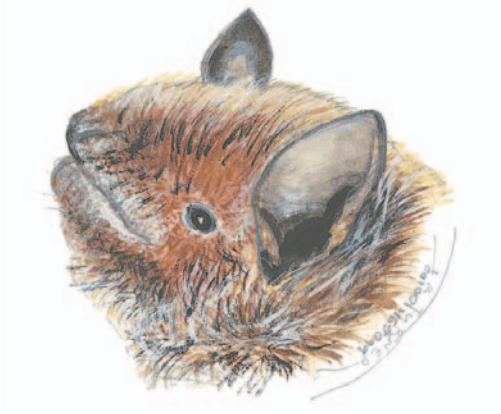
Large-eared Pied Bat

LATIN NAME: *Chalinolobus dwyeri* Ryan, 1966
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Chalinolobus* - "bridle-lobe"; *dwyeri* - "after P. D. Dwyer, Australian zoologist"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Dry sclerophyll forests and woodlands
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 45-55 mm Tail: 40-46 mm Forearm: 38-42 mm; 7-10 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active at night and after sunset, roosting by day in caves, abandoned mines or bottle-shaped mud nests of Fairy Martins forming mixed colonies during the breeding season. Females form nursery colonies in late spring and disband during autumn. Their short, broad wings allow a moderate flight speed and high manoeuvrability whilst foraging below the canopy for small flying insects. They probably hibernate in the southern part of their range during the coldest months when food is short. They have good vision and navigate and detect insects using echo-location.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature at 12 months and give birth to usually 2 young in November or December. Newborn suckle from teats in mother's armpits.

DESCRIPTION: Despite its common name, it is only marginally larger on average than Little Pied Bat and is characterised by woolly black fur and a white stripe along the flank, below the wing. The forehead is high and the muzzle short with glandular swellings. The ears have a horizontal lobe at the bottom that extends towards the corner of the mouth. A wide, curved lobe covers the base of the ear opening. The tail is enclosed in the tail-membrane.
Synonyms: Large Pied Bat.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld.

Large-footed Myotis

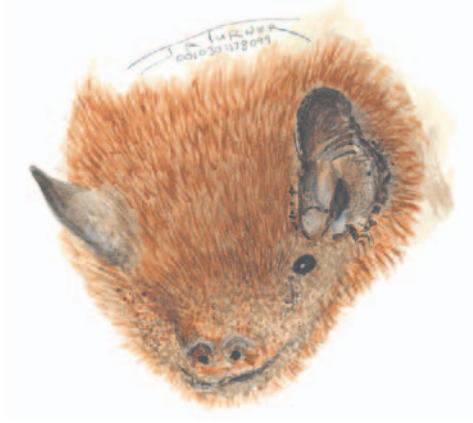
LATIN NAME: *Myotis adversus* (Morsfield, 1824)
SUBSPECIES: *M. a. macropus*, e Australia; *M. a. moluccarum*, n Australia.
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Myotis* - "mouse-ear"; *adversus* - "opposed"
FOOD: Insects and small fish.
HABITAT: Wet sclerophyll forests and rainforests near creeks and lakes.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 52-56 mm Tail: 36-42 mm Forearm: 36-41 mm; 7-12 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, roosting by day in caves, abandoned mines or in dense rainforest foliage and dead pandanus leaves. They gather in colonies of 10 to several 100. Males establish and defend a territory shared with a harem of several females during the breeding season. At night, they usually hunt in pairs, flying over bodies of water, dipping claws of hindfeet just below the surface to catch aquatic insects and small fish that are sensed by echo-location.
DEVELOPMENT: Females give birth to a single young in November or December in the cool temperate part of ranges. In southern Qld they give birth in October and again in January. In subtropics breeding is continuous producing three litters. Newborn suckle from teats in mother's armpits, remaining with her for 4 weeks after weaning until independent.



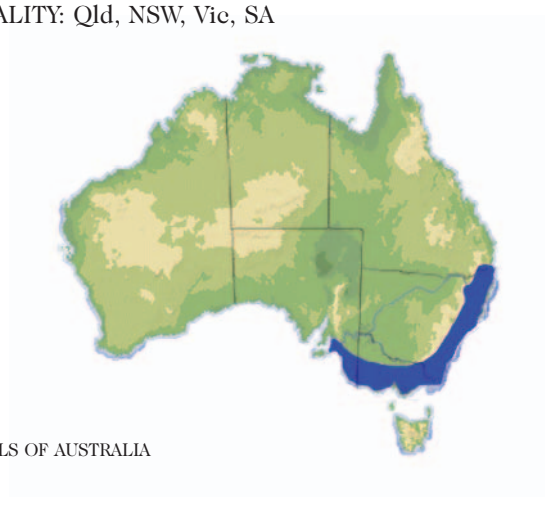
DESCRIPTION: A small coastal bat with grey-brown to dark brown fur above, slightly lighter below, frosted with silver-grey on chest. Older bats become ginger. Albinism and partial albinism often seen. Ears are large funnel-shaped with long pointed lobe partially covering opening. Feet large with very long ankle bone. Tail enclosed in tail-membrane. Synonyms: *M. macropus*; *Vespertilio macropus*; Large-footed Mouse-eared Bat.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Vic, WA

Large Forest Bat

LATIN NAME: *Vespadelus darlingtoni* (Allen, 1933)
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Vespadelus* - "hidden-bat"; *darlingtoni* - "named after Dr Darlington"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Sclerophyll forests and woodlands, often near lakes.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 38-49 mm Tail: 29-38 mm Forearm: 31-37 mm; 5-8 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, roosting by day in tree-holes and unused buildings, alone or in colonies of up to 60 bats. In colder climates they hibernate from late autumn to early spring and emerge to feed on warm days when insects are plentiful. They feed below the canopy on small insects, catching these with rapid changes of direction. They have good vision and navigate and detect insects using echo-location.
DEVELOPMENT: Males produce sperm in spring and summer and store it until they mate. Females store the sperm over winter to fertilise their ova in early spring and give birth to a single young in Nov or Dec. Newborn suckle from a teat in the mother's armpit and are carried by her until too heavy. Left at the roost and weaned around Jan or Feb.



DESCRIPTION: A small, winged placental mammal with dark brown to rusty-red fur, becoming very dark brown to black in older bats. Fur has a brown base with light brown or grey tips. Ears and wings are dark brown to black. Forehead rises abruptly from the short muzzle and is well-furred. Ears are curved with a narrow lobe partly covering the opening. The tail is enclosed in the tail-membrane. Synonyms: *Eptesicus pumilus*; *Scotophilus pumilus*; *Eptesicus sagittula*; Large Forest Eptesicus; Large Forest Vespadelus.
LOCALITY: Qld, NSW, Vic, SA



Leadbeater's Possum

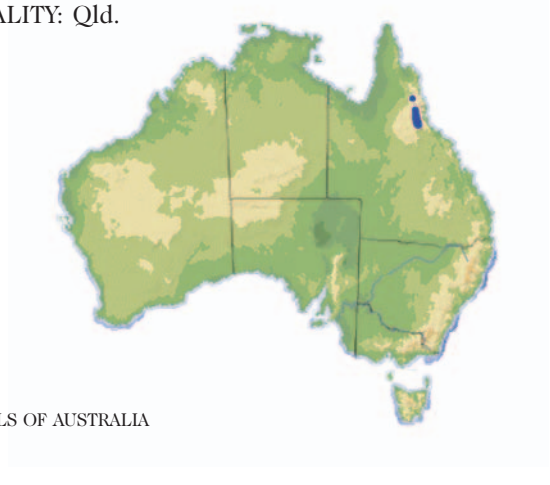
LATIN NAME: *Gymnobelideus leadbeateri* McCoy, 1867
FAMILY NAME: Petauridae
MEANING: *Gymnobelideus* - "naked-Belideus"; *leadbeateri* - " after J. Leadbeater foxidermist"
FOOD: Insects and their exudates and plant exudates.
HABITAT: Medium to high altitude sclerophyll forests/ dense shrubs, large old/dead trees.
STATUS: Endangered
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 150-170 mm Tail: 145-180 mm; 100-166 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, resting in a communal nest of shredded bark more than 250 mm across placed in a large tree hollow with a narrow entrance. Colonies comprise up to 8 animals with one monogamous breeding pair and their offspring. Females evicted by mother at 10 months, forced to disperse and establish new colony or join one which has lost its resident breeding female. Shy and secretive. Groom each other regularly, recognise each other by smell, aggressively defending territory of 1-2 ha. They climb smooth tree trunks easily and move quickly through canopy, making leaps of 1-2 m between trees.
DEVELOPMENT: Breed in all months except Jan and Feb, giving birth to 1-2 young, each attaching to one of four teats in mother's rear-opening pouch. Females independent at 10 months, males at 15 months. Forage alone after leaving nest and especially vulnerable to predation by owls.

DESCRIPTION: Thought extinct, this arboreal marsupial was rediscovered in 1961. Fur is soft, grey to greyish-brown above with a prominent dark brown stripe along the back, paler below. Tail is thick, broad, bushy at the tip. Ears thin, large and curved with a small white patch at the base. Have striated footpads, retractable claws. Synonyms: Fairy Possum.
LOCALITY: Vic.

Lemuroid Ringtail Possum

LATIN NAME: *Hemibelideus lemuroides* (Collett, 1884)
FAMILY NAME: Pseudocheiridae
MEANING: *Hemibelideus* - "half-Belideus", Belideus is a name once given to fluffy-tailed gliders of the genera Petaurus and Petauroides; *lemuroides* - "lemur-like"
FOOD: They feed mainly on leaves, supplemented by flowers and fruits.
HABITAT: Upland tropical rainforest above 450 m.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 310-350 mm Tail: 335-375 mm; 0.8-1.3 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, they are quite gregarious, often seen in pairs or family groups. Family groups may share den located in a tree hollow. Noisy animals, leaping 2-3 m through canopy with legs outstretched like a glider, crashing into foliage. Emit loud screams and wails, produce a musky-smelling, sticky, creamy-coloured secretion from anal glands when handled. Move quadrupedally on ground. The Carpet Python is a known predator.
DEVELOPMENT: Breed June to Nov, single young attaches to one of two teats in well-developed forward-opening pouch. Rides on mother's back after emerging from pouch. Young apart from mother signals distress with thin, high-pitched, hissing squeak.

DESCRIPTION: Soft fur, dark charcoal-grey above, sometimes brownish on shoulders, lighter below with yellowish tinge. Face short, roman nose, small ears. Eyes shine brilliant silvery-yellow at night. Long prehensile tail is bushy, slightly tapered with short, naked, finger-like tip, coiled when not in use. Hands are grasping with first two digits opposing other three. Hindfeet have an opposing first toe, second and third toes are joined to form a single digit with two claws. Synonyms: *Pseudocheirus lemuroides*; Brush-tipped Ringtail Possum; Lemur-like Ringtail Possum.
LOCALITY: Qld.



Leopard Seal

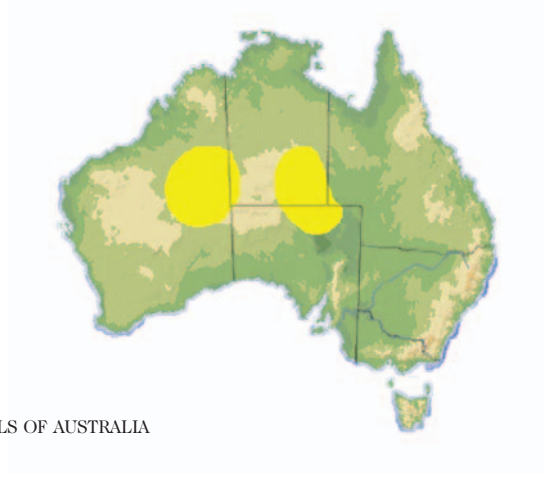
LATIN NAME: *Hydrurga leptonyx* (de Blainville, 1820)
FAMILY NAME: Phocidae
MEANING: *Hydrurga* - "water"; *leptonyx* - "narrow-claw"
FOOD: Krill, fish, cephalopdos, penguins, the young of other seals and carrion. They toss penguins around biting off the flesh and leaving the skin.
HABITAT: Antarctic and subantarctic seas.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Males to 3 m Females to 3.6 m; Males to 270 kg Females to 450 kg
BEHAVIOUR: They rest, moult and breed on land, moving caterpillar-like, heaving with the whole body and swim quickly with up-and-down strokes of the webbed hindlimbs. Solitary and aggressive. Adults live and breed in summer on the outer edges of the pack-ice and range north in winter. Juveniles disperse widely and poor specimens are sometimes stranded from August to October along the Australian coast. Vocalisations include a throaty alarm call, gurgles, grunts, chirps and whistles.
DEVELOPMENT: Females are sexually mature at 2-7 years, males at 3-6 years. They mate from November to March after weaning their young. The embryo remains dormant for some 3 months and takes another 7-8 months to develop. A single pup is born from September to January and is suckled for about 4 weeks.

DESCRIPTION: The head is reptilian-like with wide gaping jaws and a narrow neck. Long slim body is dark grey above and lighter below with grey or black spots on the sides and throat. Juveniles have a dark stripe on back and dark spots below. No external ear and have distinctive three-pronged cheek teeth. Forelimbs are flippers, webbed hindlegs are turned backwards and act as tail flukes for underwater propulsion. Synonyms: Sea Leopard.
LOCALITY: Antarctica, Antarctic Islands, NSW, SA, Tas, Vic, WA

Lesser Bilby

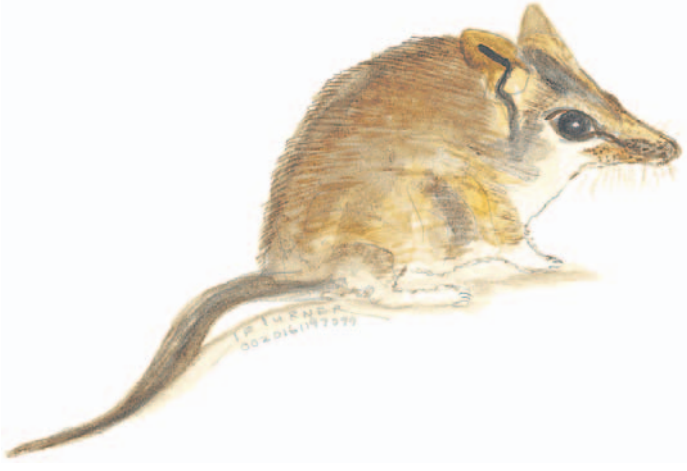
LATIN NAME: *Macrotis leucura* (Thomas, 1887)
FAMILY NAME: Peramelidae
MEANING: *Macrotis* - "big-ear"; *leucura* - "white-tailed"
FOOD: Rodents, seeds and vegetation.
HABITAT: Desert sandhills.
STATUS: Extinct
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 200-270 mm Tail: 120-170 mm; 311-435 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, it rested by day in a deep burrow, but the entrance was sealed with sand when the animal was inside during the day. Females dug from burrows were either alone or with dependent young. A fierce predator.
DEVELOPMENT: Females had 8 teats in two rows of four in a backwardly directed pouch and are reported to have reared 2 young at a time.

DESCRIPTION: Similar in body shape to the Bilby, but much smaller in weight. A delicately-built rabbit-size marsupial, with long, soft, silky fur, fawn to brown on the back, sandy-brown on the flanks and the end of the muzzle, whitish below and on the tip of the tail which had a crest of hairs. A narrow head with large rabbit-like ears, a long pointed snout and a long slender tongue. The short forelimbs had no first digit, the others were long with strong curved claws. The hindfeet were long with a very large strongly-clawed fourth toe, the second and third toes were joined with a double claw. It appears to have become extinct in the 1930s. Synonyms: *Macrotis minor*; *Thylacomys minor*; *Thylacomys leucurus*; Lesser Rabbit-eared Bandicoot; Yallara; Lesser Rabbit Bandicoot, White-tailed Bilby.
LOCALITY: WA, NT, SA, Qld



Lesser Hairy-footed Dunnart

LATIN NAME: *Sminthopsis youngsoni* McKenzie and Archer, 1982
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Sminthopsis* - "mouse-appearance"; *youngsoni* - "Youngson's"
FOOD: Insects and other small invertebrates.
HABITAT: Arid tropical sand plains and dunes with tussock or hummock grasses.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 66-71 mm Tail: 62-68 mm; 8.5-12.0 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal foraging for insects in sandy environments. Its tail fattens during good seasons.
DEVELOPMENT: Pregnant females have been recorded in September and females with five to six pouch-young from September to January. Independent juveniles have been captured from November to February. Females have six teats and can carry six pouch-young.



DESCRIPTION: Brownish-yellow above; white below. Broad feet covered with fine, silvery hairs on soles and fringes on its hindfeet which help it to move on fine sand. Synonyms: Desert Dunnart.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, WA

Lesser Long-eared Bat

LATIN NAME: *Nyctophilus geoffroyi* Leach, 1821
SUBSPECIES: *N. g. geoffroyi*, WA; *N. G. pallescens*, n SA and *N. g. pacificus*, eastern mainland, Tasmania.
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Nyctophilus* - "night-lover"; *geoffroyi* -" after E. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire"
FOOD: Flying and terrestrial insects.
HABITAT: All habitats except tropical and subtropical rainforests.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 40-50 mm Tail: 20-25 mm Forearm: 30-45 mm; 4-13 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, roosting by day in tree-holes and under bark, in caves and in human constructions; extremely adaptable. At night forages for small flying insects, often close to the ground or flying slowly with great manoeuvrability in the understorey. Excellent vision, navigating and detecting insects by echo-location, emitting high-pitched calls from mouth. In southern part of range animals may become torpid in winter, do not hibernate. Pregnant females segregate into maternity colonies in spring, may include adult males in some locations. Disband in autumn when young are independent.
DEVELOPMENT: Males produce sperm in summer and store it until mating in autumn. Females store this sperm through the winter, fertilising their ova in early spring and giving birth usually to two young from September to November. Newborn suckle from teats in the mother's armpits and are carried until well-furred then weaned at about 8 weeks.

DESCRIPTION: This small, insectivorous mammal has long fluffy fur, light grey-brown above, paler below. Eyes small, the long, ribbed ears joined above head. Has a distinct Y-shaped noseleaf, tail enclosed in tail-membrane. Synonyms: Geoffroy's Long-eared Bat.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Tas, Vic, WA

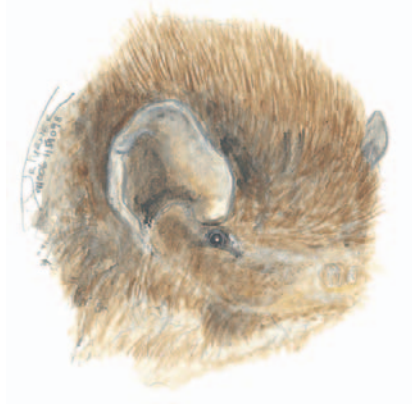
Lesser Stick-nest Rat

LATIN NAME: *Leporillus apicalis* (Gould, 1853)
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Leporillus* - "little-hare"; *apicalis* - "tipped", referring to the white-tipped tail
FOOD: Succulent plants and some grasses.
HABITAT: Arid woodland and shrubland.
STATUS: Extinct
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 170-200 mm Tail: 220-240 mm; Up to 150 g
BEHAVIOUR: Little is known. Probably similar to that of the Greater Stick-nest Rat. Nocturnal, sheltering by day in a nest within a large structure of branches and leaves (often exceeding 2 cubic metres) which had been maintained and added to by successive generations. Ten to 20 individuals may inhabit the stick-nest. Where appropriate sticks and branches were not available, they may have dug burrows or utilised those made by other animals.
DEVELOPMENT: Mating probably occurred from March to June. The female usually reared one or two young which attached themselves to the teats and were dragged around by the mother. Young became independent at about 4 weeks.

DESCRIPTION: This recently extinct species was last collected in 1933. It had thick, soft fur, grey to grey-brown and grey or cream below. The tail was grey to brown, thinly-haired with overlapping scales. They had one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: White-tipped Hapalotis; White-tipped House-builiding Rat; White-tipped Stick-nest Rat; White-tailed Stick-nest Rat.
LOCALITY: WA, NT, SA

Little Bentwing Bat

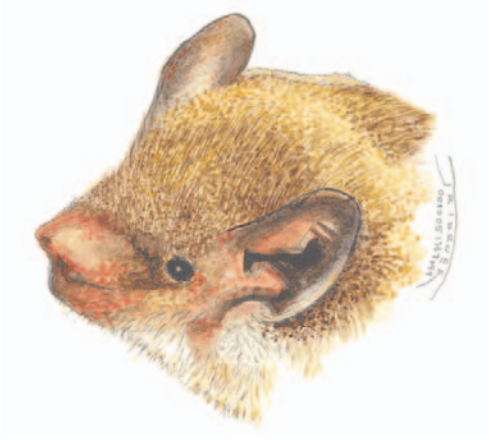
LATIN NAME: *Miniopteris australis* (Tomes, 1858)
SUBSPECIES: There are three subspecies. The Australian form is *M. a. australis*.
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Miniopteris* - "small-wing"; *australis* -"southern"
FOOD: Flying insects
HABITAT: Wet and dry sclerophyll forests and rainforests.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 43-48 mm Tail: 47-48 mm Forearm: 36-40 mm; 7-8 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, roosting in caves, mines or tunnels and human constructions hanging from the roof or walls. Colonies of up to 100,000 or more form in early spring. Most males disperse in summer leaving maternity colonies of females and their young. In winter they occupy cool caves in the south and become torpid. They have good vision and navigate and detect insects by echo-location flying slowly below the forest canopy.
DEVELOPMENT: Mating occurs mostly in August, a single young is born in December and suckles from the teat in the mother's armpit until weaned in February.



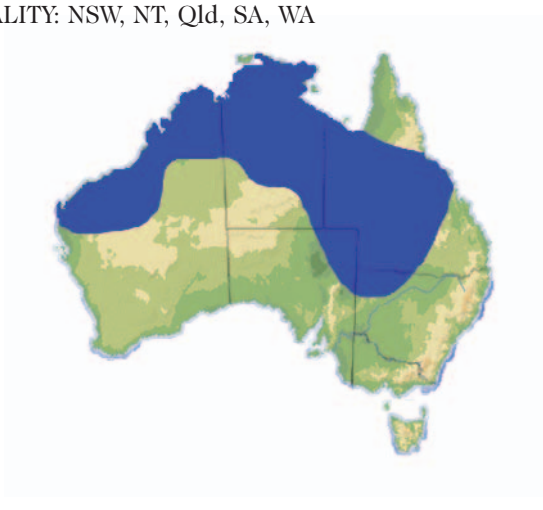
DESCRIPTION: This species is similar to the Common Bent-wing Bat but significantly smaller. Named for the very long terminal segment of the third finger (which supports the tip of the wing membrane) that is bent under the wing at rest. Greyish-black to fawn brown above and paler below. After moulting early in the year, the fur gradually becomes browner. The forehead is high and well-furred, the muzzle short. The tail is enclosed in the tail-membrane and folded under the body at rest. Synonyms: Tomes' Bat.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld.

Little Broad-nosed Bat

LATIN NAME: *Scotorepens greyii* (Gray, 1843)
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Scotorepens* - "dark-creeper"; *greyii* - "after G. Grey, English explorer"
FOOD: Flying insects
HABITAT: Wet and dry sclerophyll forests and woodlands, arid areas, sand dunes and plains.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 45-55 mm Tail: 25-40 mm
Forearm: 28-34 mm; 4-12 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active at night and shortly after sunset, roosting by day in tree hollows, hollow fence posts, crevices and buildings with up to 20 other bats. Fly quickly with darting movements, feed mainly over waterholes, creeks skimming surface of water to drink. Have good vision, navigate, detect insects using echo-location.
DEVELOPMENT: Little studied. Mating in April in southern ranges and later in the tropics. Females give birth to two young in Dec, they suckle from teats in mother's armpits.



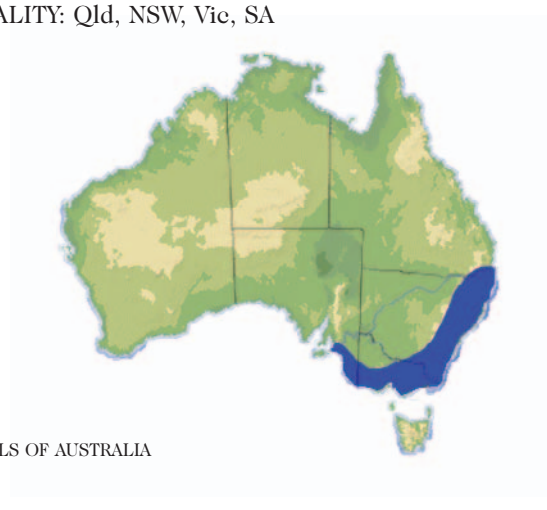
DESCRIPTION: This aggressive species, closely related to Inland Broad-nosed Bat, with which its range overlaps. Long soft fur, chestnut-brown, grey-brown, sandy-brown or ginger above, ofter paler below. Head is broad, low forehead and squarish outline which probably assists it to roost in narrow crevices. Thinly-haired muzzle has glandular swellings, slightly projecting nostrils. Eyes small, ears broadly curved with a rounded lobe partially covering opening. Tail protrudes slightly from tail-membrane. Has two upper incisor teeth, distinguishing it from externally similar Inland Eptesicus which occurs in same area, has four upper incisors, the first two being forked. Synonyms: *Scoteinus greyii*; *Scotophilus greyii*; *Scotorepens balstoni caprenus*; *Nycticeius greyii*; Grey's Bat.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, WA



Little Forest Bat

LATIN NAME: *Vespadelus vulturnus* (Thomas, 1914)
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Vespadelus* - "hidden-bat"; *vulturnus* - "vulture-like"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Sclerophyll forests and woodlands
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 35-48 mm Tail: 27-34 mm
Forearm: 25-31 mm; 3-6 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, roosting by day in tree-holes or old buildings, alone or in colonies of up to 50, hanging from walls or backs of other bats. Both sexes roost together in winter and hibernate in colder months. Females form maternity colonies in early summer. They hunt flying below canopy in a fluttering flight with rapid turns and pounces as it catches larger flying insects. Good vision, navigate, detect insects using echo-location.
DEVELOPMENT: Males produce sperm in spring and summer and store it until they mate. Females mate with visiting males soon after giving birth. Females store the sperm over winter to fertilise their ova in early spring and give birth to a single young in Nov or Dec. Newborn suckle from a teat in mother's armpit and are carried by her until too heavy. They are then left at roost and weaned at 9 weeks.

DESCRIPTION: Dark to mid-grey back, sometimes tinged with brown, a grey underside sometimes flecked with white. Skin on upper forearms is lighter grey than on wing membranes. Head is foreshortened, high forehead, a small furred muzzle. Ears curved with narrow translucent white lobe partly covering opening. Tail enclosed in tail-membrane. Females larger. Synonyms: *Eptesicus vulturnus*; *Pipistrellus vulturnus*; *Eptesicus pumilus* (part); Small Forest Eptesicus; Little Bat; Little Brown Bat; Vulturine Little Bat.
LOCALITY: Qld, NSW, Vic, SA



Little Long-tailed Dunnart

LATIN NAME: *Sminthopsis dolichura* Kitchener, Stoddart and Henry, 1984
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Sminthopsis* - "mouse-appearance"; *dolichura* - "long-tailed"
FOOD: Beetles, spiders, crickets and geckoes.
HABITAT: Temperate semi-arid mallee, hummock grasslands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 70-80 mm Tail: 70-80 mm; 10-20 g
BEHAVIOUR: An active nocturnal hunter, subduing its prey with numerous rapid bites. Shelters by day in a nest of dry grass and leaves made within a hollow log, a grass tussock or grass-tree. Numbers become abundant three to four years after fire and may temporary displace other dunnart species.
DEVELOPMENT: Females are sexually active at eight to nine months old and may live up to two years. Males are sexually active at four to five months of age. Breeding occurs between August and March with females giving birth to one litter of up to eight young. They are independent when they weigh about 5 grams and disperse into a wide range of habitats.

DESCRIPTION: Pale to dark grey dorsally, with a thin, black eye-ring. Brownish patches on the face, cheeks and behind the ears. Ventral areas white. Ears long and naked. A thin tail, light grey above and white below. Synonyms: *Sminthopsis murina fuliginose* (part of s.w. Western Australia); *Sminthopsis murina murina* (South Australia).
LOCALITY: SA, WA

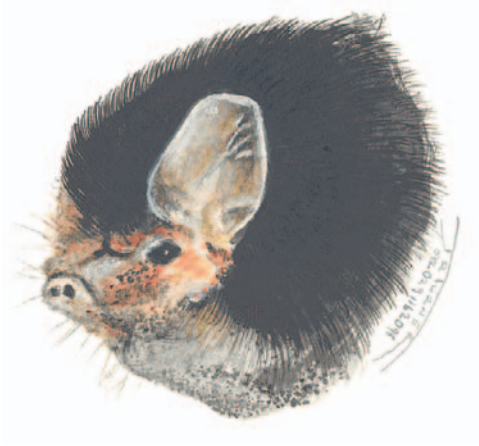
Little Northern Freetail-bat

LATIN NAME: *Mormopterus loriae* (Thomas, 1897)
SUBSPECIES: *M. l. loriae*, New Guinea; *M. l. ridei*, Qld and *M. l. coburgensis*, NT.
FAMILY NAME: Molossidae
MEANING: *Mormopterus* - "monster-wing, from Mormo, a Greek mythical monster"; *loriae* - "named after L. Loria, Italian naturalist"
FOOD: Flying and terrestrial insects.
HABITAT: Dry sclerophyll forests and woodlands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 40-55 mm Tail: 25-40 mm Forearm: 28-35 mm; 6-10 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, roosting alone or in colonies of several 100 bats by day in tree-holes, cracks and human constructions. They fly quickly, directly above forest canopy and over water, excellent eyesight and navigate and detect insects by echo-location, emitting high-pitched calls from mouth enabling them to detect insects up to 10 m away. Forage over creeks and waterholes and on ground scurrying around for crawling insects.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. A single young is born in December or January, suckling from a teat in the mother's armpit and weaned one month later.

DESCRIPTION: This small insectivorous bat is flattened from the side allowing it to hide in small crevices and fissures. Fur is soft, light brownish-grey with a whitish base both above and below. Ears are large and rounded and not joined above the head. Protruding upper lip is fringed with rigid hairs. Males have a neck pouch of unknown use. Feet have thick fleshy toes fringed with rigid, curled hairs. Tail protrudes well beyond tail-membrane. Synonyms: *Tadarida loriae*; *Mormopterus planiceps ridei*; *M. p. cobourgiana*; Little Northern Scurrying Bat; Little Scurrying Bat; New Guinea Scurrying Bat.
LOCALITY: WA, NT, Qld.

Little Pied Bat

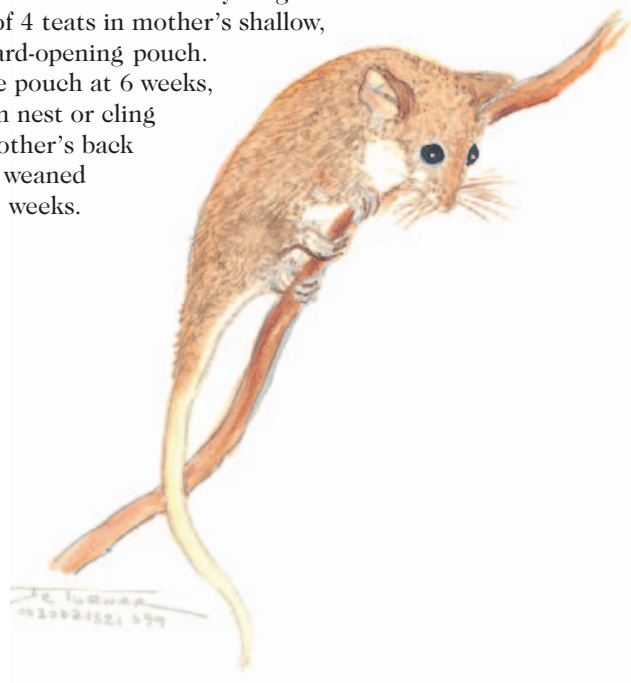
LATIN NAME: *Chalinolobus picatus* (Gould, 1852)
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Chalinolobus* - "bridle-lobe"; *picatus* - "pied"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Warm-temperate to tropical semi-arid to arid woodland.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 40-50 mm Tail: 30-40 mm Forearm: 31-36 mm; 4-8 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, roosting by day in caves or mines but also in tree-holes, under bark and in man-made constructions. It forages at night for small flying insects. Can fly low at moderate speed and is very manoeuvrable. Can deal with temperatures in excess of 40 degrees C, provided that water is available within flight range.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. Two young are born between November and January.



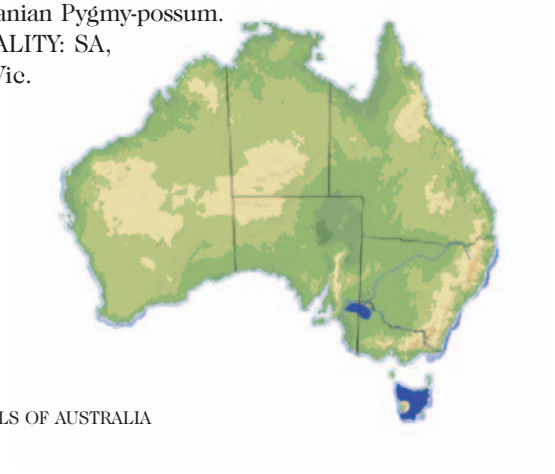
DESCRIPTION: The smallest Australian member of the genus. The name refers to lobes or wattles at the sides of the lower lip, roughly in position of the bit in the bridle of a horse. Shiny black fur on back extending to tail membrane; dark grey below with white fur along flanks forming a V-shape in the pubic area. The outer margin of the ear lies low down on the head, near the angle of the mouth.
Synonyms: *Scotophilus picatus*; Pied Bat.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, SA, Vic.

Little Pygmy-possum

LATIN NAME: *Cercartetus lepidus* (Thomas, 1888)
FAMILY NAME: Burramyidae
MEANING: *Cercartetus* - "possibly tail-in-air"; *lepidus* - "scaly (-tailed)"
FOOD: Insects, their larvae, pollen, small vertebrates. Prey caught with forepaws.
HABITAT: Mallee scrub, wet and dry sclerophyll forests and woodlands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 50-65 mm Tail: 60-75 mm; 6-9 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping in abandoned bird nests or in roughly constructed nests of grass, leaves or shredded bark in tree hollows or crevices, stumps, among stones or forest debris. Solitary and cryptic, they stay in the lower levels of the forest or in thick scrub. Fast, agile climbers using the tail as a fifth limb. In cold conditions they curl up in a tight ball and become torpid for up to 6 days if food is short. This lowers their body temperature to conserve energy and they can survive on fat stored in the tail.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature in first year, breed Aug to Jan. Two to three young are born and attach to one of 4 teats in mother's shallow, forward-opening pouch. Leave pouch at 6 weeks, left in nest or cling to mother's back until weaned at 12 weeks.



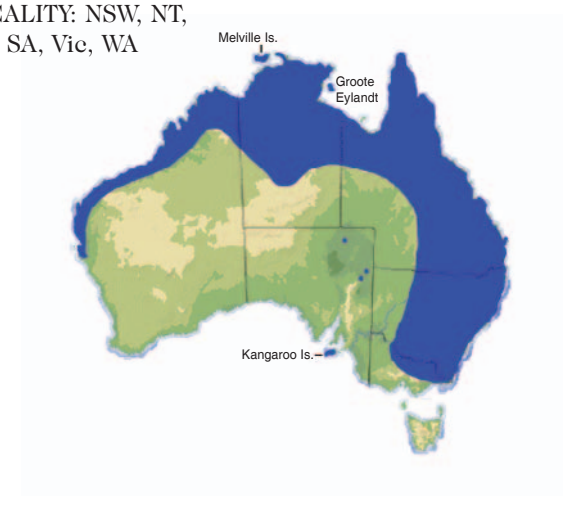
DESCRIPTION: The smallest of the possums, this mouse-sized arboreal marsupial is light grey-brown above and grey below with soft dense fur. Head is cone-shaped with broad oval ears and large eyes. Strongly prehensile tail tapers from a seasonally fat base to a sparsely-furred, pointed tip. Distinguished from mice by their grasping hindfeet which have an opposing first toe and joined second and third toes forming a single digit with two claws. Synonyms: *Dromicia lepida*; *Eudromicia lepida*; Tasmanian Pygmy-possum.
LOCALITY: SA, Tas, Vic.



Little Red Flying-fox

LATIN NAME: *Pteropus scapulatus* Peters, 1862
FAMILY NAME: Pteropodidae
MEANING: *Pteropus* - "wing-foot"; *scapulatus* - "shoulder (-marked)"
FOOD: Eucalypt blossom and nectar, fruits.
HABITAT: Rainforests, sclerophyll forests and woodlands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 195-235 mm Forearm: 120-145 mm; 200-605 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active at night and on overcast afternoons, they roost in trees, hanging by their feet with head pointing forward and wings wrapped around the body. Camps of up to one million (depending on food supply) form in Nov and Dec. Male-female pairs establish territories marked by secretions from the male's shoulder gland and juveniles form own groups in camps. Females form separate groups after mating, establish new camps or join those of other flying foxes. Camps disband around Feb. Highly nomadic, travelling long distances searching for blossoming trees. Navigate by sight, avoiding total darkness. Columns of bats often seen leaving camps at dusk.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 18 months, they mate in Dec and Jan. A single young is born in April or May and suckles from a teat in mother's armpit. Young carried until well-furred, then left at roost at night.

DESCRIPTION: Soft, short, thick fur, reddish-brown to yellowish-brown above, paler below, light brown to yellow collar around neck, areas of creamy-brown where wings meet shoulders, pale yellow hairs on underside of translucent wing membranes and bare legs. Fox-like head, large eyes, simple ears. No tail, first two fingers have claws. Synonyms: *P. elseyii*; Collared Flying-fox; Collared Fruit-bat; Little Red or Reddish Fruit-bat.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Vic, WA



Little Red Kaluta

LATIN NAME: *Dasykaluta rosamondae* (Ride, 1964)
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Dasykaluta* - "kaluta - [in family] - Dasyuridae"; kaluta is an Aboriginal name for the only known species in this genus; *rosamondae* - "Nyamal Aboriginal name, referring to red-haired Rosamond, mistress of Henry II"
FOOD: Insects and lizards.
HABITAT: Arid spinifex tussock country.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 90-110 mm Tail: 55-70 mm; 20-40 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly nocturnal, sleeping by day in shelter of spinifex tussock. Preys at night on insects and lizards. Inquisitive, with the habit of flicking its thick, tapering tail in the air as it investigates its surroundings.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexualy mature at about 11 months, mating in September. Females have eight teats and may carry up to eight young which become independent at about 16 weeks. All males die shortly after mating.

DESCRIPTION: This antechinus has thick reddish-brown fur on the sides, belly, rump and feet, white patches on the throat and belly. The head is long and pointed with protruding eyes and thin, crinkled ears. The hindfeet are very broad, retain a small first digit and have transversely striated pads. Synonyms: Russet Antechinus; Spinifex Antechinus; Little Red Antechinus.
LOCALITY: WA

Long-footed Potoroo

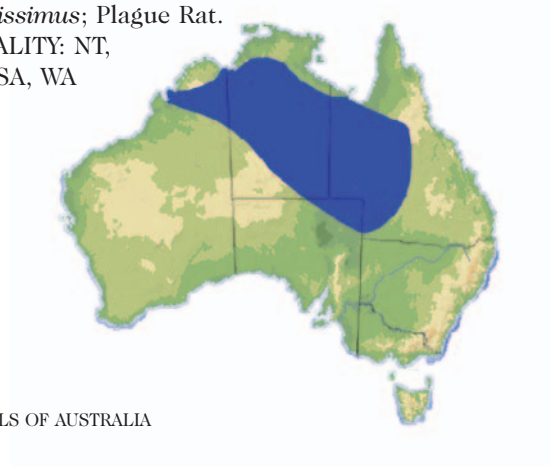
LATIN NAME: *Potorous longipes* Seebeck and Johnston, 1980
FAMILY NAME: Potoroidae
MEANING: *Potorous* - "potoroo" - Aboriginal name; *longipes* - "long-footed"
FOOD: Succulent roots, fungi and insect larvae.
HABITAT: Dry sclerophyll forest with dense understorey of shrubs and grasses.
STATUS: Endangered
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 380-420 mm Tail: 310-330 mm; 1.7-2.1 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping in nests of grass and other vegetation carried in the curled tail and placed in scrapes below dense scrub, grass tussocks or grass trees. They seek refuge in burrows of other animals during bush fires. Solitary and sedentary, they have overlapping home ranges of 5-10 ha, rarely venturing far from cover and sometimes gather in small groups. They move quickly with a bipedal hopping gait assisted occasionally by the forelimbs, especially when changing direction.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 18-24 months. Breeds throughout the year. It has four teats but only one young is reared at a time. Leaves the pouch at about 18 weeks, suckled at foot to age of about 21 weeks.

DESCRIPTION: The Long-footed Potoroo is closely related to the Long-nosed Potoroo but weighs about twice as much. Its hindfeet are proportionately, a little longer. It has a prehensile tail used to gather nesting material, well-developed upper canine teeth and upper and lower incisor teeth that bite against each other. The fur is grey to brown above and paler below. They have a long tapering nose with a bare tip, rounded ears and a scaly tail furry at the base. The forelimbs are short and muscular with forward-pointed toes with spatulate claws.
LOCALITY: NSW, Vic.

Long-haired Rat

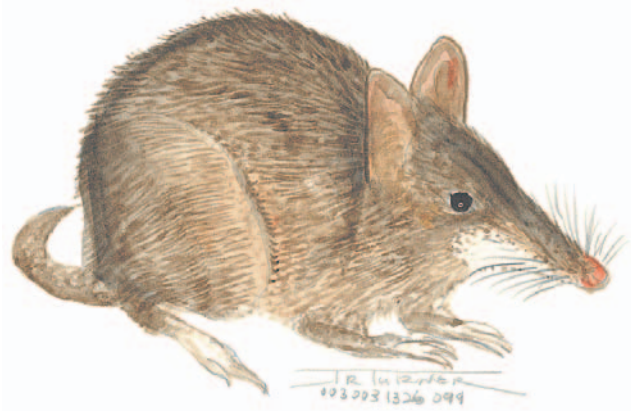
LATIN NAME: *Rattus villosissimus* (Waite, 1898)
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Rattus* - "rat"; *villosissimus* - "extremely hairy"
FOOD: Grasses, herbs, seeds and insects. During plagues they become cannibalistic and will attempt to eat any organic material. Need water, retreat to moist areas during droughts.
HABITAT: Most habitats in arid to semi-arid areas with access to drinking water.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 140-225 mm Tail: 120-190 mm; 105-290 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, sheltering by day in short burrows 200-300 mm deep with several entrances, grouped in grassy hollows near trees, bushes or rocks with spoil heaps marking the entrances and several well-defined routes between them. Females build spherical nests of shredded vegetation in a central chamber 100-150 mm diameter. Adults solitary or live with their young, may use several burrows. In plague years they wander in vast numbers over the countryside, invading camps, homesteads in thousands.
DEVELOPMENT: Males are a little larger than females. Sexual maturity is reached at 10 weeks. Breeding can occur at any time of the year but appears to be related to the availability of food. The female has 12 teats and usually rears about 7 young in a litter.

DESCRIPTION: Known as the Plague Rat, it ventures into desert regions, after very heavy rains lead to abundant plant growth. It multiplies rapidly to "plague" proportions, then populations crash and it survives in better-watered areas at the edge of deserts. Fur is long, grey above with black guard hairs, light grey below. Tail is grey to black with prominent dark hairs and overlapping scales. One pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *R. s. villosissimus*; Plague Rat.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, SA, WA

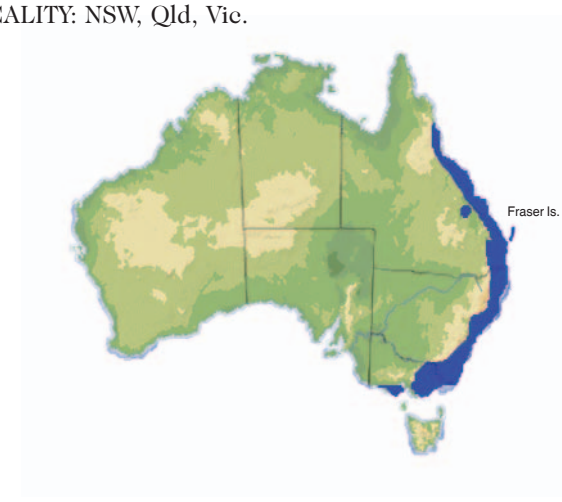


Long-nosed Bandicoot

LATIN NAME: *Perameles nasuta* Geoffroy, 1804
SUBSPECIES: *P. n. nasuta*, e coast, s of Townsville, Qld; *P. n. pallescens*, Townsville to Ravenshoe, Queensland.
FAMILY NAME: Peramelidae
MEANING: *Perameles* - "pouched-badger"; *nasuta* - "prominent-nosed"
FOOD: Insects, larvae, worms and plant roots.
HABITAT: Rainforests, wet and dry sclerophyll forests and woodlands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 310-475 mm Tail: 120-195 mm; 0.85-1.1 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping in well-concealed nests of ground litter piled over shallow depressions, with a hollow centre, loose entrance and sometimes with soil kicked over the top for waterproofing. Rabbit burrows are also used and males and females may share a nest. They move moderately fast with a galloping gait and walk quadrupedally. Food is found by digging conical holes with the forefeet and probing with the snout.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 4-5 months, they breed at any time with a lull from late autumn to mid-winter. They rear several litters of 2-3 young per year, born 12.5 days after mating. Young attach to some of the 8 teats in the mother's rear-opening pouch, which they leave at 50 days, staying in the nest until 2 months old when weaned.



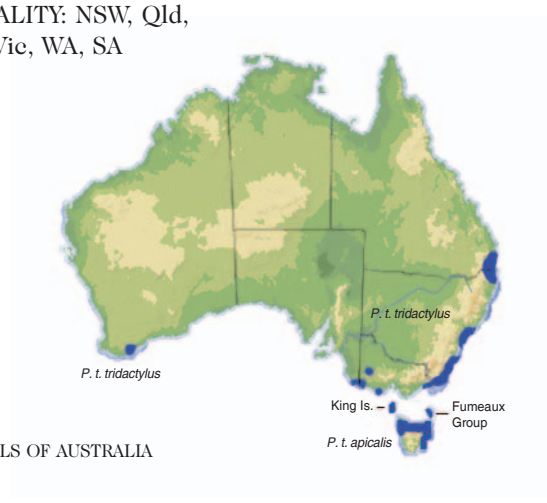
DESCRIPTION: This rabbit-sized bandicoot is often seen in suburban gardens. Fur is greyish-brown flecked with dark brown above, creamy-white below and white on the feet. Tail is short and pointed, head long with a slender muzzle, long pointed ears. Short forelimbs have strong curved claws on elongated feet. Hindfeet long with a large strongly-clawed fourth toe; second and third toes are joined with a double claw used for grooming.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, Vic.



Long-nosed Potoroo

LATIN NAME: *Potorous tridactylus* (Kerr, 1792)
SUBSPECIES: *P. t. tridactylus*, se Qld, coastal NSW, Vic, se SA, sw WA; *P. t. apicalis*, Bass Strait islands and Tas.
FAMILY NAME: Potoroidae
MEANING: *Potorous* - "potoroo" - Aboriginal name; *tridactylus* - "three-toed"
FOOD: Fungi, insects, roots, seeds, fruits. Digs in the soil with forelegs.
HABITAT: Rainforest, open forest, woodlands with dense understorey to 1,600 m.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 340-400 mm Tail: 195-265 mm; 0.66-2.07 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping in nests of grass and other vegetation carried in the curled tail, placed in scrapes below dense scrub, grass tussocks or grass trees. Seek refuge in burrows of other animals during bush fires. Solitary, sedentary, have overlapping home ranges of 5-10 ha, rarely far from cover, may gather in small groups. Moves quickly with a bipedal hopping gait assisted occasionally by forelimbs, especially when changing direction.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 1 year, breeds all year, peaks in summer and late winter. Single young born 38 days after mating, attaches to one of four teats in mother's pouch, leaving pouch at 15 weeks, suckling at foot for 5-6 weeks. Can live to 12 years.

DESCRIPTION: Has a prehensile tail used to gather nesting material. Fur is grey to brown above, paler below. A long tapering snout with a bare tip, curved ears, a scaly tail furry at base. Forelimbs, short, muscular with forward-pointed toes with spatulate claws. The second and third toes of hindfeet are short and joined with a double claw; fourth is long and the fifth short. Synonyms: *P. apicalis*; *P. gilbertii*; Long-nosed Rat-kangaroo; Wallaby Rat.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, Tas, Vic, WA, SA



Long-tailed Dunnart

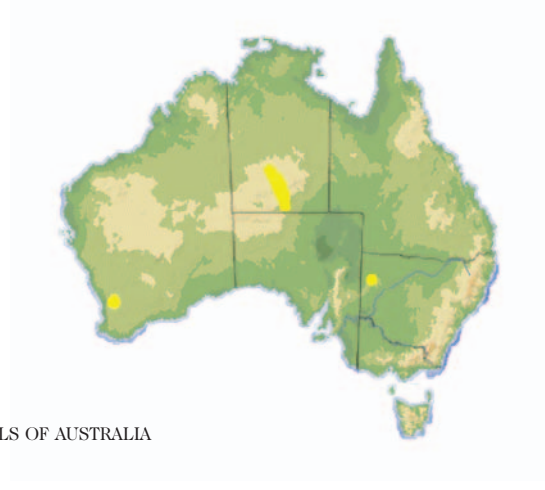
LATIN NAME: *Sminthopsis longicaudata* Spencer, 1909
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Sminthospis* - "mouse-appearance"; *longicaudata* - "long-tailed"
FOOD: Beetles, ants, spiders, cockroaches, grasshoppers, centipedes, flies and various larvae.
HABITAT: Stony lateritic breakaways and screes with open woodland and hummock grassland.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 80-100 mm Tail: 180-210 mm; 15-21 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal. Its behaviour is different from that of other dunnarts. It leaps with agility among stones, balancing itself with a very mobile, tufted tail which is more than twice the length of the head and body.
DEVELOPMENT: Males are slightly larger than females. Sexual maturity is reached at about 8 to 11 months. Breeding probably occurs from August to December. The female has 6 teats in a well-developed pouch. Several litters may be reared successively.

DESCRIPTION: A mouse-size carnivorous marsupial with soft, light grey fur on the back, becoming darker on the rump and pale-grey to white below. The tail is long and slender, twice the length of the head and body, scaly with sparse, coarse hairs. The hindfeet are very narrow with furrowed pads. The head has a long pointed muzzle, large bulging eyes and large rounded ears. Synonyms: Long-tailed Marsupial Mouse.
LOCALITY: WA, NT, SA.

Long-tailed Hopping Mouse

LATIN NAME: *Notomys longicaudatus* (Gould, 1844)
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Notomys* - "southern-mouse"; *longicaudatus* - "long-tailed"
FOOD: Seeds, grasses and insects
HABITAT: Arid to semi-arid woodland, heath and hummock grassland, usually on clayey soil.
STATUS: Extinct
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 130 mm Tail: 110-160 mm; About 100 g.
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night. Its burrow was made in dense soil or clay.
DEVELOPMENT: Unknown

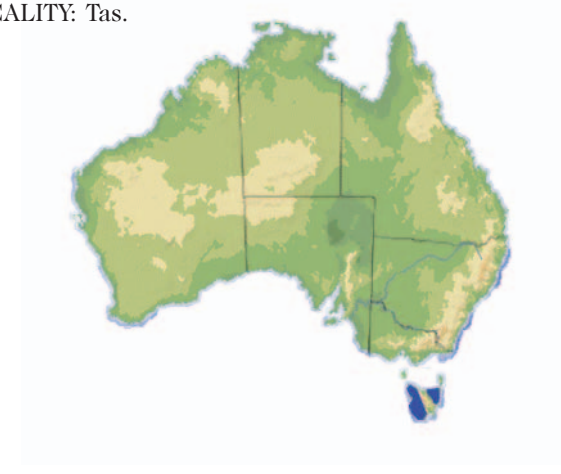
DESCRIPTION: This recently extinct species (not collected since 1901) was a little larger than Mitchell's Hopping-mouse but had a relatively longer tail. This mouse was distinguished by its long hindlegs and bipedal hopping gait. The fur was fawn to dark grey above, often grizzled, and grey-white below. The tail was brown or grey above and lighter below with a brush of dark hairs at the tip. The ears were long and oval-shaped with sparse brown hairs outside. Males had a large neck gland. They had one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *Hapalotis longicaudata*.
LOCALITY: WA, NT, NSW.



Long-tailed Mouse

LATIN NAME: *Pseudomys higginsi* (Trouessart, 1897)
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Pseudomys* - "false-mouse"; *higginsi* - "after E.T. Higgins, British naturalist,"
FOOD: Grass, seeds, fruits, insects and spiders.
HABITAT: Wet closed forests with more than 2,000 mm of rain per year.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 115-150 mm Tail: 145-200 mm; 50-90 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, they often forage by day in the winter, sleeping in nests of shredded bark or grass in a hole in a rotting log, beneath leaf litter, or at the end of a short burrow. Are gentle, sociable and inquisitive rodents, remaining in a small home range, forming permanent breeding pairs, nesting with their offspring and defending their territory. Up to 10 families per hectare can be found in good conditions. Good climbers, poor swimmers, leap randomly if alarmed, make faint high-pitched whistle when disturbed.
DEVELOPMENT: Mating from Nov to Apr. The female has 4 teats and normally rears 3 or 4 young in a litter, independent at 4 to 5 weeks, remain with parents until 12 to 13 weeks old. Suckling young left in (temporarily plugged) nest while mother forages, cling tightly to her teats if she is disturbed or moves to a new nest. They live to about 18 months.

DESCRIPTION: Only found in Tasmania, very soft and thick fur forming a prominent ridge between eyes. Dark grey-brown above fading to fawn on the sides, grey white below. It has a very long bicoloured tail, dark grey above and white below, carried curved up well clear of the ground. Ears are large and round, hindfeet long, slim with white hairs. One pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth, three pairs of molars on each side of jaw. Synonyms: Higgins' Mouse; Tasmanian Mouse; Tasmanian Pseudo-rat; Long-tailed Rat.
LOCALITY: Tas.



Long-tailed Planigale

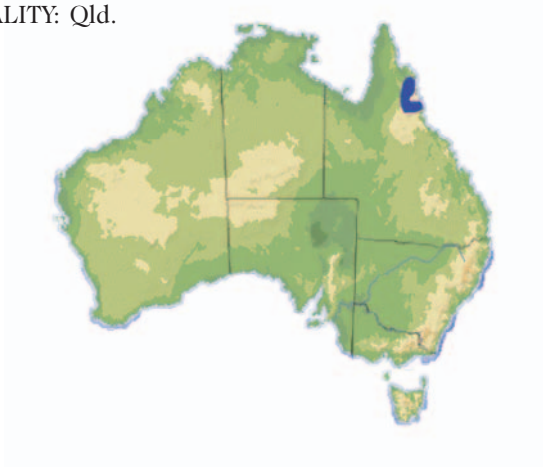
LATIN NAME: *Planigale ingrami* (Thomas, 1906)
SUBSPECIES: Latest revision designates three forms: *P. ingrami* forma *ingrami*, NT to Townsville, Qld; *P. ingrami* forma *subtilissima*, Kimberley, WA; *P. ingrami* forma *brunnea*, Richmond area, Qld.
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Planigale* - "flat-weasel"; *ingrami* - "named after Sir William Ingram, sponsor of William Stalker, who collected the first specimens"
FOOD: Large insects including grasshoppers as large as or larger than itself.
HABITAT: Seasonally flooded tropical grassland.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 50-60 mm Tail: 50-60 mm; 3.9-4.5 kg
BEHAVIOUR: A nocturnal predator; larger insects such as grasshoppers, are pounced upon and eventually killed or subdued by persistent biting. Only the soft parts are eaten. Sleeps by day in a natural crevice; in the dry season it is usually found in the cracks of muddy soil, sometimes emerging to bask in the sun.
DEVELOPMENT: Mating all year, mainly Dec to Apr. Females have eight to ten teats in a well-developed pouch which opens to rear, carries four to eight young for six weeks. Young are suckled in a grassy nest under fallen bark, leaf litter or a tussock, until twelve weeks of age. Females can breed more than once a year.

DESCRIPTION: The smallest marsupial. The tail is not remarkably long; it is usually slightly longer than head and body. Very flat head. Ears shorter and hind feet broader than in ningauis. Hind feet are turned outwards when animal is running. Three upper and lower premolars.
Synonyms: *P. subtilissima*; Ingram's Planigale; Northern Planigale.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, WA, NSW, Vic.

Long-tailed Pygmy-possum

LATIN NAME: *Cercartetus caudatus* (Milne-Edwards, 1877)
SUBSPECIES: *C. c. caudatus*, New Guinea; *C. c. macrurus*, Australia.
FAMILY NAME: Burramyidae
MEANING: *Cercartetus* - "possibly tail-in-air"; *caudatus* - "tailed"
FOOD: Nectar and insects.
HABITAT: Tropical rainforests and open forests fringing rainforests.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 100-110 mm Tail: 125-150 mm; 20-40 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active at night, sleeping in spherical nests of leaves or fern fronds in hollows in trees, stumps or fern clumps. Females may share nests with their young or an adult male when not breeding. They forage alone or with 2-3 others. On cold winter days when food is scarce they become torpid to conserve energy. Agile climbers, they use the long prehensile tail as a fifth limb. If threatened utter a throaty roar or quiet defensive hiss.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 15 months, they mate all year with peaks in January and February and late August to November. They usually produce 2-3 young and they attach to one of the 4 teats in the mother's forward-opening pouch, which they leave at about 34 days. Weaning occurs at about 80 days and become independent at 90 days.

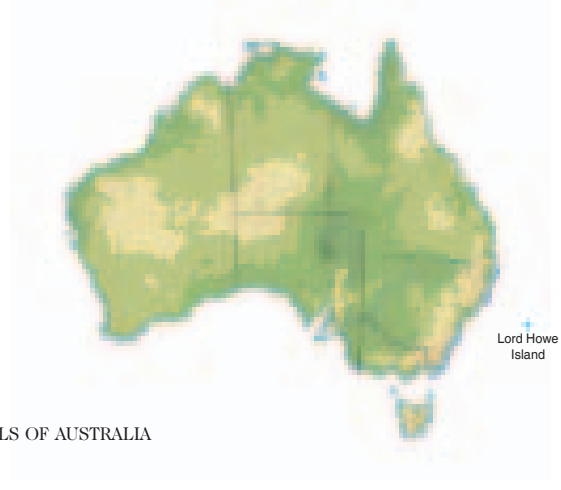
DESCRIPTION: This arboreal marsupial is the size of a large mouse, brownish grey above with a distinct dark eye patch and pale grey below. The prehensile tail is long and thin with a furry, slightly thickend base. The head has a narrow pointed snout with a pink nose, large eyes and ears. The first toe of the hindfoot is short and clawless with a bulbous tip and opposes the others. The second and third toes are joined with a double claw. Synonyms: *Eudromicia macrura*; Queensland Pygmy-possum.
LOCALITY: Qld.



Lord Howe Island Bat

LATIN NAME: *Nyctophilus howensis* McKean, 1973
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Nyctophilus* - "night-lover"; *howensis* - "(Lord) Howe (Island)"
FOOD: Unknown
HABITAT: Unknown
STATUS: Extinct
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body and Tail: About 80 mm;
BEHAVIOUR: Roosted in tree hollows or in the dense foliage of trees such as Kentia palms.
DEVELOPMENT: Unknown.

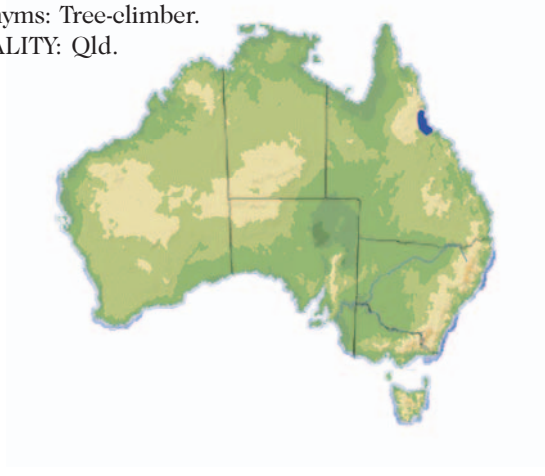
DESCRIPTION: Unknown, probably similar to mainland Nyctophilus species. It would have been the largest species of long eared bat from Australia based on a skull found in an owl pellet. Synonyms: Lord Howe Long-eared Bat.
LOCALITY: Lord Howe Island



Lumholtz's Tree-kangaroo

LATIN NAME: *Dendrolagus lumholtzi* Collett, 1884
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Dendrolagus* - "tree hare"; *lumholtzi* - "after C. Lumholtz, Norwegian naturalist first to collect species"
FOOD: Leaves supplemented by fruits.
HABITAT: Tropical rainforests
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 480-590 mm Tail: 600-740 mm; 3.7-10 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, they sleep crouched on a branch in the crown of a tree and climb through the canopy with the tail hanging loosely, gripping with the clawed forefeet and balancing with the hindfeet. The hindlegs move independently when climbing or walking along a branch. They hop along broad branches and jump from tree to tree or descend backwards, jumping down from at least 2 m to land on the feet. They walk or run quadrupedally and hop with the forelegs tucked into the body and the tail held out stiffly. Generally solitary, sometimes feeding with up to 3 others. Males fight if they are kept together and make clucking sounds during courtship.
DEVELOPMENT: Little studied. Probably breed continously, give birth to a single young. The females has four teats in the pouch.

DESCRIPTION: Blackish-brown above with lighter flecks on rump, black paws, a pale band across forehead and down the sides of face. Tail is long, broad but not prehensile. Ears tiny and curved. Limbs shorter than other kangaroos. Forelimbs thick, muscular with strong curved claws and an opposing first digit. Toes on hindfeet are a similar length with uniformly granular soles and strong curved claws, second and third toes are joined at base with a double claw used for grooming.
Synonyms: Tree-climber.
LOCALITY: Qld.



Mahogany Glider

LATIN NAME: *Petaurus gracilis* (de Vis, 1883)
SPECIES: *Petaurus gracilis* Cardwell, Tully area of coastal central Qld; *(Petaurus norfolcensis* inland SA, Vic, NSW and southern Qld).
FAMILY NAME: Petauridae
MEANING: *Petaurus* - "rope-dancer"; *gracilis* - "slender"
FOOD: Acacia gum and eucalypt sap (released by scoring bark with sharp incisor teeth), insects and their exudates.
HABITAT: Wet and dry sclerophyll forests and woodlands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 170-240 mm Tail: 220-300 mm 170-300 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, they sleep in leaf-lined nests in tree hollows in family groups with home ranges of 20-30 ha. They utter guttural chattering calls. Agile climbers and can glide more than 50 m.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 12 months, they mate from May to December, usually giving birth to twins that attach to two of four teats in mother's forward-opening pouch. Leave pouch at 70 days then left in nest for 30 days, accompanying mother foraging until weaned at 120 days.

DESCRIPTION: Is similar to the Sugar Glider, only larger. While this species is visually identical to the Squirrel Glider *P. norfolcensis*, recent research confirms that *P. gracilis* is a distinct species. It is light grey above with a dark stripe from the forehead along the back; white to creamy-white below with white markings on the cheeks and behind ears. Tail is broad, long, bushy and soft with dark tip. Large bulging eyes, big ears, a pointed muzzle and a rectangular gliding membrane between hands and feet. First two fingers of forefeet oppose other three. Hindfeet have an opposing first toe; second and third joined with a double claw. Synonyms: *Petaurus norfolcensis gracilis*, (*P. n. norfolcensis;* Squirrel Glider, Squirrel Flying Phalanger, Sugar Squirrel).
LOCALITY: Qld.

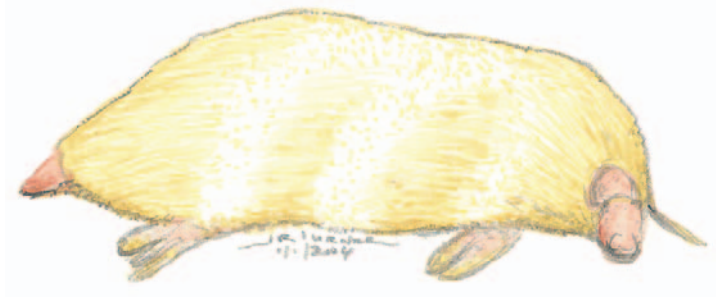
Mareeba Rock-wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Petrogale mareeba* Eldridge and Close, 1992
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Petrogale* - "rock-weasel"; *mareeba* - "named after north Queensland town of Mareeba"
FOOD: Grasses, leaves and fruits.
HABITAT: Rocky outcrops with surrounding woodland with grassy understorey, within tropical rainforest.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 425-548 mm Tail: 415-530 mm; 3.8-4.5 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Sleeps most of the day in rock crevices. Feeds in the late afternoon and night on native grasses but they may supplement their diet with leaves and fruits.
DEVELOPMENT: Similar to that of *P. assimilis*. Males and females reach sexual maturity around 18 months of age and can live up to 13 years. No distinct breeding season, with births being recorded in all months of the year.

DESCRIPTION: Grey-above, lighter sandy buff below. Pale cheek-stripe. Mid-dorsal head-stripe occasionally present. Tail darkens distally, with slight brush. Following the autumn moult they become progressively more sandy throughout the year, until their colouration matches the mature wallaby grass, which grows around the rock outcrops where it lives.
LOCALITY: Qld.

Marsupial Mole

LATIN NAME: *Notoryctes typhlops* (Stirling, 1889)
FAMILY NAME: Notoryctidae
MEANING: *Notoryctes* - "southern-digger"; *typhlops* - "blind"
FOOD: Ants, termites, other insects and their larvae, seeds.
HABITAT: Sand dunes and sandy soils of river flats in desert areas.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 120-160 mm Tail: 20-25 mm; 40-70 g
BEHAVIOUR: Little studied, they are probably solitary, living mostly underground, occasionally venturing to the surface after rain. They are extensive burrowers, digging with the forefeet and pushing the soil out with the hindfeet and tail while they move forward. Burrows are often horizontal, 10-20 cm deep with vertical shafts more than 2 m deep. Tunnels often collapse, and in sandy desert soils they swim through the sand. They sleep below ground and may feed on the surface where they pull themselves along in a rapid shuffle. They squeak sharply if disturbed.
DEVELOPMENT: Nothing is known about their development. Females have a deep, rear-opening pouch completely covering two teats. Males do not have a visible scrotum. The testes are located between the skin and wall of the abdomen.

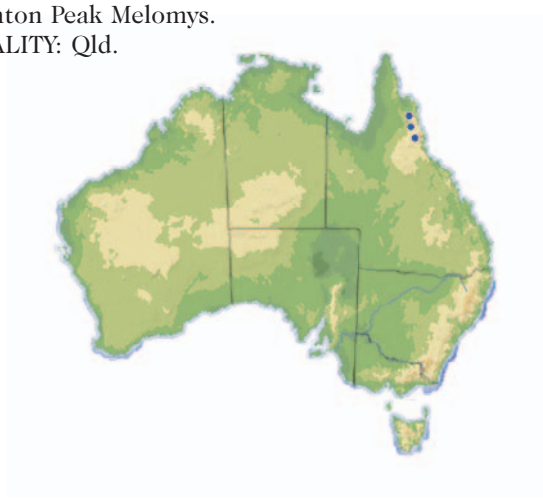


DESCRIPTION: This elusive, unique animal is adapted to an underground existence. It is blind with tiny vestigial eyes and lacks external ears, having only small holes covered by hair. A horny shield protects the nostrils. The tail is a leathery stub. The forefeet are two spade-like shovelling claws. The hindfeet are clawless. The body is covered with long, silky, golden-brown fur. Synonyms: *Notoryctes caurinus* (northern species in north-west WA).
LOCALITY: NT, SA, WA, Qld

Masked White-tailed Rat

LATIN NAME: *Uromys hadrourus* (Winter, 1984)
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Uromys* - "tailed mouse"; *hadrourus* - "stront-tailed"
FOOD: Hard-shelled rainforest fruits and insects such as beetles.
HABITAT: Tropical wet sclerophyll forest and rainforest.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 171-180 mm Tail: 184-196 mm; 170-220 g
BEHAVIOUR: Terrestrial but often climbs trees. Breaks into rotting branches and fallen logs to reach passalid beetles. Vocal in captivity, moreso the females. The most common call is a raspy honking call and was usually given when a roost box was disturbed. Males are more aggressive than females.
DEVELOPMENT: Breeding occurs late spring and summer. Their growth appears to be slow.

DESCRIPTION: Smallest member of the genus. Fawn above; paler below and pure white on throat and chest. Adults and sub-adults have a dark eye ring. Scaly tail white tipped and strong. Synonyms: *Melomys hadrourus*; Thornton Peak Rat; Thornton Peak Melomys.
LOCALITY: Qld.



Mitchell's Hopping-mouse

LATIN NAME: *Notomys mitchelli* (Ogilby, 1838)
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Notomys* - "southern-mouse"; *mitchelli* - "named after Sir Thomas Mitchell, explorer and discoverer of species"
FOOD: Seeds, leaves, roots, insects.
HABITAT: Semi-arid mallee woodlands, heathlands and shrublands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 100-125 mm Tail: 140-155 mm; 40-60 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in deep burrows 1.5 m below ground, with several vertical shafts connected to a broad horizontal tunnel 100-150 mm diameter, leading to a grass-lined nest chamber. Groups of non-breeding adults build adjacent burrow systems up to 150 m apart, up to 8 adults share a burrow to reduce evaporative water loss. Hopping gait requires less energy than quadrupedal motion at high speeds.
DEVELOPMENT: Females become sexually mature at 3 months, probably breeding throughout the year in good conditions. There are 4 teats and the usual litter is 2 - 4 young. They cling tightly to the mother's teats and are dragged behind her when she moves. They are well-furred at 7 days, weaned at 4 weeks and become independent a week later.

DESCRIPTION: This mouse is distinguished by its long hindlegs and bipedal hopping gait. Fur is fawn to dark grey above, often grizzled, grey-white below. A wide tract of shiny white hairs runs from throat to chest. Tail is brown or grey above, lighter below with a brush of dark hairs at the tip. Ears long, oval-shaped with sparse brown hairs outside. One pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth, three pairs of molars on each side of jaw. Synonyms: *Dipus mitchellii*.
LOCALITY: NSW, SA, Vic, WA

Monjon

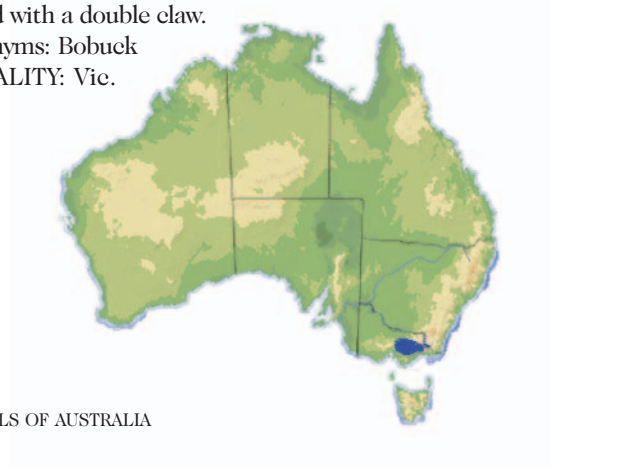
LATIN NAME: *Petrogale burbidgei* Kitchener and Sanson, 1978
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Petrogale* - "rock-weasel"; *burbidgei* - "named after A. Burbidge, Australian zoologist"
FOOD: Grasses and ferns.
HABITAT: Low rocky hills, cliffs and gorges in tropical savanna grassland.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 410-520 mm Tail: 260-290 mm; Less than 1.5 kgs.
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, sleeping by day in a rock crevice. They are primarily grazers, but may also feed on leaves and fruits. They are able to climb trees, particularly those with sloping trunks.
DEVELOPMENT: Females are usually larger than males. Probably breeds throughout the year with a peak in the summer wet season. Young remain in shelter among rocks until completely weaned.

DESCRIPTION: A small rock-wallaby with large eyes and long tail with a bushy tip which is used as a balancer during leaps. Back greenish-brown with a tawny and blackish marbling. Clay-coloured face with pale horizontal stripe from snout through the eye to base of ear. Short, broad foot with granulations over the sole area. Synonyms: Warabi.
LOCALITY: WA.

Mountain Brushtail Possum

LATIN NAME: *Trichosurus cunninghami* Lindenmayer, D.B.; Dubach, J; Viggers, K.L. 2002
FAMILY NAME: Phalangeridae
MEANING: *Trichosurus* - "hairy-tail"; *cunninghami* - "in recognition of Associate Professor Ross Cunningham, statistical scientist"
FOOD: Leaves, fruits, fungi, lichen, bark and pine cones.
HABITAT: Wet sclerophyll forests, rainforests and moist gullies.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 400-570 mm Tail: 355 mm; 2.2-4.5 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, sleeping in tree hollows, logs or sometimes among epiphytes. Both sexes have overlapping home ranges some 500 m wide. These are scent-marked with secretions from scent glands located under the chin, on the chest and below the base of the tail. Usually solitary, although pairing seems to occur, probably during the mating season. Juveniles remain in the mother's home range until 2-3 years old. They move rapidly through trees using the moderately prehensile tail, often crashing through canopy and frequently descending to the ground to feed. Competent swimmers if necessary. Relatively quite and docile, emit guttural snorts when disturbed and freeze in a spotlight.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature at 2-3 years, males at 30-36 months. Breed from March to June. A single young is born 15-17 days after conception. It attaches to one of two teats in mother's forward-facing pouch, which it leaves 5-6 months later, then rides mother's back until weaned at 7-13 months. Males live 12 years, females about 17 years.

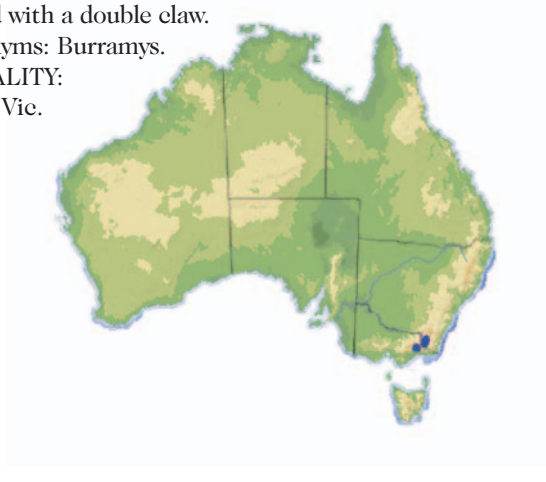
DESCRIPTION: A relatively large and robust arboreal marsupial, flecked steel-grey above, whitish below with a black, bushy, curved, tapering tail with a bare undersurface at the tip. Ears long and curved, the nose is pink. Hands have five non-opposing fingers. Hindfeet have an opposing first toe, second and third joined with a double claw.
Synonyms: Bobuck
LOCALITY: Vic.



Mountain Pygmy-possum

LATIN NAME: *Burramys parvus* Broom, 1896
FAMILY NAME: Burramyidae
MEANING: *Burramys* - "stony-place-mouse"; *parvus* - "small"
FOOD: Insects, fruits, seeds manipulated with hands while squatting. Store seeds in nest.
HABITAT: Alpine heath, shrublands and woodlands above 1,400 m.
STATUS: Vulnerable
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 100-120 mm Tail: 130-160 mm; 30-60 g
BEHAVIOUR: Usually active at night, sleeping in nests of shredded bark, leaves or grass carried in the curled tail and placed in crevices or dense vegetation. Males and females share nests during the breeding season. Males and juveniles are then forced out by the females and are confined to poorer habitats on the edge of the breeding areas. This causes a far higher death rate among males. They climb among rocks and shrubs and move about along runways under the snow in winter, torpid for periods of 3-7 days to conserve energy.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature at 2 years, males 1 year. Breed from Sep to Dec, producing more than 4 young 14-16 days after mating. Females have 4 teats in a forward-opening pouch and only 4 newborn who attach to teats survive. Leave pouch at 33-37 days staying in nest for 49-56 days and become independent at 70-75 days. The longest surviving of small terrestrial mammals, have lived more than 11 years in captivity.

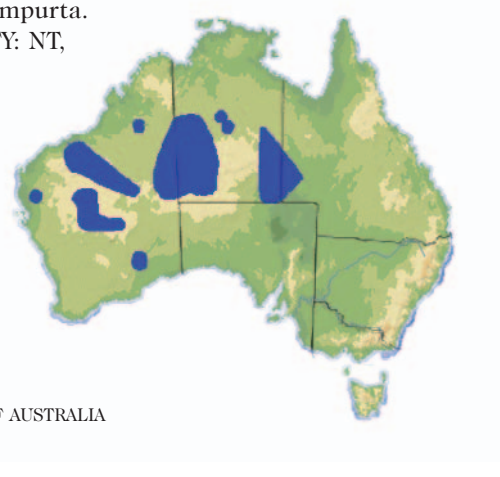
DESCRIPTION: A rat-sized marsupial restricted to alpine and sub-alpine areas. Fine thick fur, grey-brown above, sometimes darker along the mid back, pale grey brown to cream below and darker around the eyes. They have a long, thin and scaly tail which is covered with sparse fine hair and appears bare. The hindfeed have an opposing first toe, the second and third are joined with a double claw.
Synonyms: Burramys.
LOCALITY:
NSW, Vic.



Mulgara

LATIN NAME: *Dasycercus cristicauda* (Krefft, 1867)
SUBSPECIES: *D. c. cristicauda*, from WA, NT and SA; *D. c. hillieri*, sw Qld ne SA.
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Dasycercus* - "hairy-tail"; *cristicauda* - "crest-tailed"
FOOD: Large insects and small vertebrates. They can survive without drinking.
HABITAT: Arid, sandy, inland deserts.
STATUS: Vulnerable
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 125-220 mm Tail: 70-130 mm; 60-170 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, they sleep in grass-lined nests in complex burrow systems with several entrances, vertical shafts and deep branching side tunnels, between sand dunes or on the sloping sides of sand dunes by day. They are solitary, socialising briefly during the breeding season and may be seen basking in the sun on cold days. They run with a bounding gait and sit upright on their hind legs if disturbed. Fast efficient killers, they skin their prey neatly, leaving the inverted skin behind.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 10-11 months, they probably continue growing throughout their lives, living to 7 years or more. They breed from May to July. Females develop a shallow pouch on either side of their six teats during the breeding season, and give birth to up to six young 35-42 days after mating. Newborn attach firmly to the teats and are dragged around for 55-60 days. Left in the nest until weaned at 100-120 days.

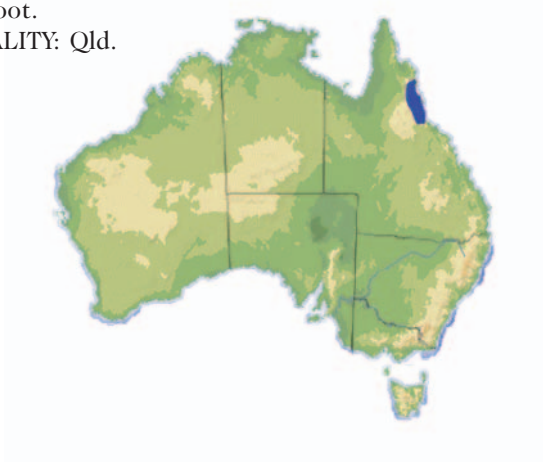
DESCRIPTION: Fine soft fur, light sandy brown with a dark grey base on the back, greyish-white below. Short tail has a fattened, reddish base and a crest of dark brown hairs along the terminal half. Conical head has large eyes and thin, sparsely-haired ears. Hindfeet have five toes with furrowed pads. Synonyms: *D. blythi*; Crest-tailed Marsupial Mouse, Ampurta.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, WA.



Musky Rat-kangaroo

LATIN NAME: *Hypsiprymnodon moschatus* Ramsay, 1876
FAMILY NAME: Potoroidae
MEANING: *Hypsiprymnodon* - "potoroo-tooth"; *moschatus* - "musky"
FOOD: Insects, fruits and large seeds, manipulated with the forepaws.
HABITAT: Tropical rainforests near creeks to 1,500 m.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 153-307 mm Tail: 123-165 mm; 337-680 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active during the day, they forage in the early morning and late afternoon, sleeping at midday and night. Nests consist of dried grass, ferns and lichen carried in the curled tail and built in clumps of lawyer vines, beneath tree buttresses or in rock piles. Solitary, may feed with one or two others. Move with a slow hop on ground with tail held out behind, or run with a galloping gait, hindfeed moving forward outside the forelimbs.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 12 months, mating occurs from February to July. A courtship ritual occurs several days before mating which includes standing erect, face-to-face, touching their partner's head and neck with the forepaws. Females have 4 teats and usually give birth to twins. Newborn attach firmly to teats in the pouch, which they leave at 21 weeks spending several weeks in the nest before accompanying the mother to feed.

DESCRIPTION: The smallest rat-sized macropod, the fur is thick and soft, rich rufous-brown flecked with darker hairs above, paler below with patches of white to cream on the throat and chest. Tail is relatively short, dark brown with small non-overlapping scales. Head long, slender with large rounded ears and a bare nose. Hindfeet are relatively short with five toes, sharp curved claws and striated pads on the palms and soles; second and third toes are joined at the base. It is the only one with a mobile first toe on the hindfoot.
LOCALITY: Qld.



Nabarlek

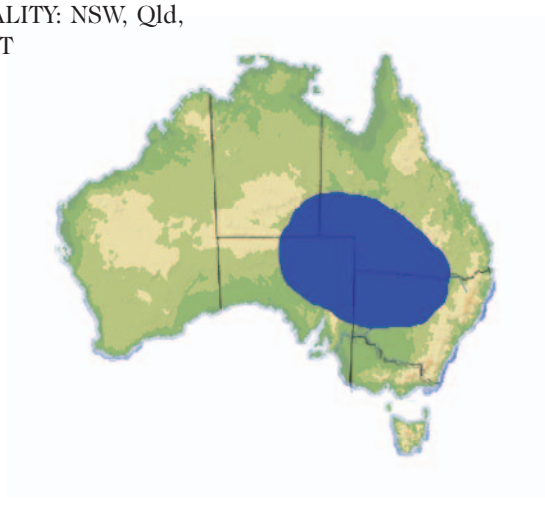
LATIN NAME: *Petrogale concinna* Gould, 1842
SUBSPECIES: *P. c. concinna*, Mary and Victoria Rivers district, NT; *P. c. monastria*, Kimberley region, WA; *P. c. canescens*, eastern Arnhem Land, NT.
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Petrogale* - "rock-weasel"; *concinna* - "elegant"
FOOD: Grasses and ferns.
HABITAT: Rocky margins of tropical grasslands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 290-350 mm Tail: 220-310 mm; 1.05-1.7 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, venturing some distance from rocks to feed. Sleeps by day in a deep crevice between rocks. Partly diurnal during the wet season, basking on rocks for up to three hours after dawn and feeding for several hours before dusk. In harsher conditions during the dry seaon it becomes more secretive and seldom leaves the shelter of rocks until after dark.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexual maturity is reached in the second year. Breeding takes place throughout the year, with a peak of births in the summer wet season. Young remain in the pouch for about 26 weeks. The species exhibits embryonic diapause.

DESCRIPTION: The Nabarlek is a very small rock-wallaby, but is possibly more closely related to pademelons. Dull reddish above, marbled with light grey and black; greyish-white below. Black brush tip on tail. It is the only marsupial to produce a continuous succession of new molars to replace those that are worn or drop out. Synonyms: *Peradorcas concinna*, Little Rock-wallaby.
LOCALITY: NT, WA

Narrow-nosed Planigale

LATIN NAME: *Planigale tenuirostris* Troughton, 1928
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Planigale* - "flat-weasel"; *tenuirostris* - "slender-snouted"
FOOD: Spiders, beetles, grasshoppers, cockroaches and other insects.
HABITAT: Sandplains, floodplains, creek beds, woodlands, grasslands or sedges.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 44-75mm Tail: 40-72 mm; 3-10 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, they sleep by day in nests in hollow logs, beneath bark, in grass clumps or short burrows sometimes with a number of side tunnels and sleeping chambers. In winter share nests for warmth, bask in sun and become torpid for short periods if food in short supply. Have shifting home ranges, travel extensively during breeding season, searching for females to mate with, fighting frequently and scent-marking areas with chest gland. Males may establish dominance hierarchies in which largest have mating preference. Vocalisations include an aggressive 'chh-chh' or 'ca-ca', a high-pitched twittering when afraid. Good climbers, have scurrying gait with legs moving alongside body. Often stand upright sniffing air, eat sitting up, manipulating food with the paws.
DEVELOPMENT: Little studied. Breed from Aug to Feb, more than 1 litter of 6-8 young per season. Newborn attach to one of 10-12 teats in mother's rear-opening pouch.

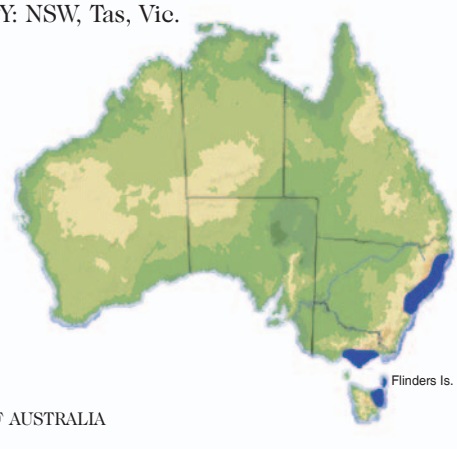
DESCRIPTION: This tiny carnivorous marsupial derives its name from the slender flattened snout used to probe into cracks or litter in search of prey. Silky fur has a black base with brown tips giving the back a russet-brown appearance flecked with black and a faint dark stripe down the forehead. Belly is olive-buff to white. Ears are large with a number of folds. Tail is short and thin. Claws are caramel, they have three premolar teeth.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, SA, NT



New Holland Mouse

LATIN NAME: *Pseudomys novaehollandiae* (Waterhouse, 1843)
SUBSPECIES: Numerous subspecific forms, many originally regarded as separate species, have been described, but most are probably invalid.
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Pseudomys* - "false-mouse"; *novaehollandiae* - "New Hollandian" (i.e. Australian)
FOOD: Leaves, seeds, flowers, fungi, moss, roots and insects.
HABITAT: Open forests, dry heathland and areas regenerating after fire.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 65-95 mm Tail: 79-110 mm; 10-24 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in burrows with tunnels up to 5 m long with a nest chamber shared by family groups. They utilise separate home ranges, although those of mature females may overlap, with up to 17 animals per hectare in good conditions.
DEVELOPMENT: Females become sexually mature at 4 months or more but produce only 1 litter in the first year of life. Later they may produce 3 or 4 litters a year. Mating is from Aug to Jan and a female normally rears 3 or 4 young in a litter. Females have 4 teats.

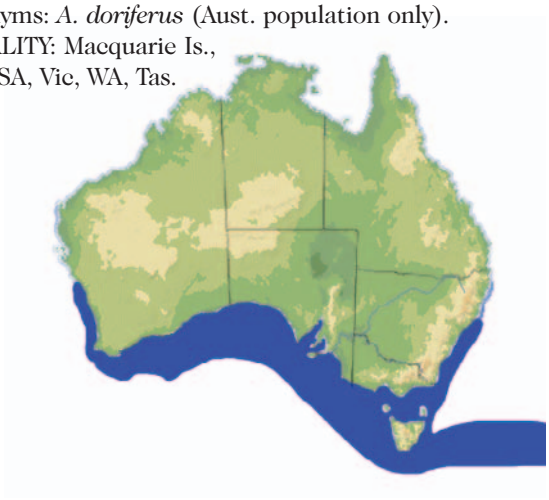
DESCRIPTION: Similar to the House Mouse but lacking the distinctive odour, this small mammal can be distinguished by the tail which is dusky brown above and white below, larger ears and eyes and a dark stripe sometimes along the centre of the head. The fur is grey-brown with long dark hairs above and grey-white below. The feet are slim and covered with white hairs. They have one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *Gyomys novaehollandiae*.
LOCALITY: NSW, Tas, Vic.



New Zealand Fur-seal

LATIN NAME: *Arctocephalus forsteri* (Lesson, 1828)
FAMILY NAME: Otariidae
MEANING: *Arctocephalus* - "bear-head"; *forsteri* - "named after George Forster, assistant naturalist and artist on Cook's voyage in HMS Resolution"
FOOD: Squid, fish, octopus, rock lobster, crab and some penguins.
HABITAT: Cool temperate coastal waters, rocky beaches and offshore inslands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Males 1.5-2.5 m Females: 1.3-1.5 m; Males 120-200 kg Females: 40-70 kg
BEHAVIOUR: They rest, moult and breed on land, have a slow shuffling walk, swim with up-and-down strokes of webbed hindlimbs. Breeding colonies of up to 1,300 form from Oct to Dec when bulls join cows and juveniles on sheltered, boulder-strewn beaches. Most powerful bulls establish harems of six cows in their territories, defended by posturing, barking or fighting savagely if necessary. Bulls leave in late Jan for their hauling grounds.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 4-5 years, males only breed when strong enough to defend a territory at about 10 years of age. Females mate 8 days after giving birth. Embryo dormant for 4 months, takes 8 months to develop. Newborn about 550 mm long and weigh about 4 kg. Mother goes to sea to feed 10 days later, returning after 3-5 days to suckle for 2-4 days before leaving again to feed. Pups congregate in pods, are suckled for 12 months.

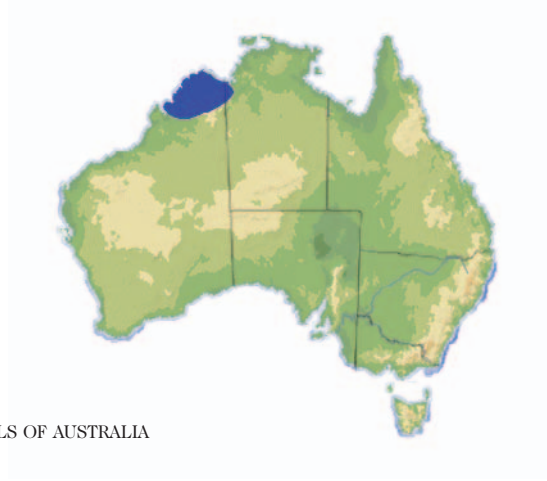
DESCRIPTION: A streamlined marine mammal with a dog-like head, pointed snout, long whiskers and a small, rolled external ear. This species is dark grey-brown above, lighter below. Bulls have a large neck and a thick mane of rough hair. Newborn are black and moult at 2 months to become silver-grey. They have strong flippers and webbed hindlegs facing the rear.
Synonyms: *A. doriferus* (Aust. population only).
LOCALITY: Macquarie Is., NSW, SA, Vic, WA, Tas.



Ningbing Pseudantechinus

LATIN NAME: *Pseudantechinus ningbing* Kitchener, 1988
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Pseudantechinus* - "false-antechinus"; *ningbing* - "after Ningbing Station, Kimberley, where the first specimen was taken"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Tropical woodland and shrubland on deeply dissected sand-stone.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 70-90 mm Tail: 70-90 mm; 15-25 g
BEHAVIOUR: Little has been studied. Active mainly at night, sleeping during the day in rocky crevices, often emerging during the day in winter to bask in the sun.
DEVELOPMENT: Little is known. Seems to breed annually and males probably survive to breed in their second year. Females have no true pouch although ridges of skin develop on either side of the four teats during the breeding season. Males are larger than females.

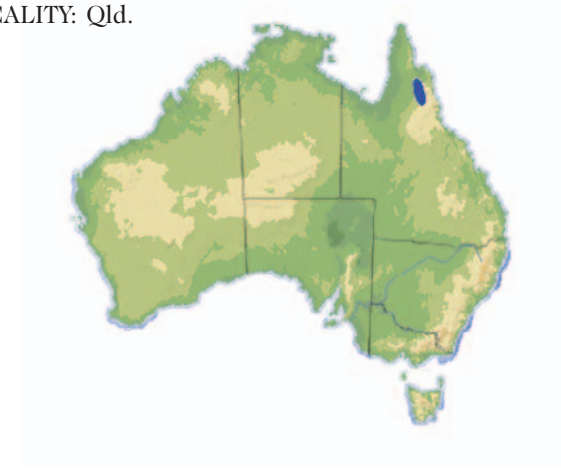
DESCRIPTION: A small carnivorous marsupial. The swollen base of the tail is where deposits of fat are stored when food is plentiful. Poorly-nourished individuals use these fat reserves and therefore have a relatively thin tail. The fur is greyish-brown above and greyish-white below with light reddish-brown patches behind the ears. The head is long with a pointed muzzle, large eyes and ears. The hindfeet are broad. The upper third premolar is very small; it is absent from the lower jaw. Synonyms: *Antechinus macdonnellensis*.
LOCALITY: WA, NT



Northern Bettong

LATIN NAME: *Bettongia tropica* Wakefield, 1967
FAMILY NAME: Potoroidae
MEANING: *Bettongia* - "bettong"; *tropica* - "tropical"
FOOD: Underground fungi, bulbs, tubers, insects, seeds, resin. Survives without drinking.
HABITAT: Tropical to temperate dry sclerophyll forest, woodland with low shrubs.
STATUS: Endangered
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 300-380 mm Tail: 290-360 mm; 1.1-1.6 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping in well-concealed domed nests of shredded bark and grass carried in the curled tail and constructed over shallow depressions dug under shrubs or other cover. Solitary, with large overlapping home ranges of 20 ha, they use 3-4 nests at random. They hop fast with head held low, back arched and tail held out straight behind.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 5-6 months, breed all year round, produce 2-3 litters per year. Mating soon after birth, embryo remains dormant until pouch is vacant. After a pregnancy of 21 days the newborn attaches to one of four teats in mother's pouch, which it leaves at 14 weeks and suckles at foot for 4 weeks. They can live for 4-6 years.

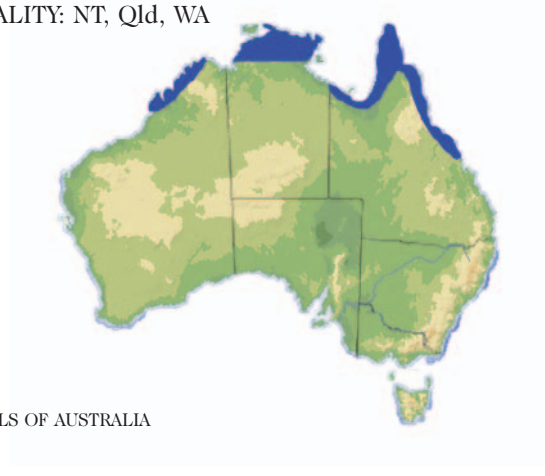
DESCRIPTION: A rabbit-size, kangaroo-like marsupial, it has a prehensile tail, well-developed upper canine teeth and upper and lower incisor teeth that bite against each other. They are sandy-brown to yellow-grey above flecked with white and pale grey-brown to white below, with a black bushy tail tip. The broad head has a flattened bare nose and pointed ears. Short muscular forelimbs have forward-pointing toes with spatulate claws. Hindfeet have no first digit, second and third are joined with a double claw, fourth is much longer than the others. Synonyms: *Bettongia penicillata tropica*; Brush-tailed Bettong.
LOCALITY: Qld.



Northern Blossom-bat

LATIN NAME: *Macroglossus minimus* (Geoffroy, 1810)
SUBSPECIES: Four subspecies exist, the Australian population is *M. m pygmaeus*.
FAMILY NAME: Pteropodidae
MEANING: *Macroglossus* - "long-tongue"; *minimus* - "smallest"
FOOD: Nectar and pollen of a variety of trees.
HABITAT: Rainforests, mangroves, paperbark, bamboo thickets, banana plantations
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 59-64 mm Forearm: 37-42 mm; 11-19 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, roosting alone by day or in small groups in the branches of trees, under loose bark, in rolled banana leaves and buildings. They hang upside down with the wings wrapped around the body. When feeding they can hover over blossoms while sipping nectar probing with the tongue. They have a strong sense of smell, navigate by sight and avoid flying in total darkness.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. Give birth to a single young in the dry season (August to September). Females have a single teat under each armpit from which the newborn suckles, gripping her fur with its clawed feet and carried around until well-furred.

DESCRIPTION: A small, important pollinator of paperbark trees, this winged placental mammal has a long, slender, bristly tongue used to probe into flowers for nectar and pollen. The long soft fur is fawn to reddish-brown above and paler below and extends to the ankles. The head is fox-like with a tapering muzzle and broad, rounded ears. The tail is small and rudimentary. There is a large claw on the first finger and a small claw on the second finger. The incisor teeth are slender, weak and often malformed. Synonyms: *Odontonycteris lagochilus*; *Macroglossus lagochilus*; Least Blossum Bat.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, WA



Northern Broad-nosed Bat

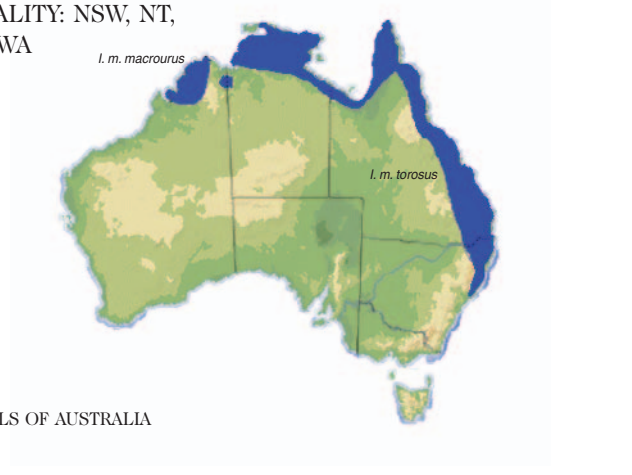
LATIN NAME: *Scotorepens sanborni* (Troughton, 1937)
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Scotorepens* - "dark-creeper"; *sanborni* - "named after C. S. Sanborn, American zoologist"
FOOD: Flying insects
HABITAT: Rainforests and woodlands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 48-52 mm Tail: 31-34 mm Forearm: 31-35 mm; 6-8 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night and soon after sunset, roosting by day in tree-holes, crevices and sometimes man-made structures forming small colonies and dispersing in winter. Aggressive if handled. An agile, swift flier in understorey forest, above watercourses, coastal bays and street lights. They have good vision and navigate and detect insects using echo-location.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. Females are larger than males. Mating occurs around May, giving birth to a single young probably in November which suckles from a teat in the mother's armpit.

DESCRIPTION: Smallest of the Australian Broad-nosed bats this mammal has long, soft brown fur, tinged with red above and paler below. The head is broad with a squarish outline if viewed from above. The muzzle is thinly-haired with glandular swellings and the forehead is low. The eyes small and the ears broadly curved with a narrow pointed lobe partially covering the opening. Tail is enclosed in the tail-membrane. This species has only two upper incisor teeth. Synonyms: *Scoteinus sanborni*; Little Northern Broad-nosed Bat.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, WA

Northern Brown Bandicoot

LATIN NAME: *Isoodon macrourus* (Gould, 1842)
SUBSPECIES: *I. m. macrourus*, NT, n WA; *I. m. torosus*, Cape York, Qld to Hawkesbury River, NSW; *I. m. moresbyensis*, New Guinea.
FAMILY NAME: Peramelidae
MEANING: *Isoodon* - "equal tooth"; *macrourus* - "long-tailed"
FOOD: Insects, larvae, worms, berries, grass seeds and plant roots.
HABITAT: Woodlands, forests and grasslands with low ground cover.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 300-470 mm Tail: 80-215 mm; 0.5-3.1 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping in concealed nests of ground litter piled over shallow depressions, with a hollow centre, loose entrance and exit, and soil kicked over the top for waterproofing. They use several nests and may shelter in hollow logs and grass tussocks. Solitary, males are aggressive, marking areas with a scent gland behind ear and occupying home ranges of 5 ha; females 2 ha. Run with agile galloping gait and walk quadrupedally. Locate food by smell, digging conical holes with forefeet and probing with snout.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 3-4 months, breeding all year in north, in winter, spring and summer in south. Females rear several litters of 2-4 young per year, born 12.5 days after mating. Have 8 teats in a rear-opening pouch to which the newborn attach for 50 days, then in nest until weaned at 2 months. They live to 3 years.

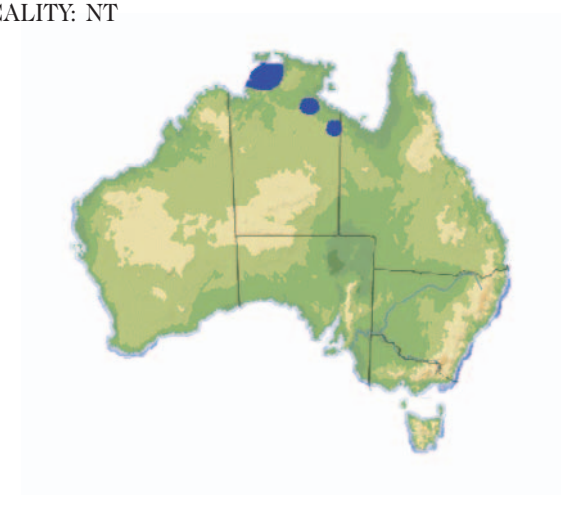
DESCRIPTION: Often found in suburban gardens, this rabbit-size marsupial is dark brown above flecked with light brown, pale grey to white below. Elongated head has relatively small pointed ears and small eyes. Tail is short and pointed. Forelimbs have strong curved claws on long feet. Hindfeet are long with a very large, strongly-clawed fourth toe; second and third toes are joined with a double claw used for grooming. Synonyms: *Isoodon torosus*; *Thylacis macrourus*; *Thylacis torosus*; Brindled Bandicoot; Giant Brindled Bandicoot; Long-tailed Short-nosed Bandicoot; Large Northern Bandicoot.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, WA



Northern Dibbler

LATIN NAME: *Parantechinus bilarni* (Johnson, 1954)
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Parantechinus* -"alongside-antechinus"; *bilarni* - "after William (Bill) Harney, guide to expedition which collected first specimen"
FOOD: Insects, larvae and small invertebrates.
HABITAT: Rocky escarpments, rugged sandstone country, open eucalypt forests, vine thickets and closed forests.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 60-100 mm Tail: 80-115 mm; 12-45 g
BEHAVIOUR: Known to be mainly active at night, although in winter they are often seen basking in the sun. During the day they sleep in rock crevices, moving to humid vine thickets in the dry season in search of food. Males are more mobile than females and the majority of juveniles disperse to a new area. They are agile climbers, although most of their time is spent on the ground foraging for insects.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexual mature at one year. Mortality rates are high and only one quarter survive to breed twice. Breeding from June to August. Four to five young are usually born, each attaching firmly to one of the six teats on mother's belly. Young hang from one of mother's six teats as she moves around. After detaching from the teats they are left in the nest while mother forages, weaned at 4-5 months. Males heavier than females.

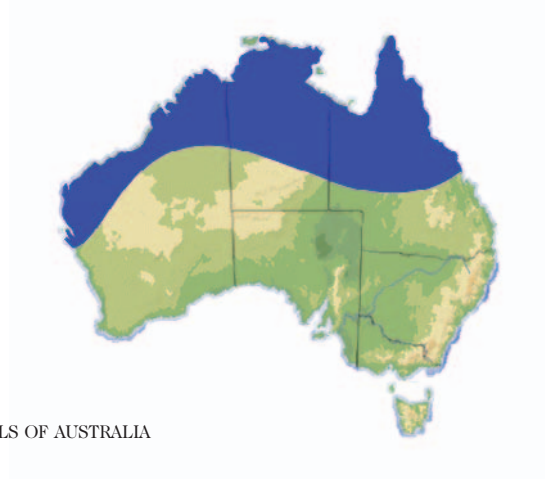
DESCRIPTION: Flecked greyish-brown above, pale grey below with sandy patches behind the large, thin, crinkled ears. Tail is long and slim, sparsely-haired with visible scales. Head long with pointed muzzle almost bare at sides, large protruding eyes. Feet have furrowed footpads.
Synonyms: *Antechinus bilarni*; Harney's Antechinus; Sandstone Antechinus.
LOCALITY: NT



Northern Freetail-bat

LATIN NAME: *Chaerephon jobensis* (Miller, 1902)
SUBSPECIES: The Australian population is referred to *Chaerephon jobensis colonicus*.
FAMILY NAME: Molossidae
MEANING: *Chaerephon* - "pig-murderer"; *jobensis* - "Jobi (Island)"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Tropical sclerophyll forest to woodland.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 80-90 mm Tail: 30-50 mm; 20-30 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, roosting by day in tree-holes, hollow trees, caves and human habitations, sometimes in hundreds. It flies quickly and directly over the canopy, feeding upon flying insects, and probably also takes some prey on the ground.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. A single young is born in summer.

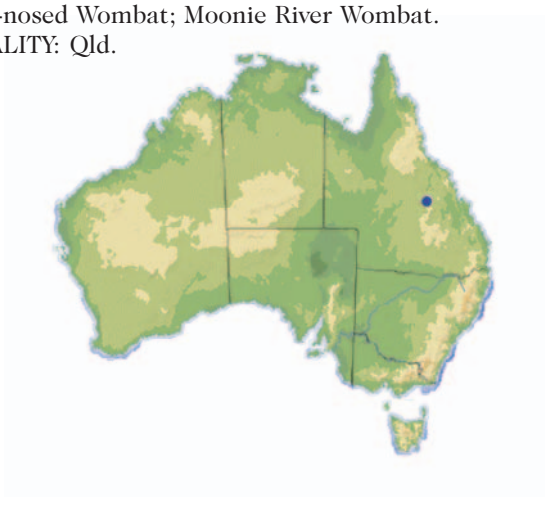
DESCRIPTION: A chocolate-coloured bat similar to the White-striped Mastiff-bat and replaces it in the northern third of the continent. The upper jaw overhangs the lower jaw, the upper lip is very wrinkled, the inner margins of the ears are joined at their bases and there is no pouch on the throat in either sex. Synonyms: *Nyctinomus jobensis*; *Nyctinomus plicatus*; *Chaerephon plicatus*; *Tadarida jobensis*; Northern Mastiff-bat.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, WA



Northern Hairy-nosed Wombat

LATIN NAME: *Lasiorhinus krefftii* (Owen, 1872)
FAMILY NAME: Vombatidae
MEANING: *Lasiorhinus* - "hairy-nose"; *krefftii* - "named after Gerard Krefft, zoologist"
FOOD: Coarse grasses and herbs.
HABITAT: Sub-tropical semi-arid woodland and grassland on sandy soil.
STATUS: Endangered
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 800-1000 mm Tail: 30-50 mm; 25-27 kg
BEHAVIOUR: They sleep by day in a burrow which may be solitary or grouped in a warren, emerging at night to graze on coarse native grasses and herbs. Males become aggressive during the breeding season. Slow and clumsy, they can run up to 40 kph if necessary. Movements between burrow clusters are very rare but most adult females eventually leave the burrows in which they were born.
DEVELOPMENT: Females breed twice every three years on average. Most young are born in spring and summer and spend 10 or 11 months in the pouch.

DESCRIPTION: In the 19th century this species existed in New South Wales and Victoria. It now survives only in a small national part near Epping Forest Station in tropical Queensland. It has silky fur, grey to blackish-grey above and paler below. The ears are slender and pointed, the eyes small, the nose hairy and head broad and flattened. The tail is very short and hidden by fur. The limbs are short with short toes bearing stout flattened claws; the first toe of the hindfoot is very small; the second and third toes are joined with a double claw used for grooming. Synonyms: *Wombatula gillespiei*; *Lasiorhinus latifrons gillespiei*; *Lasiorhinus gillespiei*; *Lasiorhinus latifrons barnardi*; *Lasiorhinus barnardi*; Queensland Wombat; Queensland Hairy-nosed Wombat; Moonie River Wombat.
LOCALITY: Qld.



Northern Hopping-mouse

LATIN NAME: *Notomys aquilo* Thomas, 1921
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Notomys* - "southern-mouse"; *aquilo* - "northern"
FOOD: Seeds and green vegetation.
HABITAT: Tropical coastal dunes with acacia scrub over spinifex hummock grass.
STATUS: Vulnerable
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 90-110 mm Tail: 160-170 mm; 35-44 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal. Small groups occupy long, complex burrows. Very social. Older animals will groom and care for young. A twittering sound is made just before emerging in the evening and a high-pitched squeal when disturbed.
DEVELOPMENT: A pregnancy is about seven weeks. Females have four teats and one to five young are reared. Mortality of the young appears to be high. Young are born hairless and do not cling persistently to the mother's teats. If the female needs to move them she carried them in her mouth. The eyes open 21-22 days after birth.

DESCRIPTION: This mammal has long hindlegs, a bipedal hopping gait and a long tufted tail. The fur is light brown to chestnut above and grey-white below. The ears are long, curved and thinly-haired. They have one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *Notomys carpentarius*.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld.

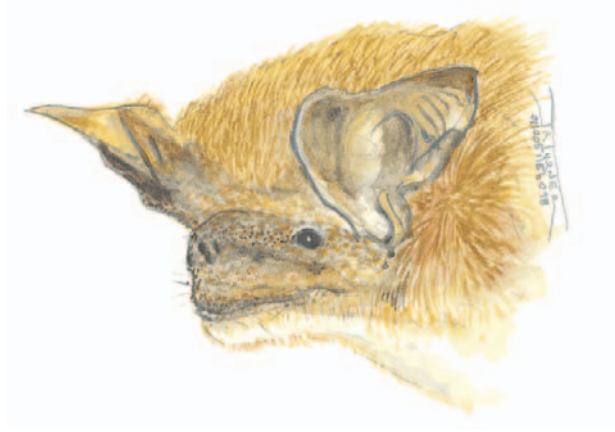
Northern Leafnosed-bat

LATIN NAME: *Hipposideros stenotis* Thomas, 1913
FAMILY NAME: Hipposideridae
MEANING: *Hipposideros* - "horse-iron"; *stenotis* - "narrow-eared"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Tropical sclerophyll forest and woodland.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 40-50 mm Tail: 20-30 mm; 6-10 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, roosting by day in caves, rock crevices and mines. Its flight is slow and manoeuvrable in foliage and marked by sudden darts upon the prey consisting of small to medium-sized flying insects. These are taken in the forest understorey or among shrubs in woodland.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. Breeding season could be long. A pregnant female was caught in July and a female with attached young was caught in lat January.

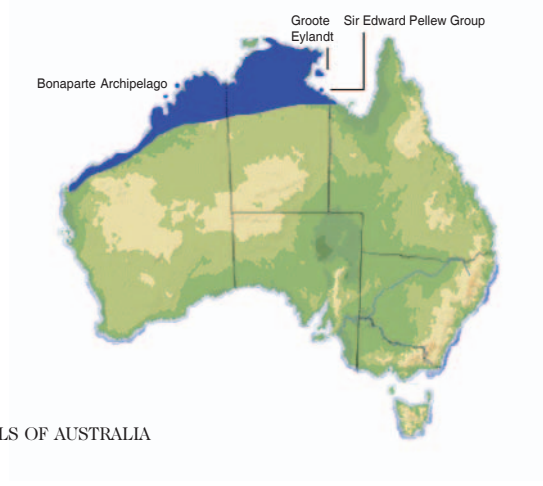
DESCRIPTION: This species is slightly smaller than the Greater Wart-nosed Horseshoe-bat and the "wart" on the noseleaf is much shorter. The fur is light brown, slightly paler below. The ears are very large and broad with a slight point. The eyes are small and a simple noseleaf with a horseshoe-shaped lower ridge protrudes above the snout. The tail projects slightly beyond the tail membrane.
Synonyms: Dahl's Horseshoe Bat; Lesser Wart-nosed Horseshoe-bat.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, WA

Northern Long-eared Bat

LATIN NAME: *Nyctophilus arnhemensis* Johnson, 1959
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Nyctophilus* - "night-lover"; *arnhemensis* - "from Arnhem Land"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Tropical rainforests, mangroves, woodlands and wet sclerophyll forests with an annual rainfall exceeding 500 mm.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 42-55 mm Tail: 35-43 mm Forearm: 35-40 mm; 6-8 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, roosting by day in tree-holes, under the bark of paperbark trees or in human constructions. Their broad wings allow them to fly slowly with great manoeuvrability feeding on insects among or on foliage in the forest understorey and over water. They have good vision and navigate and detect insects using echo-location.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. One or two young are born between October and February. Newborn suckle from teats in the mother's armpits.



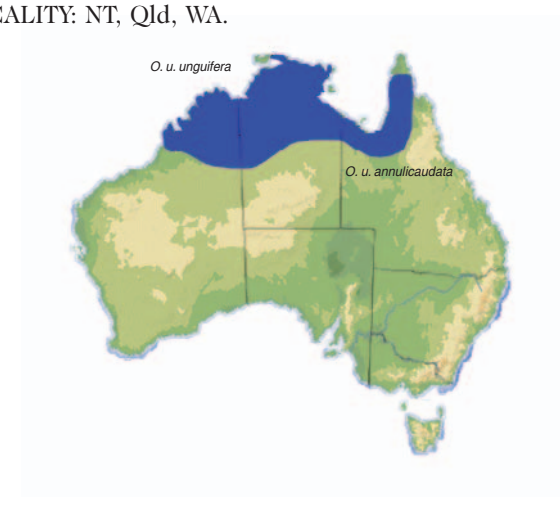
DESCRIPTION: Olive-brown to light brown above and pale brown to greyish-brown below with dark bases to the hair. The eyes are large and the head is foreshortened with long ribbed ears each with a short, broadly-triangular lower lobe. A poorly-developed noseleaf forms a low ridge behind the snout. The tail is enclosed in the tail-membrane.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, WA



Northern Nailtail Wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Onychogalea unguifera* (Gould, 1841)
SUBSPECIES: *O. u. unguifera*, nw Australia; *O. u. annulicauda*, ne Australia.
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Onychogalea* - "nailed-weasel"; *unguifera* - "nail-bearing"
FOOD: Leaves, native grasses, herbs, fruits, stem bases and rhizomes.
HABITAT: Open grassy woodlands, grasslands and shrubby savannah, usually near water.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 490-690 mm Tail: 600-730 mm; 4.5-9 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, resting in grassy tussocks or under low trees or shrubs, excavating a trough in the soil with their forefeet. Mainly solitary, they may feed with 1-3 others, travelling more than 3 km from daytime resting areas to feeding sites, staying near cover. They move with a low crouching hop with an upcurved tail, and move the forelimbs an unusual rotary action during fast movement.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. Females give birth to a single young which attaches firmly to one of 4 teats in the mother's pouch.

DESCRIPTION: This wallaby is known for its small horny spur of unknown function hidden among a brush of dark hairs at the end of their slender whip-like tail. It has sandy-brown fur with a dark lower back stripe extending along the tail and a pale dark shoulder stripe. Muzzle is square in shape and the ears long. Upper incisor teeth are very slim and inclined forward. Forefeet have long, well-developed claws. Long hindfeet have no first digit, second and third are joined with a double claw, the fourth is much longer than others. Synonyms: *Macropus unguifer*; Organ-grinder; Sandy Nailtail.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, WA.



Northern Pipistrelle

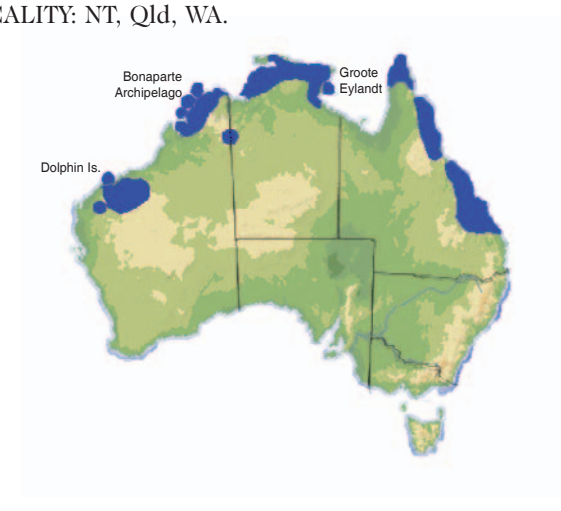
LATIN NAME: *Pipistrellus westralis* Koopman, 1984
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Pipistrellus* - "bat"; *westralis* - "Western Australian"
FOOD: Flying insects.
HABITAT: Rainforests, riverine monsoon forests, paperbark swamps, mangroves and urban areas in coastal and near-coastal sites.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 34-43 mm Tail: 29-37 mm Forearm: 27-31 mm; 3.5-6.5 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, roosting by day in tree-holes, crevices, among dead palm fronds, under the leaf bases of pandans, in mines, caves and under house roofs. They land upright and turn over to hang by their feet or cling to vertical surfaces. Flight is quick and erratic. They hunt below the forest canopy above the understorey. They have good vision and navigate and detect insects using echo-location.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. They probably breed throughout the year giving birth to a single young that suckles from a teat in the mother's armpit.

DESCRIPTION: A tiny bat with a delicate body, dark brown to black above and paler below. It can be distinguished from Eptesicus species by the narrow ankle spur that extends along the edge of the tail-membrane. The head is flattened and has a thinly-haired muzzle with glandular swellings on the sides. The ears are broadly triangular with curved tips and have a triangular lobe partly covering the opening. The tail is enclosed in the tail-membrane. The upper jaw has two incisor teeth almost equal in length with slight indentations. Synonyms: *P. tenuis*; *P. t. westralis*; Western Pipistrelle; North-western Pipistrelle; Mangrove Pipistrelle.
LOCALITY: WA, NT, Qld.

Northern Quoll

LATIN NAME: *Dasyurus hallucatus* Gould, 1842
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Dasyurus* - "hairy-tail"; *hallucatus* - "first-toed"
FOOD: Preys upon small mammals, reptiles and insects, also eats soft fruits.
HABITAT: Favours rocky areas in open forests, savannah and woodland.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 120-310 mm Tail: 125-310 mm; 300-950 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, they sleep in a hollow log or crevice by day. They are agressive, emitting sharp screeches during aggressive encounters. Males and females maintain home ranges. Males may defend an area that includes a number of resident females during the breeding season. Most juvenile males and some females leave the birth area at 6-8 months. Agile climbers although most of their time is spent on the ground.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 10-11 months they breed from late June to August with much fighting and many deaths among males. Females have no true pouch although ridges of skin develop on either side of the 6-8 teats during the breeding season. Six young are usually born and remain firmly attached to the teats for 8-10 weeks. They are then left in the den while the mother forages until weaned at about 5 months.

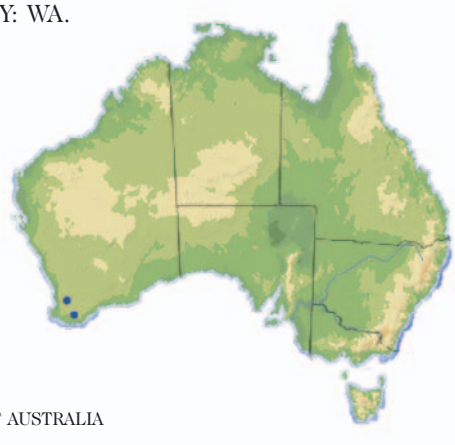
DESCRIPTION: The smallest quoll, this carnivorous marsupial is the size of a large rat. The fur is brownish-grey to brown with white spots on the back, but not on the tail, and cream to white below. Head is long and pointed with large bulging eyes and large pointed ears. The hindfeet have five toes with furrowed pads; the first toe lacks a claw.
Synonyms: *Satanellus hallucatus*; Little Northern Native Cat; Satanellus; North Australian Native Cat.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, WA.



Numbat

LATIN NAME: *Myrmecobius fasciatus* Waterhouse, 1836
SUBSPECIES: *M. f. fasciatus*, sw WA; *M f. rufus*, w NSW, SA, Gibson Desert, Rawlinson and Warburton Ranges, WA.
FAMILY NAME: Myrmecobiidae
MEANING: *Myrmecobius* - "ant-living"; *fasciatus* - "striped feeder-on-ants"
FOOD: Termites from logs or shallow galleries. Cannot breach hard termite mounds.
HABITAT: Eucalypt forests dominated by Wandoo or Jarrah.
STATUS: Endangered
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 200-275 mm Tail: 160-210 mm; 280-550 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active by day, they rest in nests of shredded bark, leaves or other plant material carried in mouth and placed in hollow logs or at the end of shallow burrows 1-2 m long, using some as refuges, others for overnight shelter. Solitary with large home ranges of some 100 ha. Have a brisk quadrupedal gait, frequently sniff air while standing on hindlegs. Locate termite galleries by smell, digging into shallow runways leading from nest.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at about 11 months, they breed from December to March. Up to four young are born some 14 days after mating and attach to the four exposed teats on the mother's abdomen, clinging to hairs surrounding them and being dragged around until furred. They are then left in the nest while the mother forages until they are able to ride on her back, becoming independent at 7 months.

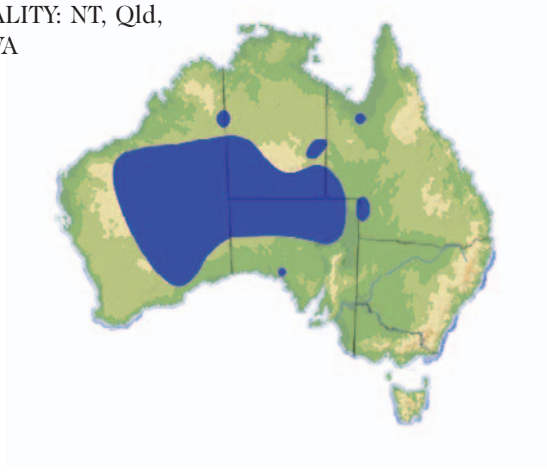
DESCRIPTION: The Numbat is the only marsupial adapted to feeding on termites. Like the Echidna it has poorly developed teeth and a long, slicky, cylindrical tongue that flicks rapidly in and out of the long snout to collect insects. Fur is red-brown above and darker on the rump which has white stripes. Belly is pale grey to white. A dark stripe runs across the eye from ear to mouth. Have a white patch below the eyes and white eyebrows. Ears are large, tail bushy and flecked with brown and white hairs, the forelimbs have sharp claws. Synonyms: Banded Anteater.
LOCALITY: WA.



One-humped Camel

LATIN NAME: *Camelus dromedarius* Linnaeus, 1758
FAMILY NAME: Camelidae
MEANING: *Camelus* - "camel"; *dromedarius* - "dromedary"
FOOD: Succulent vegetation and shrubs.
HABITAT: Temperate to sub-tropical arid sandy deserts.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: about 3 m Tail: about 700 mm; 600-1000 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Live in herds of less than 10 to several hundred. Three types of groups are distinguished: bull groups occur all year and consist of males of all ages; older bulls usually solitary, cow groups are females and calves and occur only in summer. Breeding groups of one adult bull and several cows with calves. Cows segregate, give birth in seclusion. Rival bulls perform urination ceremonies, parallel walks, other displays and may fight.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at four years. Breeds all year if enough food. Single young after a pregnancy of 51 to 54 weeks, weaned at eighteen months to two years.

DESCRIPTION: Introduced from Pakistan in mid 19th century. Set free when replaced by motor transport in 1920s. Has adapted well to desert environments. Eyes adapted to excessive light, protected by thick long eyelashes. Eyelids translucent, preserving some sense of direction in a sandstorm, slit-like nose can be closed against driving sand. Hump is composed largely of fatty tissue, acts as a store of food when animal starving. Reduces its loss of water by producing a highly concentrated urine and therefore minimise loss of water through excretion. Can survive severe conditions when loss of body water makes its blood rather viscous. A dehydrated camel may drink up to 200 litres. Two breeds: a slender riding form (dromedary proper) and a heavier pack-animal. Synonyms: Dromedary.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, SA, WA



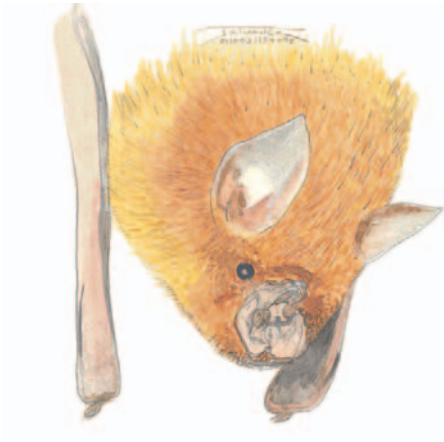
Ooldea Dunnart

LATIN NAME: *Sminthopsis ooldea* Troughton, 1965
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Sminthopsis* - "mouse-appearance"; *ooldea* - "Ooldea is a town on the Nullarbor Plain in South Australia"
FOOD: Large insects such as locusts and moths.
HABITAT: Temperate arid woodland, shrubland, tussock grassland on sandy or stony soil.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 50-90 mm Tail: 60-100 mm; 8-17 g
BEHAVIOUR: Little is known but in the laboratory it is nocturnal. Torpor is occasionally observed in captive individuals but it is not known whether this is a feature of their daily cycle or a response to temporary food shortage.
DEVELOPMENT: Females become sexually mature at 10 months. Mating occurs from August to December, possibly with a peak in October. Females have eight teats, enclosed in a temporary pouch, and usually carry about seven young. These stay in the pouch for four to five weeks and are suckled in a nest until about 10 weeks old. They produce a scraping distress call when separated from their mother. Females are not known to breed more than once a year. Males are slightly larger than females.

DESCRIPTION: Greyish-brown or greyish-yellow above; white with grey bases below; slightly shaggy. The head is long and pointed with large protruding eyes and large triangular ears. Long slender feet. Well-nourished animals store fat in the base of the tail, which becomes swollen. The third premolar teeth are almost as large as the second.
Synonyms: *S. m. ooldea*; Troughton's Dunnart; Troughton's Sminthopsis.
LOCALITY: NT, SA, WA

Orange Leafnosed-bat

LATIN NAME: *Rhinonicteris aurantius* (Gray, 1845)
FAMILY NAME:
MEANING: *Rhinonycteris* - "nose-bat"; *aurantius* -"golden"
FOOD: Small flying insects.
HABITAT: Mangroves, spinifex grasslands, vine thickets, dense palm forests and woodlands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 45-56 mm Tail: 24-28 mm Forearm: 45-51 mm; 7-10 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, roosting in deep, warm, humid caves usually with difficult access to avoid predators such as the Ghost Bat and changes caves on a regular seasonal basis. Hang from roof, head down or rest against a wall with forearms spread well apart. Form colonies of 20 to 12,000 or more, roosting some 150 mm apart with wings enveloping body. Good sight, can detect prey up to 2 m away using echo-location, emitting ultrasonic signals through nose and directing them with noseleaf. Broad wings enable them to fly slowly through forest understorey and lower canopy hunting for insects.
DEVELOPMENT: Little studied. Mate from October to April. Females give birth to a single young which suckles from a teat in her armpit.

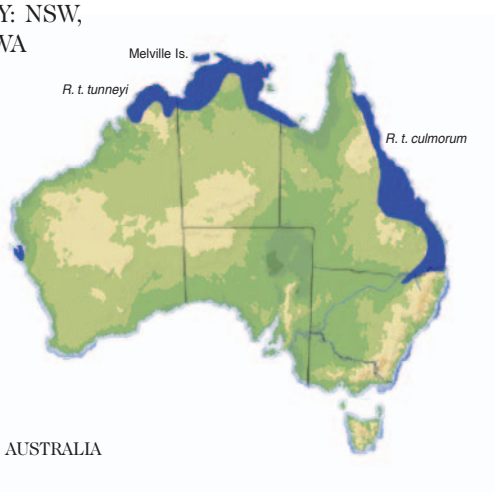


DESCRIPTION: A small, insectivorous placental mammal, this species is bright orange to greyish-brown, sometimes pale lemon or white above (depending on the locality), often with dark bands across the eyes. The ears are sharply pointed and the eyes are small. A complex noseleaf lies above the snout with a horseshoe-shaped indented lower part, a scalloped upper section with deep pits and a forward projection in the centre. The tail protrudes slightly beyond the tail membrane. Synonyms: *Rhinolophus aurantius*; Golden Horseshoe-bat.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, WA

Pale Field-rat

LATIN NAME: *Rattus tunneyi* (Thomas, 1904)
SUBSPECIES: *R. t. tunneyi*, n and nw Australia; *R. t. culmorum*, e Australia.
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Rattus* - "rat"; *tunneyi* - "named after J. T. Tunney, collector of first specimen"
FOOD: Grass roots, stems and seeds.
HABITAT: Tall grasslands, mangroves, sand dunes, open forests with a grassy understorey, canefields and Hoop Pine plantations.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 120-195 mm Tail: 80-150 mm; 40-165 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, sleeping by day alone or communally in a nest in shallow burrow systems dug in loose soil with vertical shafts and horizontal tunnels, usually with several entrances marked by large spoil heaps. They seem to live in patchy colonies using well-marked routes through the thick grass between their burrows. Gentle, curious and easily handled, they will enter houses searching for food.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature at about 5 weeks. Breeding from May to August in northern part of range, possibly March to May in southern part. Female has 10 teats, rears a litter of 4. Have fur at 7 days, eyes open at 18 days independent at 3 weeks.

DESCRIPTION: This attractive rodent has light shiny yellow-brown fur above and grey or cream fur below. The head is broad and rounded with protruding eyes and short curved ears. The tail is relatively short and thinly-haired with overlapping scales. They have one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *Mus tunneyi*, *Rattus culmorum apex*; Tunney's Rat; Paler Field Rat.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, WA



Papuan Sheathtail-bat

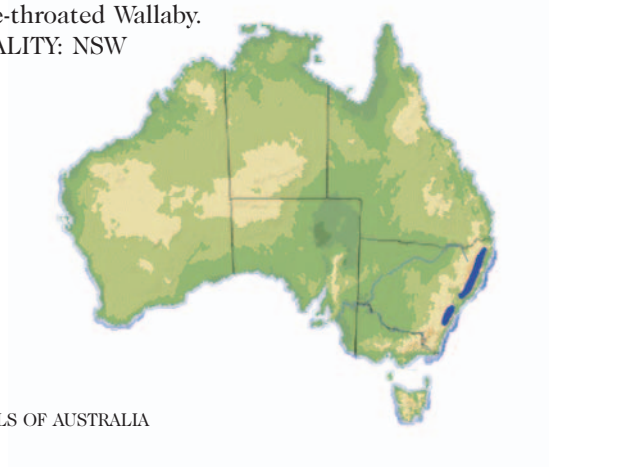
LATIN NAME: *Saccolaimus mixtus* Troughton, 1925
FAMILY NAME: Emballonuridae
MEANING: *Saccolaimus* - "throat-pouch"; *mixtus* - "intermediate"
FOOD: Flying insects.
HABITAT: Tropical sclerophyll forest.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 70-80 mm Tail: 20-30 mm Forearm: 62-68 mm;
BEHAVIOUR: Roosts by day in caves and may possibly use other sites such as tree hollows. At night it flies quickly and directly over the canopy to feed on insects or closer to the ground in open areas or along flyways.
DEVELOPMENT: Unknown.

DESCRIPTION: Brown above, soft buff brown below; darker on the head and shoulders. A throat-pouch is well-developed in males, less so in females. The wing pockets of both sexes are lined with pale hairs. Synonyms: *Taphozous mixtus*; New Guinea Sheathtail-bat; Wing-pouched Saccolaimus; Troughton's Sheathtail-bat; Allied Freetail-bat.
LOCALITY: Qld.

Parma Wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Macropus parma* Waterhouse, 1846
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Macropus* - "long-foot"; *parma* - "an Aboriginal name for the species"
FOOD: Grasses and herbs.
HABITAT: Rainforests and sclerophyll forests with a dense understorey and grassy areas, normally in montane areas.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 445-530 mm Tail: 405-545 mm; 3.2-5.9 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, resting under shrubs in thick vegetation, travelling along well-defined routes to graze in small grassy areas. Mainly solitary, they sometimes gather in small feeding groups with 2-3 others. They hop close to the ground, almost horizontally with the forearms tucked into the body sides and the tail curved up slightly. Vocalisations include clucking and hissing sounds.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature at 16 months, males at 22 months. Breeding all year with peak from Feb to June. Usually mate 45-105 days after giving birth, embryo dormant until pouch is empty. Pregnancy of 33-36 days, newborn attaches firmly to one of 4 teats in mother's pouch, vacates at 30 weeks, suckling at foot until 10 months of age.

DESCRIPTION: A complex wallaby with dense fur, grey-brown to dark brown above with a dark stripe from the head to the mid-back, and white stripes along the upper lip, throat, chest and belly. Some have a white-tipped tail. The faecal pellets are flattened and squarish. The hindfeet have no first digit, the second and third are joined with a double claw, the fourth is much longer than the others. Synonyms: *Thylogale parma*; *Wallabia parma*; White-throated Pademelon; White-throated Wallaby.
LOCALITY: NSW



Pig

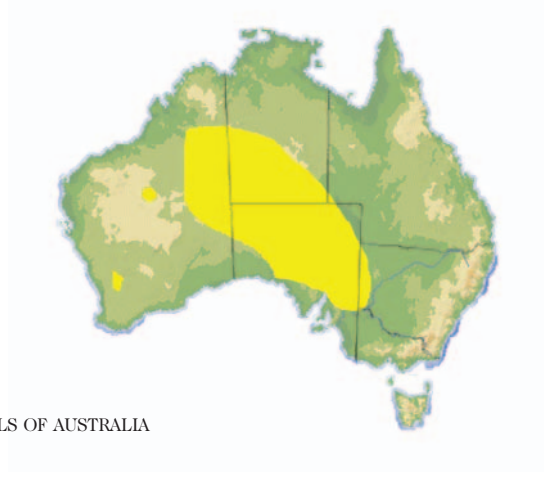
LATIN NAME: *Sus scrofa* Linnaeus, 1758
SUBSPECIES: Uncertain.
FAMILY NAME: Suidae
MEANING: *Sus* - "pig; *scrofa* - "sow"
FOOD: Succulent roots, grain crops, berries and fruits, frogs, lizards, small to medium-sized vertebrates and carrion.
HABITAT: Almost any temperate or tropical environment with dense vegetation and shallow water.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 1.0-1.5 m Tail: 250-300 mm; 25-175 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, with most activity occurring around dawn and dusk. It rests by day in an ill-defined dust wallow in the shelter of vegetation. The night's activity usually starts by wallowing in a muddy pool and much of its environmental damage is caused by this. Pigs are solitary and territorial. Males play no parental role.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature at about eight months, usually produce a litter of six young. Gestation is about sixteen weeks and a female often rears two litters per year.

DESCRIPTION: The feral mainland Australian population is largely descended from domestic breeds introduced by European settlers. The feet have four hoofed toes but the central two are more strongly developed than the outer ones, which rarely touch the ground. The canines are strongly developed in males and may form curved, upwardly directed tusks.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Vic, WA

Pig-footed Bandicoot

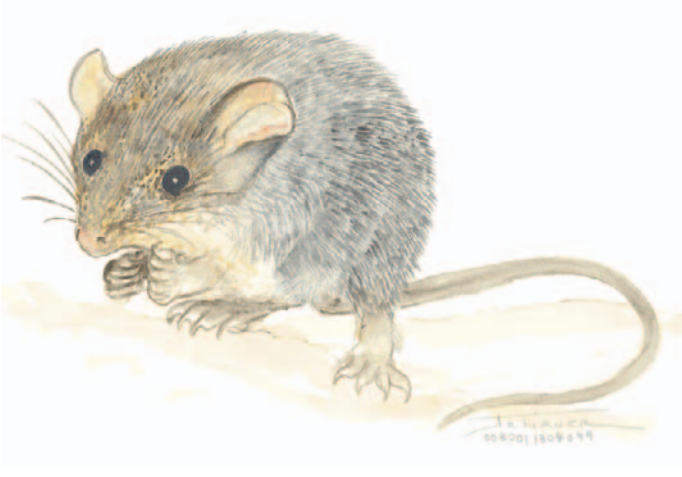
LATIN NAME: *Chaeropus ecaudatus* (Ogilby, 1838)
FAMILY NAME: Peramelidae
MEANING: *Chaeropus* - "pig-foot"; *ecaudatus* - "tail-less" - the first specimen to be described having accidentally lost its tail
FOOD: Grasses; grasshoppers in captivity.
HABITAT: Semi-arid to arid woodland, shrubland and tussock grassland.
STATUS: Extinct
LENGTH/WEIGHT: 230-260 mm Tail: 100-150 mm; 200 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in a typical bandicoot nest of twigs and grasses over a shallow scrape.
DEVELOPMENT: The female had 8 teats in a backward-directed pouch but appears to have usually raised two young, born in May or June.

DESCRIPTION: Was locally common over much of southern and central inland Australia at the time of European settlement but disappeared by the end of the 19th century. Coarse orange-brown fur above, light fawn below. Long tail with terminal crest on the last 70 mm. Unlike the other perameloids, the Pig-footed Bandicoot appears not only to have been quadrupedal but to have run on the tips of its hoof-like claws. Only the second and third toes of the forefeet were functional (the first and fifth being absent, the fourth minute). On the hindfoot, only the fourth toe was functional (the first missing, the second and third fused and small, the fifth minute).
LOCALITY: WA, NT, SA, Qld, NSW



Pilbara Ningaui

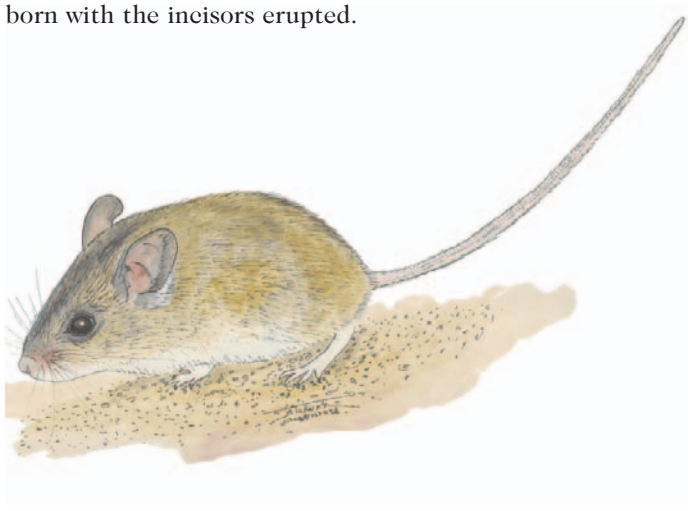
LATIN NAME: *Ningaui timealeyi* Archer, 1975
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Ningaui* - "the name of an Aboriginal mythical being which is said to be tiny, nocturnal, hairy and short-footed and to eat raw flesh"; *timealeyi* - "after E. H. M (Tim) Ealey, Australian zoologist"
FOOD: Grasshoppers, cockroaches and centipedes.
HABITAT: Subtropical semi-arid shrubland and hummock grassland.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 40-60 mm Tail: 50-80 mm; 2.0-9.4 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in a next in the base of a spinifex hummock or similar shelter and hunts by night on the ground and over the hummocks or shrubs for food, some larger than itself.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexual maturity not known. May be as low as six to eight months. Breeding takes place from September to March in good seasons, but from November to January when rain and food are scarce. The female has four to six teats but lacks a definite pouch. Up to six young may be reared, being carried on the teats for about six weeks and becoming independent at about 13 weeks. Few adults survive to breed in a second year.



DESCRIPTION: A small sized marsupial predator, their hind feet are relatively shorter than those of dunnarts. Ningauis look rather like planigales but the head is less flattened and the fur rather more bristly. The pouch is either absent or poorly developed. Synonyms: Ealey's Ningaui.
LOCALITY: WA.

Pilliga Mouse

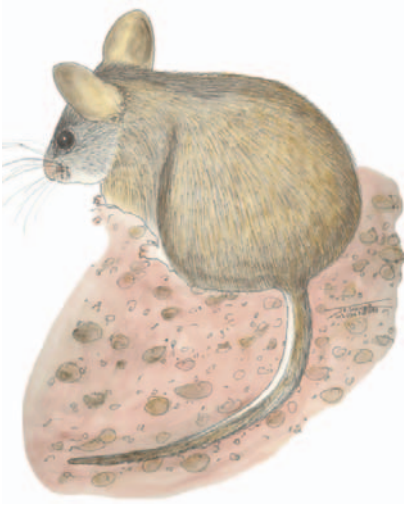
LATIN NAME: *Pseudomys pillagaensis* Fox and Biscoe, 1980
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Pseudomys* - "false-mouse"; *pillagaensis* - "Pilliga" - from Pilliga Scrub, NSW
FOOD: Unknown, probably seeds and insects.
HABITAT: Warm-temperate cypress pine forest with heath understorey, on sand; localised.
STATUS: Vulnerable
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 60-80 mm Tail: 60-80 mm; 10-12 g
BEHAVIOUR: Little has been studied. Terrestrial. Active mainly at night, nesting in burrows, probably communally.
DEVELOPMENT: Breeding takes place from October to February. The pregnancy is between 24-31 days. Young are born with the incisors erupted.



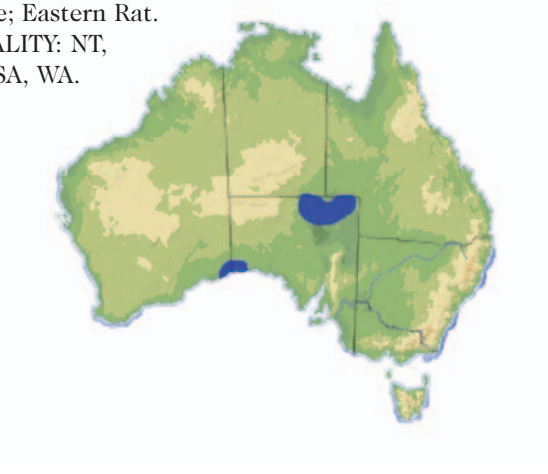
DESCRIPTION: Little is known of this species, which was described in 1980. It is only a little more than half the weight of the House Mouse and is the second-smallest species of Pseudomys. Grey above, grading to russet on sides and white below. Tail darker above than below with small, black terminal tuft.
LOCALITY: NSW.

Plains Rat

LATIN NAME: *Pseudomys australis* Gray, 1832
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Pseudomys* - "false-mouse"; *australis* - "southern"
FOOD: Green plants, seeds and insects. They can survive without drinking.
HABITAT: Arid gibber plains, river flats, sandridges with low shrubs.
STATUS: Vulnerable
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 100-140 mm Tail: 80-120 mm; 50-80 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in cool shallow burrows dug into the hard gibber with concealed entrances below bushes or cattle dung. They have a single nest chamber, 1 m long and up to 300 mm deep, often stuffed with vegetation. They establish dominance hierarchies and form colonies within a specific territory, building their burrows 10 m apart connected by surface runways. Up to 20 rats may occupy a single burrow out of breeding season, when breeding a single male will share with 2 or 3 females. Colony sizes fluctuate with food sources and predators. When threatened they stand up on hindlegs and squeal. An extensive vocal repertoire of chirps, screeches and whistles.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature at 9 to 10 months. Breeding all year but mostly in winter and spring. Females have 4 teats, usual litter size is 3 or 4 young, which become independent at about 4 weeks. Several litters may be reared in succession.



DESCRIPTION: A small attractive rodent, this desert species has a silver sheen to its soft, thick fur. Sandy-brown to grey above, white to cream below, is quite stocky with large ears, protruding eyes a well-furred tail, brown or grey above, white below with a lighter tip. One pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth, three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *P. auritus*; *P. minnie*; Plains Mouse; Eastern Mouse; Eastern Rat.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, SA, WA.



Platypus

LATIN NAME: *Ornithorhynchus anatinus* (Shaw, 1799)
FAMILY NAME: Ornithorhynchidae
MEANING: *Ornithorhynchus* - "bird-snout"; *anatinus* - "duck-like"
FOOD: Insects, molluscs, worms, other invertebrates and small vertebrates.
HABITAT: River banks and lakesides in eastern coastal forests and rainforests.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 398-570 mm; 0.67-2.7 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Active from evening to early morning, they sleep in short burrows just above water level, usually with two entrances under tree roots. Breeding females dig a burrow up to 20 m long, plugged at intervals and terminating in a nest chamber lined with grass, leaves or reeds. Solitary and territorial, they make a low growl if disturbed, share feeding areas and use many burrows, foraging up to 2 km away, often grooming on a favourite rock or log. They have a waddling walk supported on the knuckles of the hands, and swim with closed eyes, ears and nostrils.
DEVELOPMENT: Females breed at 2 years. Mating takes place in the water from Aug to Oct. Two eggs 17 mm long with soft leathery skins are usually laid in nest chamber. The mother curls around them until they hatch about 2 weeks later. Young feed for 3-4 months on milk secreted by ducts on mother's abdomen. Weaned at 17 weeks, live over 9 years.

DESCRIPTION: This egg-laying aquatic mammal has a streamlined body without external ears, webbed feet, a flattened paddle-like tail, and a rubbery, sensitive, duck-shaped bill. The soft, dense, water-repellent fur is lustrous dark brown on the back, pale cream or reddish below. Feet have long sharp claws. Males have a sharp hollow spur on ankles of their hindlegs connected to a venom gland in the groin. Females lose spur before maturity. Synonyms: *Platypus anatinus*.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, SA, Tas, Vic.

Prehensile-tailed Rat

LATIN NAME: *Pogonomys mollipilosus* Peters and Doria, 1881
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Pogonomys* - "tailed-mouse"; *mollipilosus* - "soft-haired"
FOOD: Leaves and nuts.
HABITAT: Tropical rainforest and monsoon forest.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 130-150 mm Tail: 160-210 mm; 42-83 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, feeding on leaves and nuts on the ground (rarely) or in trees. Sleeps by day in nests communally in burrows. An excellent climber but not good jumpers. A long, strongly prehensile tail is used for support by curling it around twigs, corkscrew fashion, for two or three turns. A individual can support itself completely by its tail. The Lesser Sooty Owl is a known predator.
DEVELOPMENT: The female has six teats and usually rears only two or three young.

DESCRIPTION: Softly furred; grey above, white below. Narrow black ring around eye. The tail is nearly 1.5 times the length of the head and body, tip smooth on upper surface. Typical rodent incisors and hindfeet. Synonyms: *Mus mollipilosus*; Soft-haired Tree-mouse.
LOCALITY: Qld.

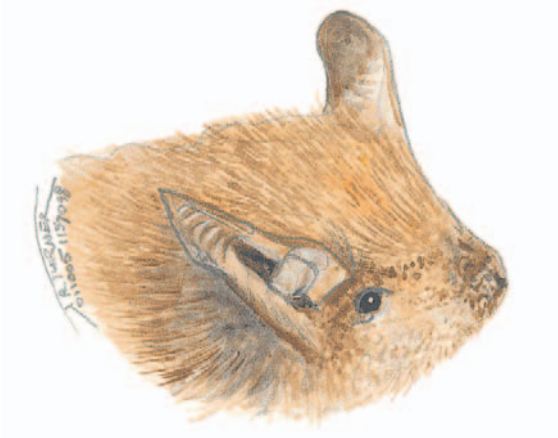
Proserpine Rock-wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Petrogale persephone* Maynes, 1982
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Petrogale* - "rock-weasel"; *persephone* - "Persephone being the Greek name for the Roman goddess Proserpine; refers to town of Proserpine, Queensland"
FOOD: Grasses
HABITAT: Rocky outcrops with surrounding woodland with grassy understorey, within tropical rainforest.
STATUS: Vulnerable
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 520-640 mm Tail: 600-680 mm; 4.1-8.8 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Shelters by day in rock crevices and moves out to grassy areas to graze at night.
DEVELOPMENT: Breeding is probably continuous throughout the year with one young being born. The species exhibits embryonic diapause.

DESCRIPTION: This rock-wallaby is limited to a very small area of rainforest and is endangered by competition from the Unadorned Rock-wallaby. Light to dark brown above, lightly pencilled with white hairs; pale yellow below. Ears are brownish-orange outside, black internally. White to yellowish-white tail tip of variable length in most individuals.
LOCALITY: Qld.

Pygmy Long-eared Bat

LATIN NAME: *Nyctophilus walkeri* Thomas, 1892
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Nyctophilus* - "night-lover"; *walkeri* - "named after J. J. Walker, who collected the first specimen"
FOOD: Bugs, beetles, wasps.
HABITAT: Tropical woodland fringing permanent waterbodies.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 40-50 mm Tail: 30-40 mm; 4-5 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, roosting by day in tree-holes or under bark.
DEVELOPMENT: Two young are born in December or January.

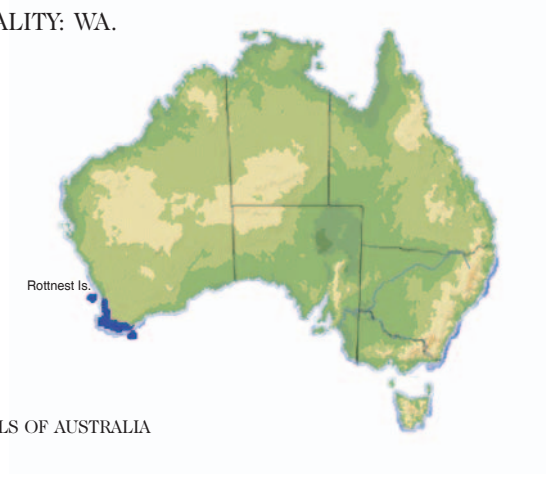


DESCRIPTION: This is the smallest of the long-eared bats and is known from only a few specimens. It is associated with water but in rather drier local areas. Fawn above, buff below. Basal half of body hairs dark brown. A few cream hairs around the anal region and throat. Wings dark brown, tail light fawn. The ears are large and usually connected by a low vertical membrane rising from the top of the head. A short snout which bears a small, horseshoe-shaped noseleaf, little more than a ridge. Synonyms: Territory Long-eared Bat; Little Northern Territory Bat.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, WA.

Quokka

LATIN NAME: *Setonix brachyurus* (Quoy and Gaimard, 1830)
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Setonix* - "bristle-claw"; *brachyurus* - "short-tailed"
FOOD: Grasses, leaves, succulents. Survive without water, may be able to drink seawater.
HABITAT: Wet and dry sclerophyll forests, woodlands and heath.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 400-540 mm Tail: 245-310 mm; 2.4-3.3 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, resting in thick vegetation within overlapping home ranges of around 4 ha. Males defend areas around their nest sites and may form long term bonds with females. Adults gather at night around waterholes within a group territory occupied and defended by 25-150 adults, who may fight for water in dry conditions. Adult males establish dominance hierarchies according to age. Females and juveniles have no rank. Move with a bounding gait interspersed with short high-speed hopping bouts, may climb trees to reach twigs up to 2 m high.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature at 18-24 months, breed all year on mainland. On Rottnest Island from Jan to Aug. Pregnancy of 25-28 days, a single young is born and attaches to one of 4 teats in mother's pouch. Young leave pouch by 26 weeks and suckle at foot for 2 months, living to 10 years or more.

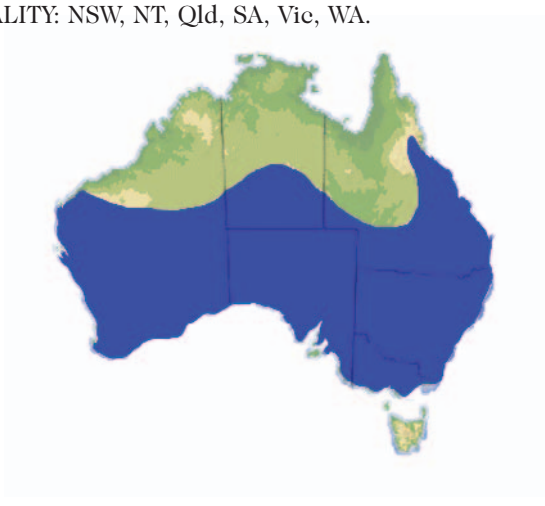
DESCRIPTION: A small, robust wallaby with long, dense and rough fur flecked grey and brown with a rufous tinge above, pale grey below. A dark stripe may be seen on forehead. Head broad with small curved ears set on top. Tail is thick and sparsely-haired with visible scales. Hindfeet have no first digit, second and third are joined with a double claw, fourth is much longer than others. Synonyms: *Kangurus brachyurus*; Short-tailed Wallaby; Short-tailed Pademelon.
LOCALITY: WA.



Rabbit

LATIN NAME: *Oryctolagus cuniculus* (Linnaeus, 1758)
SUBSPECIES: The Australian population is known as *Oryctolagus cuniculus cuniculus*.
FAMILY NAME: Leporidae
MEANING: *Oryctolagus* - "burrowing-hare"; *cuniculus* - "rabbit"
FOOD: Grasses and shrubs.
HABITAT: Almost any temperate to subtropical environment except rainforest.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 360-430 mm Tail: 50 mm; 1.5-2.5 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, spending the day in colonies, digging deep burrows. A grazer but will browse when grasses are scarce. It does not need to drink if food is adequately succulent. Rabbits are gregarious.
DEVELOPMENT: Rabbits are extemely prolific, reaching sexual maturity at three to four months. After a pregnancy of 30 days a litter of up to five is born. They bear four to seven litters yearly. Young are born naked and blind. More than 80 per cent of animals die before reaching the age of three months. Once adulthood is reached an age of six to seven in favourable areas is not uncommon.

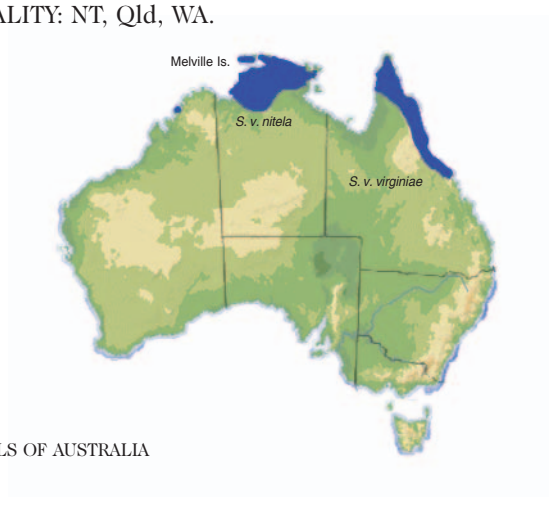
DESCRIPTION: The Australian population were feral animals from Spain set free as game around the 1860s. By the 1920s it had occupied about three-quarters of the continent, except for the tropics. Ears and hind legs are long and the eyes are set high on the head. The nostrils are slit-like and can be closed. The first pair of chisel-like incisors grow throughout life. It is susceptible to myxomatosis, a fatal viral disease.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Vic, WA.



Red-cheeked Dunnart

LATIN NAME: *Sminthopsis virginiae* (Tarragon 1847)
SUBSPECIES: *S. v. virginiae*, ne Qld; *S. v. nitela*, NT, WA; *S. v rufigenis*, PNG.
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Sminthopsis* - "mouse-appearance"; *virginiae* - "Virginia"
FOOD: Insects, spiders and possibly small vertebrates.
HABITAT: Tropical woodlands and swampy savannah.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 80-126 mm Tail: 85-135 mm; 15-80 g
BEHAVIOUR: They are active mainly at night, sleeping during the day under logs. Females build a shallow, saucer-shaped nest of shredded leaves and grass shortly before the young are born. They are solitary except during the mating season.
DEVELOPMENT: Breeding from Oct to May. May produce 2 litters per season of up to 8 young (6 in New Guinea). Born 20-22 days after mating, attach firmly to mother's 8 teats (6 in New Guinea), fully enclosed in a well-developed circular pouch with central opening. After leaving pouch, juveniles are left in nest while the mother forages for food.

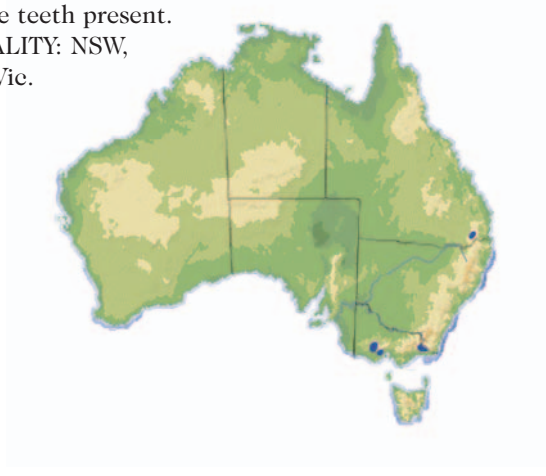
DESCRIPTION: A small carnivorous marsupial of northern Australia and New Guinea. It has short, spiky fur, blackish-brown flecked with white above, white, yellow or rufous below, with reddish cheeks and a distinct blackish stripe down forehead. Tail is narrow, sparsely-haired and scaly. Hindfeet are narrow with four long toes and a small first digit. Head is long and pointed with large protruding eyes and large curved ears.
Synonyms: *S. lumholtzi*; *S. rufigenis*; *S. nitela*; Phascogale rona; Lumholtz's Marsupial Mouse; Aru Islands Pouched Mouse; Forehead-striped Pouched Mouse; Daly River Sminthopsis; Queensland Stripe-faced Sminthopsis.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, WA.



Red Deer

LATIN NAME: *Cervus elaphus* Linnaeus, 1758
SUBSPECIES: There are eleven subspecies. The Australian population is *C. e. coticus*, from Great Britain.
FAMILY NAME: Cervidae
MEANING: *Cervus* - "deer deer"; *elaphus* - "deer"
FOOD: Grasses and shrubs.
HABITAT: Temperate forest edges or woodland with grassy understorey.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 1.9-2.0 m Tail: 120-150 mm; 150-350 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Feeding occurs in the evening or at night. Red Deer are solitary or live in herds seeking tall thickets and forests. From March to August, populations segregate into all-male groups and groups of females and their young. Between September and December, the male herds break up. Between March and April, fierce combat occurs between mature males competing for females that are on heat, each male attempting to dominate as many females as possible. Males cast their antlers in October or November and these are re-grown by mid-February.
DEVELOPMENT: Mating occurs in March or April. After a gestation of 33 to 34 weeks, a single young is born in November or December.

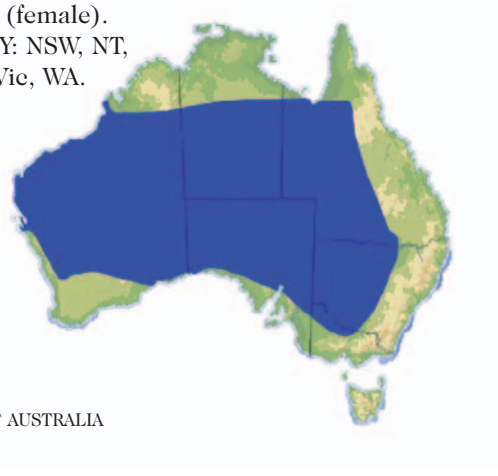
DESCRIPTION: The Red Deer was introduced to Australia in the 1860s from semi-domesticated British stock for the purpose of hunting. It has not adapted well but lives in small areas in Queensland and Victoria. Coat can vary from dark grey-brown to almost black-brown, or to pale reddish brown. Young animals have a white-spotted coat. Mature males have many-branched antlers which may be 90 cm long. Upper canine teeth present.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, Vic.



Red Kangaroo

LATIN NAME: *Macropus rufus* (Desmarest, 1822)
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Macropus* - "long-foot"; *rufus* - "red"
FOOD: Native grasses, herbs. Can survive without water if the food is green.
HABITAT: Dry woodlands, scrub, grasslands, plains and deserts.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 745-1400 mm Tail: 645-1000 mm; Males to 85 kg; females to 35 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, resting in dusty scrapes under shrubs, feeding on cool wet days. Groups of 2-10 occupy a home range of 8 square kms. This area increases in droughts when mobs of several hundred may gather around scarce resources. Males congregate around females in heat and establish dominance hierarchies by boxing. The largest males have exclusive mating rights. Young males range widely and old males become solitary. When threatened they make a loud cough and thump their hindfeet, hopping quickly away with the body and tail horizontal.
DEVELOPMENT: Males are sexually mature at 2-3 years, females at 15-20 months, living up to 20 years. They breed all year round in good years, mating soon after birth, the embryo remaining dormant until the pouch is vacated. After a pregnancy of 32-34 days the newborn attaches firmly to one of 4 teats in the mother's pouch, which it leaves by 9 months, suckling at foot for a further 3 months.

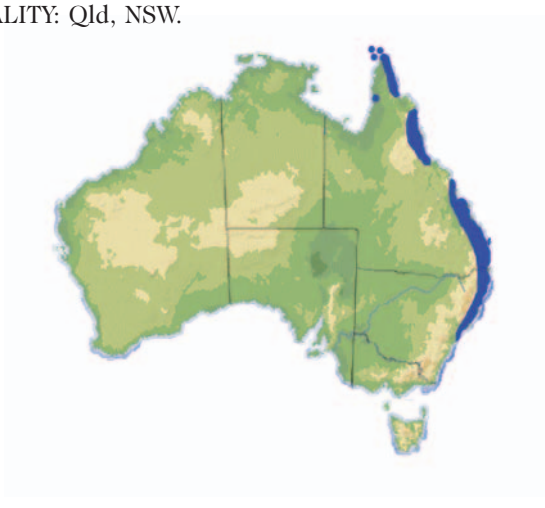
DESCRIPTION: Reddish-brown above, paler below, eastern females blue-grey. A broad white stripe runs along cheek, muzzle has black and white markings with partially bare tip. Hindfeet have no first digit, second and third are joined with a double claw, fourth is much longer than others.
Synonyms: *Kangurus rufa, Megaleia rufa*; Plains Kangaroo; Blue-flier (female).
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Vic, WA.



Red-legged Pademelon

LATIN NAME: *Thylogale stigmatica* (Gould, 1860)
SUBSPECIES: *T. s. stigmatica*, Cairns region; *T. s. coxenii*, Cape York; *T. s. wilcoxi*, southern Qld, NSW; *T. s. oriomo*, south central Papua New Guinea lowlands.
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Thylogale* - "pouched-weasel"; *stigmatica* - "pricked" - referring to faint (pricked out as with a pin on paper) markings on neck and hip
FOOD: Fallen leaves, fruit, ferns, fungi, native grasses.
HABITAT: Rainforests, wet sclerophyll forests, vine scrubs, areas of dense vegetation.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 385-540 mm Tail: 300-475 mm; 2.5-6.8 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping in refuges in thick cover, sitting with their tail between the legs, leaning back on a rock or tree, sleep with head on ground or tail. Emerge in late afternoon to forage until early morning, follow runways through the ground vegetation to feeding areas. Shy, usually solitary, may feed with 1-3 others. Males make a soft clucking during courtship, a sound similar to that used by females calling their young.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature at 48 weeks; males at 66 weeks. Gestation period is 28-30 days. Females have well-developed pouch with 4 teats, give birth to single young. The sex is determined at three to four weeks. Detaches from teat at 13-18 weeks, is weaned 66 days after leaving pouch.

DESCRIPTION: Has thick soft fur, grey-brown to dark brown above with red-brown markings on the cheeks, thighs and forearms. Ears curved, nose bare and tail short and thick. Hindfeet have no first digit, second and third are joined with a double claw, fourth is much longer than others. Synonyms: Pademelon; Northern Red-legged Pademelon.
LOCALITY: Qld, NSW.



Red-necked Pademelon

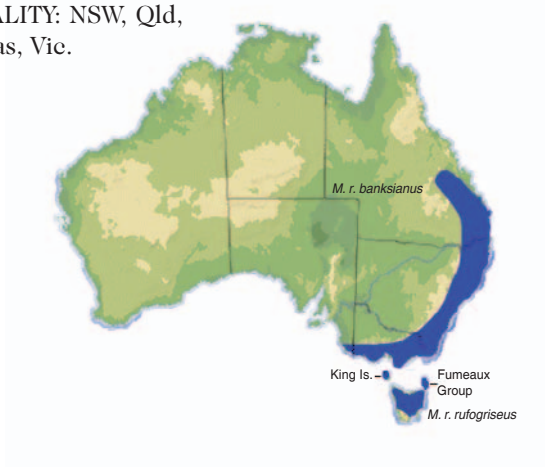
LATIN NAME: *Thylogale thetis* (Lesson, 1837)
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Thylogale* - "pouched weasel"; *thetis* - "after French vessel Thetis"
FOOD: Grasses, herbs and leaves, often holding food in the forepaws.
HABITAT: Margins of closed forests and rainforests.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 290-620 mm Tail: 270-510 mm; 1.8-9.2 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Active at various times, they usually feed in forest clearings at night, travelling through the forest by day seeking food and basking in the winter sun. They rest in shallow depressions in the leaf litter in thick cover, moving along well-defined runways to feeding areas. Males establish dominance hierarchies by fighting or ritualised aggression. They have home ranges of 5-30 ha and are often seen on pastures near the forest edge at night where their home ranges overlap. Slow movements are quadrupedal with the tail dragging behind. They hold the tail out stiffly behind when hopping. Vocalisations include a threatening growl and clucking by females calling their young and by males during courtship. They thump their hindfeet if disturbed as they hop away.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 17 months, breeding all year, peaks in autumn and spring in north, Jan-Feb in the south. A single young is born and attaches to one of four teats in mother's pouch, leaving pouch by 26 weeks, suckling at foot for 4 weeks.

DESCRIPTION: Distinguishable from Red-legged Pademelon by reddish-brown fur around neck and shoulders. Soft thick fur is brownish-grey on back, whitish below. Ears curved, nose bare, tail short and thick. Hindfeet no first digit, second and third are joined with a double claw, fourth is much longer than others. Synonyms: *Halmaturus thetis*; Pademelon Wallaby.
LOCALITY: Qld, NSW.

Red-necked Wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Macropus rufogriseus* (Desmarest, 1817)
SUBSPECIES: *M. r. rufogriseus*, Tas, Bass Strait; *M. r. banksianus*, Australian mainland.
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Macropus* - "long-foot"; *rufogriseus* - "red-grey"
FOOD: Native grasses.
HABITAT: Sclerophyll forests, woodlands with dense understoreys, heathlands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 660-925 mm Tail: 620-880 mm; 11-27 kg
BEHAVIOUR: They rest in thick vegetation, emerging late afternoon or earlier on cool days, follow well-defined routes to feeding grounds. Males have home ranges of 32 ha. Female home ranges 12 ha, overlap those of close female relatives. Hierarchies are established by fighting and ritualised aggressive acts. Young males forced out of mother's territory at 2 years of age, females can settle in adjoining home ranges.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature at 11-21 months, males at 13-19 months may live 18 years. Breed all year, in Tas breed Jan to Aug. Females mate soon after giving birth. One or two young are born after a pregnancy of 29-30 days. Attach to one of 4 teats in mother's pouch, leaving at 40 weeks, suckling at foot until 12-17 months of age.

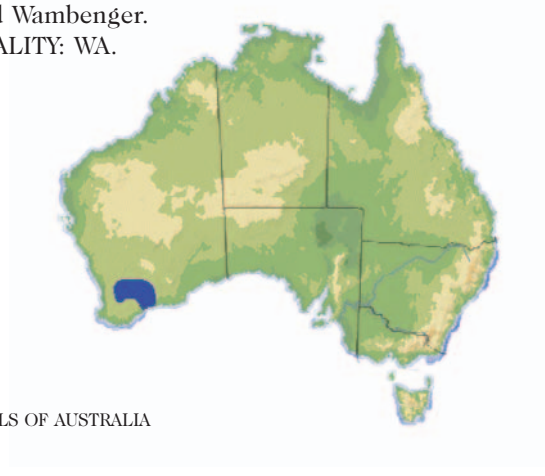
DESCRIPTION: Soft deep fur, dark brown to reddish brown above with pale tan to white tips, reddish-brown neck. Light grey below, upper lip has white stripe, nose, paws, longest toe are black. Females paler, both sexes on Tas and Bass Strait Is. darker. Tail well-furred with brushy tip. Hindfeet no first digit, second and third joined with double claw, fourth is much longer than others. Synonyms: *Wallabia rufogrisea*; Bennett;s Wallaby (Tas); Brush Wallaby; Eastern Brush Wallaby; Brush Kangaroo; Brusher; Red Wallaby (mainland).
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, SA, Tas, Vic.



Red-tailed Phascogale

LATIN NAME: *Phascogale calura* Gould, 1844
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Phascogale* - "pouched-weasel"; *calura* - "beautiful-tailed"
FOOD: Insects, small birds and rodents. They can survive without drinking.
HABITAT: Eucalypt forests and shrublands with an annual rainfall of 300-600 mm, preferably with a good canopy and numerous nesting hollows.
STATUS: Endangered
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 90-125 mm Tail: 120-145 mm; 37-68 g
BEHAVIOUR: It is mainly nocturnal, but has been seen to emerge during the day to investigate potential food sources. Sleeps in tree holes or hollow logs. They are swift climbers although much of their time is spent searching for food on the ground.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexual maturity is reached at 1 year. Mating takes place in May and June and up to eight young are born from June to August. The males die soon after mating due to stress-related illnesses. Females have no true pouch although ridges of skin develop on either side of the eight teats during the breeding season. The young attach firmly to the teats and are dragged around by the mother until they relinquish the teat. They are then left in the nest until weaned at 4-5 months.

DESCRIPTION: This small carnivorous marsupial is distinctive by the colourful tail with reddish-brown fur on the upper surface of the basal third, black fur below and a black, bushy tip. They are ash-grey above and cream to white below, with a pointed face, protruding eyes and large, slim, crinkled ears. The feet and hands have long digits and the feet have a small opposable first toe. Synonyms: Red-tailed Wambenger.
LOCALITY: WA.



Rock Ringtail Possum

LATIN NAME: *Petropseudes dahli* (Collett, 1895)
FAMILY NAME: Pseudocheiridae
MEANING: *Petropseudes* - "rock-Pseudocheirus"; *dahli* - "after K. Dahl, who collected the first specimens"
FOOD: Leaves, flowers and fruits of trees and shrubs.
HABITAT: Rocky escarpments and outcrops with deep fissures in open forest and vine forest thickets.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 320-390 mm Tail: 200-266 mm; 1.2-2 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Active at night, resting in rock clefts and fissures during the day. They do not build nests and are usually seen in pairs or family groups touching each other frequently, congregating in groups of up to 9 on or near rocks. Shy creatures who run for cover when caught in a spotlight, using a quadrupedal gait. The least arboreal of the ringtails, nevertheless they are good climbers and leapers and sit on their tail when resting.
DEVELOPMENT: Little studied. May breed all year, gives birth to single young, attaches to one of 2 teats in mother's forward-opening pouch, rides on her back when older.

DESCRIPTION: A rabbit-sized marsupial with long woolly fur, grey to brownish-grey above with a dark stripe from forehead to rump, white below with white patches around the eye and under the ear. The short tail is thick at the base and tapers to a thin, nearly naked terminal half. Head is pointed with a bare nose and small curved ears. The legs are short with short claws on the hands and feet. First two fingers of the forefeet oppose the other three. Hindfeet have an opposing first toe; the second and third are joined with a double claw. Synonyms: *Pseudocheirus dahli*; Rock-haunting Ringtail; Rock Possum, Wogoit.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, WA

Ross Seal

LATIN NAME: *Ommatophoca rossi* Gray, 1844
FAMILY NAME: Phocidae
MEANING: *Ommatophoca* - "eyed-seal"; *rossi* - "Ross's"
FOOD: Squid, fishes, bottom-dwelling invertebrates and krill.
HABITAT: Circumpolar packice.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Up to 250 cm; Up to 250 kg
BEHAVIOUR: If disturbed on ice it will raise its head high, bulge its throat forward, opens its mouth wide and emit an amazing series of bird-like trills, clicking, cooing and thumping noises as a threat display. When it makes these sounds, its very large, soft palate bulges forward and meets the raised tongue so that the seal looks as if it has two tennis-sized balls caught in its throat. A rapid and agile swimmer. Adults mate annually in January and do not seem to feed at this time.
DEVELOPMENT: The females gives birth to light-coloured pups about 1 metre long in mid-November. Mating takes place a few weeks later.

DESCRIPTION: Dark grey above; silver-grey below; spotted on sides. Body plump; head wide with very short, blunt snout and large protruding eyes which perceive movement of prey in the dim light under the ice. Canines are needle-like. Teeth posterior to the canines are poorly developed.
Synonyms: Singing Seal; Big-eyed Seal.
LOCALITY: Antarctic waters, SA (once)

Rothschild's Rock-wallaby

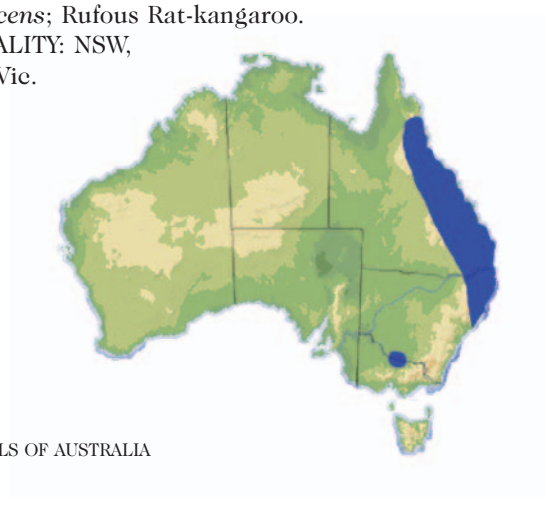
LATIN NAME: *Petrogale rothschildi* Thomas, 1904
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Petrogale* - "rock-weasel"; *rothschildi* - "named after Lord Rothschild, sponsor of the expedition which collected the first specimens"
FOOD: Native grasses, forbs and shrubs.
HABITAT: Sub-tropical to tropical shrubland and grassland with granite outcrops and rock-piles.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 430-580 mm Tail: 470-670 mm; 2.6-3.9 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Sleeps by day in deep clefts between rocks, where the temperature is much lower than at the surface.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. Probably sexually mature at one or two years.

DESCRIPTION: Greyish-brown above; dull brown below. Upper surface of head and ears rich dark brown; paler cheeks and throat with grey neck and shoulders. At times, fur may be suffused with purplish pigmentation, especially around back of neck and shoulders. Synonyms: Roebourne Rock-wallaby.
LOCALITY: WA

Rufous Bettong

LATIN NAME: *Aepyprymnus rufescens* (Gray, 1837)
FAMILY NAME: Potoroidae
MEANING: *Aepyprymnus* - "high-rump"; *rufescens* - "reddish"
FOOD: Grass, roots, herbs and tubers dug up with the forefeet.
HABITAT: Grassy open forests to 700 m.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 375-390 mm Tail: 338-387 mm; to 3.5 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping in spherical to cone-shaped nests with a single entrance made of grass collected in the mouth and carried in the curled tail. Nests are constructed over shallow depressions at the base of tussocks or under logs. Individuals have clusters of nests often near feeding site, used randomly, abandoned if disturbed. Overlapping home ranges of some 20 ha, feed in small groups hopping quickly with forelegs tucked in against body, standing upright with arms held stiffly by their sides and stamp hindfeet as they hop away. Vocalisations, low hisses if alarmed, growls and grunts when interacting socially.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 9-12 months, breed all year though embryo remains dormant until pouch vacated. Single young born after 22-24 days attaches to one of four teats in mother's pouch. Leaves pouch at 14-16 weeks, young suckles at foot for 7 weeks.

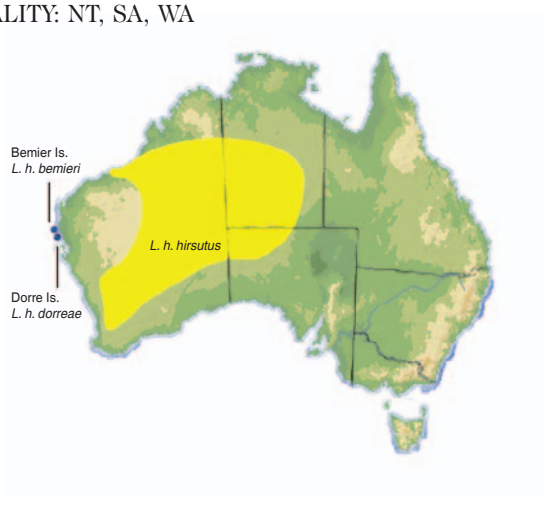
DESCRIPTION: The largest bettong, it has a prehensile tail, well-developed upper canine teeth and upper and lower incisor teeth that bite against each other. The head is broad with pointed ears and a hairy muzzle. Fur is reddish brown to grey-brown flecked with light grey above and white below. Short muscular forelimbs have forward pointing toes with long curved claws. Hindfeet have no first digit, second and third are joined with a double claw, fourth is much longer than the others. Synonyms: *Bettongia rufescens*; Rufous Rat-kangaroo.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, Vic.



Rufous Hare-wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Lagorchestes hirsutus* Gould, 1844
SUBSPECIES: *L. h. hirsutus*, mainland Australia; *L. h. bernieri*, Bernier Island, WA; *L. h. dorreae*, Dorre Island, WA.
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Lagorchestes* - "dancing-hare"; *hirsutus* - "hairy"
FOOD: Tough native grasses or sedges and browses on shrubs and herbs.
HABITAT: Semi-arid woodland, scrubland and grassland, particularly where regenerating after local fires.
STATUS: Endangered
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 310-390 mm Tail: 250-300 mm; 1580-1740 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal. In the cooler part of the year it shelters by day in a space dug into the base of a spinifex hummock or low shrub; in hotter areas it digs a burrow less than 1 metre long under similar shelter. It probably does not need to drink.
DEVELOPMENT: Females are sexually active at 5-18 months; males at about 14 months. Reproduction is continuous in favourable conditions. Pouch life lasts about 124 days. Females are slightly larger than males.

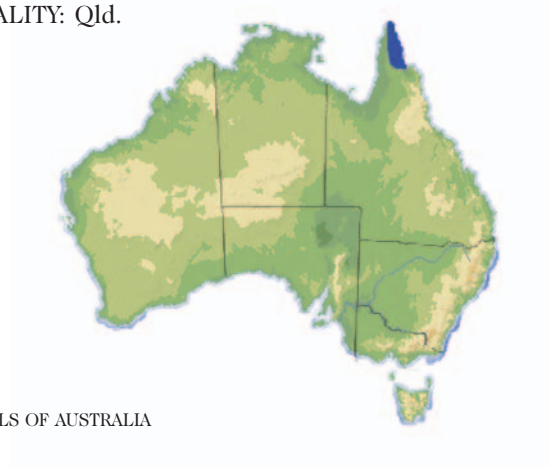
DESCRIPTION: The scientific name refers to the rather shaggy, soft fur; the common name to its reddish colour. The tail is sparsely-haired and darker towards the tip. The long hindfeet have no first digit, the second and third are joined with a double claw and the fourth is much longer than the others. Synonyms: Western Hare-wallaby; Brown Hare-wallaby; Spinifex-rat (desert); Whistler (south-west), Wurrup.
LOCALITY: NT, SA, WA



Rufous Spiny Bandicoot

LATIN NAME: *Echymipera rufescens* (Peters and Doria, 1875)
SUBSPECIES: The Australian subspecies is *Echymipera rufescens australis*.
FAMILY NAME: Peroryctidae
MEANING: *Echymipera* - "pouched-hedgehog"; *rufescens* - "reddish"
FOOD: Insects, possibly small rodents, fruit and soft tubers.
HABITAT: Tropical rainforest, open forests, woodlands and adjoining heath.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 300-400 mm Tail: 75-100 mm; 0.45-2 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Little has been studied. They are nocturnal and strictly terrestrial, moving with a slow hop and a galloping run. They use their forefeet to dig conical holes in the search for food and investigate the hole with the snout.
DEVELOPMENT: Little known about their development. Breeding in February. Females have well-developed rear-opening pouch with four teats. Males are larger than females.

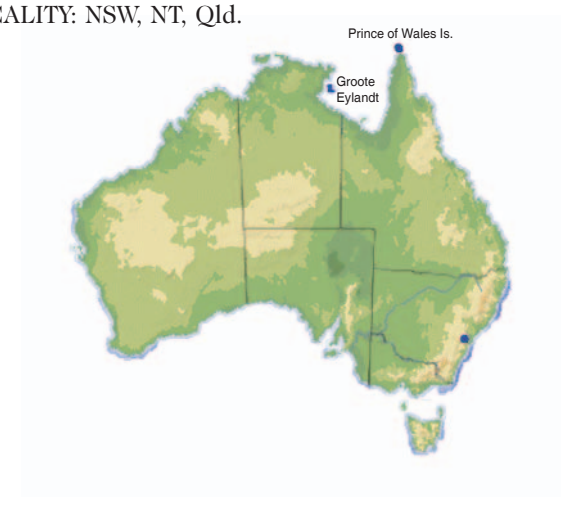
DESCRIPTION: Also found in the rainforests of New Guinea, this rabbit-like marsupial has coarse, stiff fur, rufous-brown flecked with black and grey above, becoming blacker on the shoulders and head, straw-coloured to white below. The tail is short, black and almost naked. The head is long and narrow with small eyes, small rounded ears and a long tapering snout with a naked tip. Short forelimbs have strong curved claws on elongated feet. Hindfeet are long with a very large, strongly-clawed fourth toe; the second and third toes are joined with a double claw. Synonyms: *Echymipera refescens australis*; Spiny Bandicoot; Rufescent Bandicoot.
LOCALITY: Qld.



Rusa Deer

LATIN NAME: *Cervus timoriensis* de Blainville, 1822
SUBSPECIES: There are eight subspecies. Australian population derived from *Cervus timoriensis russa*, from Borneo and Java; *Cervus timoriensis moluccensis* from the Moluccas.
FAMILY NAME: Cervidae
MEANING: *Cervus* - "deer deer"; *timoriensis* - "Timor"
FOOD: Grasses
HABITAT: Tropical grasslands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 1.4-1.9 m Tail: 200 mm; 50-115 kg
BEHAVIOUR: It is primarily a grazer. Except in the mating season, males associate in 'bachelor' herds, females and juveniles remaining in separate herds. Mating is preceded by intense aggression between males, which carry piles of vegetation on their antlers. Antlers are cast in January and February.
DEVELOPMENT: Mating can occur at any time of the year but is mostly in winter.

DESCRIPTION: This species was introduced to islands in Torres Strait and the Gulf of Carpentaria. A population has existed in Royal National Park, Sydney, since early in the 20th century. The coat can vary from dark grey-brown to almost black-brown, or to pale reddish brown. Tail not carried erect in alarm. Three tines to each antler in adult males. Upper canine teeth are present. Synonyms: Rusa.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld.



Rusty Antechinus

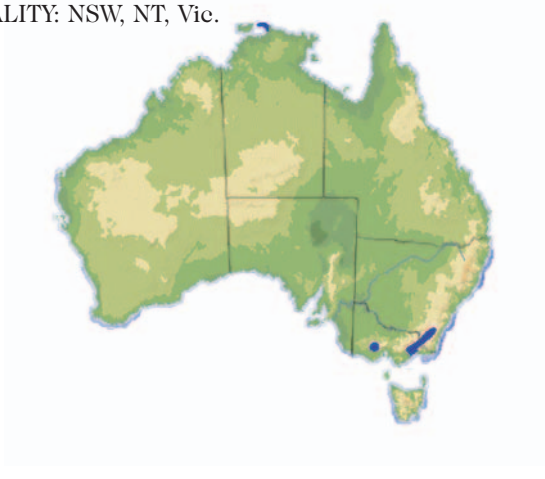
LATIN NAME: *Antechinus adustus* Van Dyck, S., Crowther, M.S. 2000
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Antechinus* - "hedgehog-equivalent"; *adustus*
FOOD: Feeds on insects found in rotting logs
HABITAT: Dense tropical vine forests above 800metres. (From Paluma 300km north to Mossman)
STATUS:
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body 90-120mm: Tail 90-100mm:; 30-40g
BEHAVIOUR: Mating takes place from late June through to late July with all the males then dying by the first week in August.
DEVELOPMENT: Females have 6 teats and pouch young observed in early August; remaining in pouch for about 5 weeks, then suckled until late November.

DESCRIPTION: Fur long and dark sepia tipped with black, cinnamon buff colour below and on shoulders, flanks and thighs. The tail is thin and light brown in colour with a black tip.
LOCALITY: Qld.

Sambar

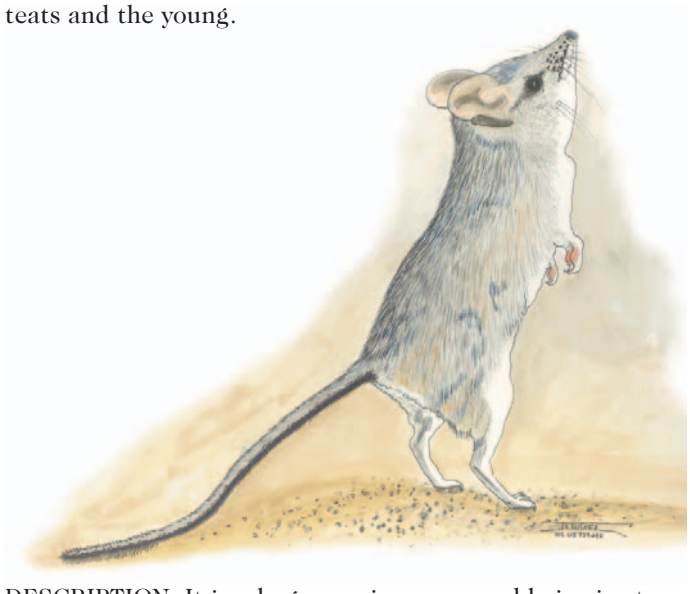
LATIN NAME: *Cervus unicolor* Kerr, 1792
SUBSPECIES: Five subspecies. Australian population descended from *Cervus unicolor unicolor*, from Sri Lanka.
FAMILY NAME: Cervidae
MEANING: *Cervus* - "deer deer"; *unicolor* - "single-coloured"
FOOD: Coarse grasses and native foliage.
HABITAT: Cool temperate forest, adjacent to grassland, usually close to water.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 1.6-2.5 m Tail: 200-300 mm; 120-325 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Activity usually nocturnal. Very shy, seldom venturing far from cover. It usually associates in pairs or in family groups of three or four. It likes to wallow in muddy pools. During the mating season mature males establish territories. Females aggregate into single-sex groups and, as they pass through the territory of a male, he attempts to mount any females that are on heat.
DEVELOPMENT: Mating occurs in September and October or in March and April. A single young is born after a gestation of about 34 weeks. Twins are very rare.

DESCRIPTION: The Sambar was introduced into Victoria in the 1860s for hunting and is now established over a large part of Gippsland. It is notable for its very large 'bat-like' ears. The coat is reddish or greyish brown to dark brown or almost black. A tough mane of longer hair grows on the throat. The antlers are strong and very knobbly, but regularly of the three-tined type. Synonyms: Ceylon Elk.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Vic.

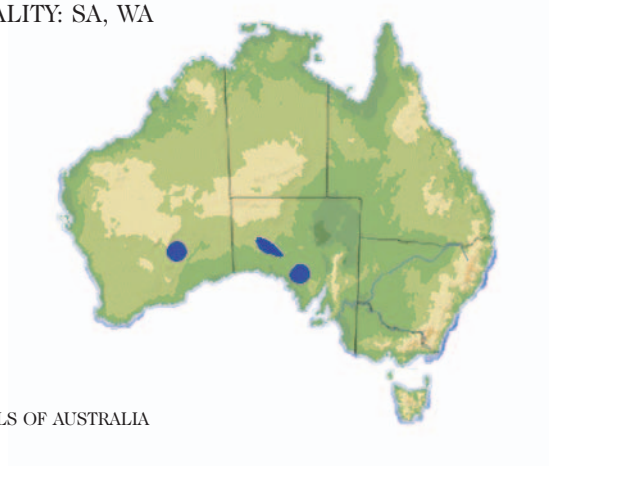


Sandhill Dunnart

LATIN NAME: *Sminthopsis psammophila* Spencer, 1895
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Sminthopsis* - "mouse-appearance"; *psammophila* - "sand-loving"
FOOD: Insects.
HABITAT: Low sand ridges with spinifex hummocks, separated by wide swales with sparse scrub, sometimes with clumps of mulga; cool-temperate to sub-tropical.
STATUS: Vulnerable
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 90-120 mm Tail: 110-130 mm; 15-80 g
BEHAVIOUR: Very agile and active for at least part of the day as well as at night. When threatened, adopts a crouched defensive position, baring its teeth and issuing throaty hisses.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. Reproduction occurs in spring and early summer. One female specimen had five small pouch-young. The pouch has a wide perimeter flap of skin which covers the eight teats and the young.



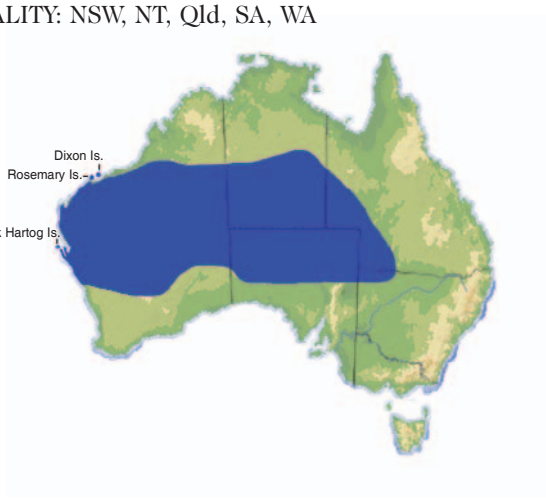
DESCRIPTION: It is a large species, comparable in size to the Red-cheeked Dunnart. It has short, spiky fur, blackish-brown above, white, yellow or rufous below, with reddish cheeks and a distinct blackish stripe down the forehead. The tail is narrow, sparsely-haired and scaly. The hindfeet are narrow with four long toes and a small first digit. The hairs which cover the feet, including most of the sole of the hindfoot, probably assist locomotion on fine sand. The head is long and pointed with large bulging eyes and large rounded ears. Synonyms: *Sminthopsis psammophilus*; Large Desert Sminthopsis.
LOCALITY: SA, WA



Sandy Inland Mouse

LATIN NAME: *Pseudomys hermannsburgensis* (Waite, 1896)
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Pseudomys* - "false-mouse"; *hermannsburgensis* - "from Hermannsburg Mission, NT"
FOOD: Seeds, roots and tubers. They can probably survive without drinking.
HABITAT: Woodlands, mallee shrublands, tussock grasslands, gibber plains, alluvial flats.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 65-85 mm Tail: 70-90 mm; 8-15 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in grass-lined nests in deep burrows with a single tunnel dug some 500 mm underground to avoid high temperatures. They are social, sharing their burrows with others. Small groups of around 6 breeding adults have been found in burrows and 22 non-breeding adults were discovered in another. Pregnant or lactating females become intolerant of other adults and have been recorded castrating or killing their mates.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexual maturity is reached at 3 months, they breed after good rainfall, producing several litters in favourable conditions. Females have 4 teats and normally give birth to 3-4 young born 29-34 days after mating. They become independent at 4-5 weeks.

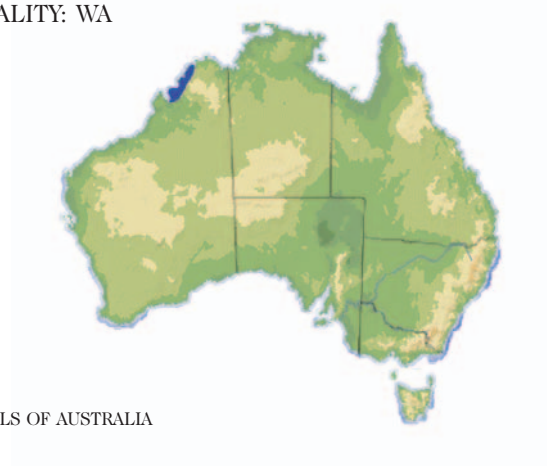
DESCRIPTION: Similar to the House Mouse but lacks the distinctive odour and has larger ears, eyes and tail. A slender, slightly-built rodent, sandy-brown to grey above, grading to white below. They have one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *Leggaddina hermannsburgensis*; *Leggadina brazenori*; Hermannsburg Mouse.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, WA



Scaly-tailed Possum

LATIN NAME: *Wyulda squamicaudata* Alexander, 1919
FAMILY NAME: Phalangeridae
MEANING: *Wyulda* - "brush-tail possum"; *squamicaudata* - "scaly-tailed"
FOOD: Leaves, blossom, fruits, seeds and insects.
HABITAT: Open and closed forests and vine thickets in rugged, rocky terrain with more than 900 mm of rain annually.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 290-400 mm Tail: 255-350 mm; 1.25-1.85 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Active at night, sleeps by day in a rock crevice or deep within a rock pile. Solitary, with a home range some 250 m wide. Active on the ground and in trees, they are agile climbers, using the prehensile tail as a fifth limb.
DEVELOPMENT: Females are sexually mature at 2 years, males at 18 months. The breeding season extends from March to August. The single juvenile remains in the mother's forward-opening pouch for 147-151 days and is weaned at about 35 weeks.

DESCRIPTION: A rabbit-size arboreal marsupial and the only member of the genus. It has pale grey fur on the back with a slightly darker stripe running from the crown to the rump. It is creamy-white below and sometimes rufous around the base of the prehensile tail, which is bare for most of its length with prominent scales. The head is long with a flattened pink nose, small ears and large protruding eyes. The hindfeet have an opposing first toe, the second and third are joined with a double claw.
LOCALITY: WA



Semon's Leafnosed-bat

LATIN NAME: *Hipposideros semoni* Matschie, 1903
FAMILY NAME: Hipposideridae
MEANING: *Hipposideros* - "horse-iron"; *semoni* - "named after R. W. Semon, German zoologist"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Tropical rainforest to woodland.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 40-50 mm Tail: 10-20 mm; 12-16 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, roosting by day individually in caves or rock crevices, hanging from the ceiling. It feeds on small to medium-sized flying insects near the floor of the rainforest or among shrubs in open forests and woodlands.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. Females have two false teats in the pubic region and two milk-bearing teats in the thoracic area.

DESCRIPTION: The common name of this bat refers to a "warty" protuberance between and above the nostrils. The fur is light brown, slightly paler below. The ears are very large and broad with a slight point. The eyes are small and a simple noseleaf with a horseshoe-shaped lower ridge protrudes above the snout. The tail projects slightly beyond the tail membrane. Synonyms: *Hipposideros muscinus*; Wart-nosed Horseshoe-bat; Semon's bat, Greater Wart-nosed Horseshoe bat.
LOCALITY: Qld.

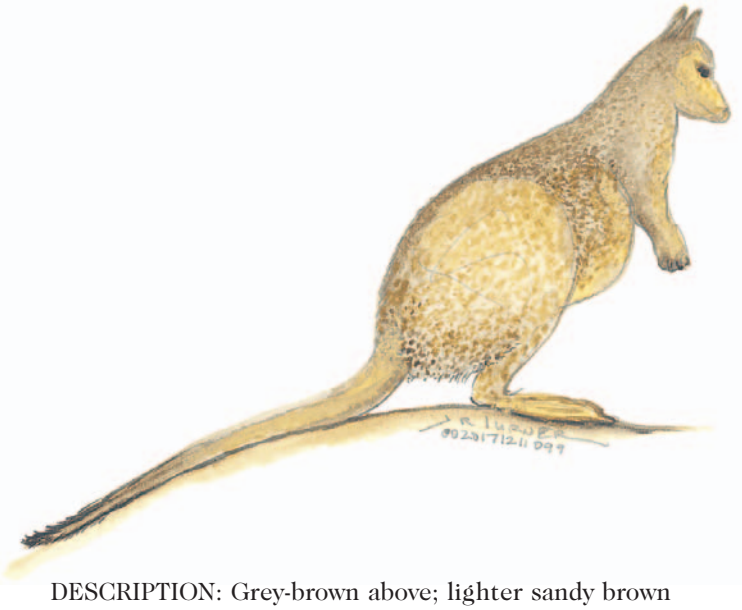
Shark Bay Mouse

LATIN NAME: *Pseudomys fieldi* (Waite, 1896)
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Pseudomys* - "false-mouse"; *fieldi* -"Field's"
FOOD: Flowers, leaves and stems.
HABITAT: Sub-tropical semi-arid coastal dunes.
STATUS: Endangered
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 80-120 mm Tail: 110-130 mm; 30-61 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, sleeping by day in tunnels. These tunnels and runways are made in spinifex tussocks and piles of seagrass on the beach.
DEVELOPMENT: Pregnancy lasts for 18-30 days. The female rears up to 4 young in a litter. These cling tightly to the mother's teats and are dragged with her as she moves about. Their eyes open at 15 days old. Young become independent at 4 to 5 weeks.

DESCRIPTION: This mouse was discovered on the mainland of Shark Bay but is now restricted to Bernier Island. Twice the size of the House Mouse but lacking the distinctive odour, the fur is grey-brown with long dark hairs above and grey-white below. Tail fully furred, grey above, distinctly separate from white undersurface. The feet are slim and covered with white hairs. They have one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *Thetomys praeconis*; *Pseudomys praeconis*; Djoongari, Shaggy Mouse; Shaggy-haired Mouse; Alice Springs Mouse.
LOCALITY: WA.

Sharman's Rock-wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Petrogale sharmani* Eldridge and Close, 1992
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Petrogale* - "rock-weasel"; *sharmani* - "named after Professor G. B. Sharman in recognition of his enormous contribution to marsupial biology"
FOOD: Grasses, leaves and fruits.
HABITAT: Rocky outcrops with surrounding woodland with grassy understorey, within tropical rainforest.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 455-530 mm Tail: 435-532 mm; 4.1-4.4 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Sleeps most of the day in rock crevices. Feeds in the late afternoon and night on native grasses but they may supplement their diet with leaves and fruits.
DEVELOPMENT: Similar to that of *P. assimilis*. Males and females reach sexual maturity around 18 months of age and can live up to 13 years. No distinct breeding season, with births being recorded in all months of the year.

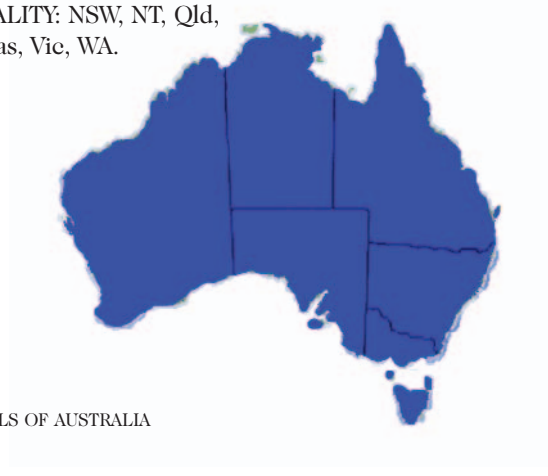


DESCRIPTION: Grey-brown above; lighter sandy brown below. Pale cheek-stripe and pale patch on face between the eyes. Slight mid-dorsal head-stripe occasionally present. Tail darkening to almost black distally, with a slight brush at tip. Following the autumn moult they become progressively more sandy throughout the year, until their colouration matches the mature wallaby grass, which grows around the rock outcrops where it lives. Synonyms: Mount Claro Rock-wallaby.
LOCALITY: Qld.

Short-beaked Echidna

LATIN NAME: *Tachyglossus aculeatus* (Shaw, 1792)
SUBSPECIES: *T. a. acanthion*, WA, NT, arid zones of all mainland states; *T. a. aculeatus*, coastal regions, dividing range slopes of s Qld, NSW, Vic and SA; *T. a. lawesii*, PNG; *T. a. multiaculeatus*, Kangaroo Island; *T. a. setosus*, Tas.
FAMILY NAME: Tachyglossidae
MEANING: *Tachyglossus* - "fast-tongue"; *aculeatus* - "spiny"
FOOD: Termites, ants and other invertebrates gathered using its long tongue.
HABITAT: River banks in most habitats from rainforests to deserts.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 300-450 mm; 2-7 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at dawn and dusk in summer and during the day in winter, they sleep under bushes or leaf litter in hollow logs or abandoned burrows. Usually solitary, they have overlapping home ranges some 800 m across.They have a slow rolling gait freezing or curling up if threatened, eventually seeking shelter or burying themselves. They climb into logs and stumps and dig into termite mounds and ant nests, locating insects by smell and by detecting electrical signals via receptors in the snout.
DEVELOPMENT: Mate in July and Aug. Females develop temporary pouch and lay a single egg into pouch. Egg has a leathery skin, about 15 mm long, hatches after 10 days. Newborn blind with very short spines and feed on milk secreted from pores in pouch area. Left at the hole or burrow for 3 months when mother forages, independent at 8 months.

DESCRIPTION: An egg-laying mammal, has strong sharp spines covering the back and sides, a long tubular snout with a long sticky tongue, small eyes and a short tail. The spines moult annually. Creamy-coloured with a dark tip, may be obscured in Tasmanian form by dark brown to sandy fur. Limbs short, powerful with 5 toes and strong spatulate claws. Males have small non-venomous spur on hindleg.
Synonyms: *Mymecophaga aculeata*; Spiny Anteater; Porcupine.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Tas, Vic, WA.



Short-eared Possum

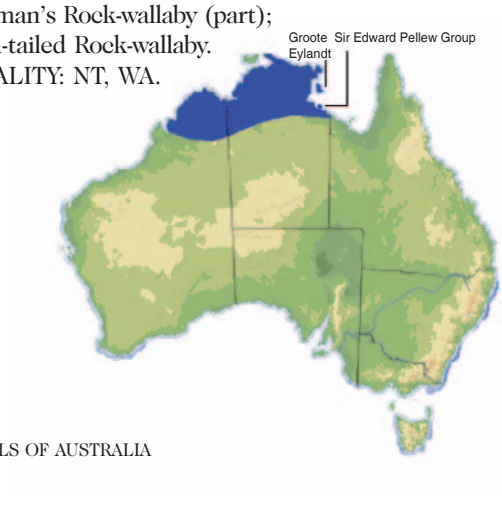
LATIN NAME: *Trichosurus caninus* (Ogilby, 1836)
FAMILY NAME: Phalangeridae
MEANING: *Trichosurus* - "hairy-tail"; *caninus* - "dog-like"
FOOD: Leaves, fruits, fungi, lichen, bark and pine cones.
HABITAT: Wet sclerophyll forests, rainforests and moist gullies.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 400-570 mm Tail: 390-420 mm; 2.2-4.5 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, sleep in tree hollows, logs. Both sexes have overlapping home ranges some 500 m wide. These are scent-marked with secretions from scent glands located under chin, on chest and below the base of the tail. Usually solitary, pairing seems to occur in mating season. Juveniles remain in mother's home range until 2-3 years old. Move rapidly through trees using the moderately prehensile tail, often crashing through canopy, often descending to ground to feed. Competent swimmers if necessary. Quiet and docile, they emit guttural snorts when disturbed and freeze in a spotlight.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature 2-3 years, males at 30-36 months. Breeding season March to June. Single young is born 15-17 days after conception. Attaches to one of two teats in mother's forward-facing pouch, which it leaves 5-6 months later, then rides on mother's back until weaned at 7-13 months. Males live 12 years, females to 17 years.

DESCRIPTION: Flecked steel-grey above, whitish below with a black, bushy, curved, tapering tail, bare undersurface at tip. Animals in ne part of range are dark grey to deep amber-brown above, animals with black fur recorded. Ears short and curved, nose is pink. Hands have five non-opposing fingers. Hindfeet have an opposing first toe, second and third are joined with double claw. Synonyms: Bobuck; Short-eared Brushtail Possum.
LOCALITY: Qld, NSW.

Short-eared Rock-wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Petrogale brachyotis* (Gould, 1841)
SUBSPECIES: Three geographically distinct populations are given interim recognition. Kimberley Race: Kimberley region, WA. The name *P. b. brachyotis* is applicable to this population; Victoria River Race: Victoria River District, NT; Arnhem Land Race: Alligator Rivers region, Arnhem Land, western Gulf of Carpentaria, Groote Eylandt, NT.
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Petrogale* - "rock-weasel"; *brachyotis* - "short-eared"
FOOD: Predominantly leaves and seeds with a small amount of grass.
HABITAT: Low rocky hills, cliffs and gorges with open forest, scrub and grasslands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 410-520 mm Tail: 420-550 mm; to 5.6 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping in cool rocky crevices, emerging in the evening to feed in adjacent areas, often in groups.
DEVELOPMENT: Little studied. Probably breed all year with a peak in the wet season, giving birth to a single young which attaches to one of the four teats in the mother's pouch.

DESCRIPTION: The fur is short and fine, lightly grey above and white to greyish-white below. They have a dark brown neck stripe, a white shoulder patch and a dark tip on the tail. Arnhem Land individuals are dark grey to brown above with a distinct white or buff side stripe, a dark neck and back stripe. The ears are less than half the length of the head and have a whitish margin. The hindfeet have no first digit, the second and third are joined with a double claw and the fourth is much longer than the others.
Synonyms: *Macropus brachyotis, P. venustula* (part); *P. wilkinsi* (part); *P. longmani* (part); Roper River Rock-wallaby (part); Longman's Rock-wallaby (part); Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby.
LOCALITY: NT, WA.



Short-tailed Hopping-mouse

LATIN NAME: *Notomys amplus* Brazenor, 1936
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Notomys* - "southern-mouse"; *amplus* - "large"
FOOD: Unknown.
HABITAT: Desert dunes or gibber plains.
STATUS: Extinct
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 140 mm Tail: 150 mm; About 100 g
BEHAVIOUR: Unknown.
DEVELOPMENT: Unknown.

DESCRIPTION: This recently extinct species (not collected since 1895) was larger than any of the living hopping-mice (probably about twice the weight of *Notomys mitchelli*). Mid-brown above, yellow-white below. Tip of tail white. It had large ears and a tail only slightly longer than its body.
Synonyms: Brazenor's Hopping-Mouse.
LOCALITY: NT, SA.

Silky Mouse

LATIN NAME: *Pseudomys apodemoides* Finlayson, 1932
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Pseudomys* - "false-mouse"; *apodemoides* - "*Apodemus*-like, Apodemus being a genus of European fieldmice"
FOOD: Cockroaches; the seeds of casuarinas and leptospermums, and particularly in winter, nectar from the Desert Banksia.
HABITAT: Cool-temperate semi-arid mallee heathland, particularly around Desert Banksia shrubs.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 60-90 mm Tail: 90-110 mm; 16-22 g
BEHAVIOUR: Sleeps by day in a nest in a complex burrow system as many as three metres below the surface and extending laterally up to four metres from a Desert Banksia. Feeds mainly at night. Water conservation is aided by seeking cool, humid nesting sites and by producing a very concentrated urine and dry faeces. Social. Population density is at its peak in regenerating vegetation two to three years after a bushfire.
DEVELOPMENT: Breeds any time of the year but is influenced by rainfall. When food is limited, breeding is restricted; some populations breed in winter, others in spring and summer. Females have four teats may rear successive litters of three or four young.

DESCRIPTION: Closely related to the Ash-grey Mouse with a similar colouration (ash-grey in colour) but a softer coat. It has much larger ears than a House Mouse. Silver-grey above, flecked with light brown; white below. Tail white-haired on pink skin, often with 10-15 grey-brown bands. Bulging eyes. Synonyms: *Gyomys apodemoides*; *Pseudomys glaucus*; Silky-grey Mouse, Silky-grey Southern Mouse; Finlayson's Mouse.
LOCALITY: SA, Vic.

Smoky Mouse

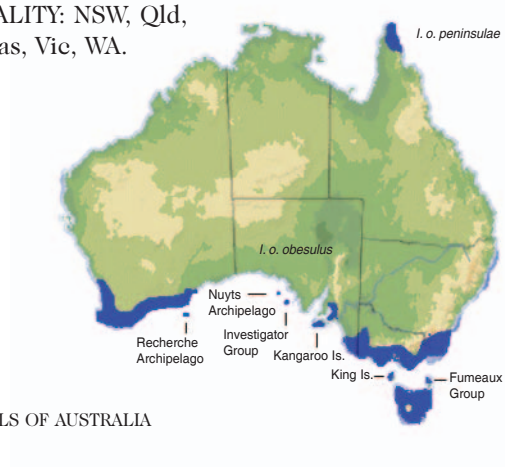
LATIN NAME: *Pseudomys fumeus* Brazenor, 1934
SUBSPECIES: No formal subspecies described but *P. fumeus* (western form), west of Melbourne and *P. fumeus* (eastern form), east of Melbourne, will warrant distinction.
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Pseudomys* - "false-mouse"; *fumeus* - "smoky"
FOOD: Summer: seeds and berries. Winter: underground fungi. Spring: migrating Bogong Moths.
HABITAT: Mainly sub-alpine sclerophyll forest and woodland with heath understorey, often on mountain ridges; also on coastal plains
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 80-100 mm Tail: 110-150 mm; 45-90 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal. Populations are unstable, with a high mortality from September to November. Although population density is highest in vegetation regenerating after a bushfire.
DEVELOPMENT: Breeding occurs in summer and one or two litters of 3 or 4 young may be reared. Females often live to breed in more than one season and older animals breed slightly earlier than younger ones.

DESCRIPTION: The range has decreased since European settlement. The Smoky Mouse is significantly larger than the House Mouse (2 or 3 times heavier). The fur is shiny, grey above with scattered dark hairs, white below and on the pink feet. The tail is grey above and white below with overlapping scales. The pinkish-grey ears are short and curved, the eyes are protruding. They have one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw.
LOCALITY: Vic, NSW.

Southern Brown Bandicoot

LATIN NAME: *Isoodon obesulus* (Shaw, 1797)
SUBSPECIES: *I. o. obesulus*, NSW, Vic, SA; *I. o. peninsulae*, Cape York.
FAMILY NAME: Peramelidae
MEANING: *Isoodon* - "equal tooth"; *obesulus* - "somewhat-fat"
FOOD: Insects and their larvae, worms, berries and small vertebrates.
HABITAT: Dry sclerophyll forests, grasslands, heathlands, scrub, regenerating areas
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 275-360 mm Tail: 90-140 mm; 0.4-1.6 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, they sleep in a nest of heaped vegetation with a hollow centre, concealed in a depression among ground litter or dense vegetation. Solitary and aggressive, their survival depends on having an adequate home range. Male home ranges may be up to 7 ha, females about 2 ha. Males range widely over areas inhabited by several females, only interacting to mate. Have a moderately fast agile galloping gait, walk quadrupedally. Food located by digging conical holes with forefeet and probing with snout.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 3-4 months, may live 3 years or more. Breed from winter to end of summer, producing 2-3 litters per year. Up to 6 young are born and attach to some of 8 teats in mother's rear-opening pouch, becoming independent at 60-70 days.

DESCRIPTION: Has soft underfur, coarse bristly guard hairs. Back brownish-grey flecked with yellow-brown, belly creamy-white. Tail short with pointed tip, head long, tapering with a naked nose, small rounded ears and small eyes. Short forelimbs have strong curved claws on elongated feet. Hindfeet long with very large, strongly-clawed fourth toe; second and third toes joined with double claw used for grooming. Synonyms: *Didelphi obesula*; Southern Short-nosed Bandicoot; Short-nosed Bandicoot; Brown Bandicoot.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, SA, Tas, Vic, WA.



Southern Common Cuscus

LATIN NAME: *Phalanger intercastellanus* Thomas, 1895
FAMILY NAME: Phalangeridae
MEANING: *Phalanger* - "notable-digits" - referring to fused second and third toes of hind foot; *intercastellanus* - "from D'Entrecasteaux Islands"
FOOD: Mainly herbivorous, they eat leaves, fruits, flowers, buds and seeds.
HABITAT: Rainforests and some woodlands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 350-400 mm Tail: 280-350 mm; 1.5-2.2 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Cryptic and solitary, sleeping in tree hollows during the day, they climb slowly and deliberately through the canopy at night searching for food, gripping branches with the digits of their forefeet and using the tail as a fifth limb. They move with a slow bounding gait on the ground. Males are territorial, using their chest gland to scent-mark areas. Solitary. Vocalisations include harsh aggressive guttural screeches, grunts and clicks.
DEVELOPMENT: Little studied. Breed all year, usually give birth to twins that attach to two of the four teats in the mother's forward-opening, well-developed pouch. Juveniles are carried on mother's back after leaving the pouch. Males grow throughout their life.

DESCRIPTION: A lightly-built arboreal marsupial of northern rainforests. Soft woolly fur is grey-brown above, off-white below. A brown stripe extends from the ears to the rump. Males have yellowish chest gland and yellow tinge on side of neck. Bare skin is greyish-brown. Triangular head with protruding forward-facing eyes that shine red at night, small, curved, projecting ears. Terminal two-thirds of long prehensile tail is bare with a rough undersurface. Feet have strong curved claws, first two toes of forefeet oppose other three. Have long canine teeth. Synonyms: *P. orientalis*; Grey Cuscus; Grey Phalanger.
LOCALITY: Qld.

Southern Dibbler

LATIN NAME: *Parantechinus apicalis* (Gray, 1842)
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Parantechinus* -"alongside-antechinus"; *apicalis* - "pointed" (referring to tapering tail)
FOOD: Insects, nectar from Banksia flowers.
HABITAT: Banksia heathland
STATUS: Endangered
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 120-140 mm Tail: 90-110 mm; 40-100 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in a nest of twigs and grass. Burrows through leaf litter at night to forage for terrestrial insects; also climbs banksia trees to sip nectar and possibly to eat insects attracted to the flowers.
DEVELOPMENT: Males are noticeable larger than females. Sexual maturity is reached at 11 months. Mating takes place in March. The female has 8 teats in a very shallow pouch and usually carries 8 young which become independent at about 16 weeks. There is no evidence that males die soon after mating.

DESCRIPTION: This very rare species is flecked brownish-grey above and creamy-white below with sandy patches near the limbs. The tail is long and slim, sparsely-haired with visible scales. The head is long with a pointed muzzle almost bare at the sides and a white ring around the eyes. The feet have furrowed footpads. Synonyms: *Antechinus apicalis*, *Phascogale apicalis*; Freckled Antechinus; Speckled Marsupial Mouse.
LOCALITY: WA.

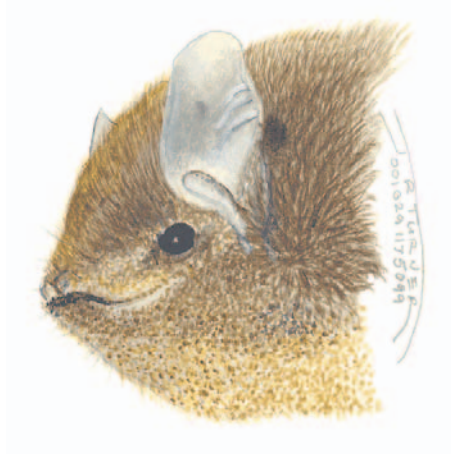
Southern Elephant Seal

LATIN NAME: *Mirounga leonina* Gray, 1827
SUBSPECIES: *M. l. falclandicus*, Falkland Islands; *M. l. macquariensis*, Macquarie Island, Chatham Islands; *M. l. crosetensis*, Crozet Island, Kerguelen Island, Heard Island.
FAMILY NAME: Phocidae
MEANING: *Mirounga* - "An Aboriginal name for elephant-seal"; *leonina* - "lion-like"
FOOD: Squids, cuttlefishes and fishes
HABITAT: Cold subantarctic seas. Comes ashore on rocky beaches.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Males: 2.5-5 m Females: 3500 mm; Males: 3,500 kg Females: 900 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Most adults feed in waters adjacent to the Antarctic continent. Animals probably sleep below the surface. Can dive to 1200 metres or more and well in excess of an hour in duration have been recorded. Old males have at the front of the head a kind of 'trunk', more than 30 cm long, which they inflate and extend with exhaled air when they are excited. They come ashore to moult in the summer and autumn. This involves the shedding of hair attached to sheets of surface skin cells.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature at about five years; males seldom mate until about 14 years old. Mating occurs in late Oct or Nov, about 3 weeks after the female has given birth. Male inseminates a number of females under his domination. A single cub from a previous mating is suckled for 3 weeks, independent at about 10 weeks.

DESCRIPTION: This bluish-grey giant lives off the Antarctic shores, and in the southern Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. A "true" seal, lacking external ears and with hindlimbs turned backwards to make a propulsive tail-fin. They cannot walk on land but are able to propel themselves by a caterpillar-like undulation. Synonyms: *Phoca leonina*.
LOCALITY: Antarctic Islands, Tas.

Southern Forest Bat

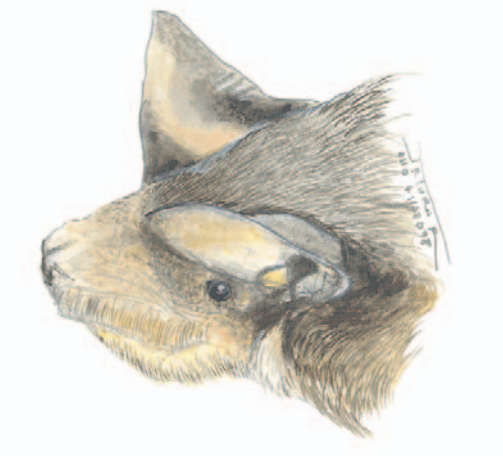
LATIN NAME: *Vespadelus regulus* (Thomas, 1906)
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Vespadelus* - "hidden-bat"; *regulus* - "King (River)"
FOOD: Insects, favouring moths.
HABITAT: Wet and dry sclerophyll forest, shrubland, low shrub woodland, mixed temperate woodland and mallee.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 36-46 mm Tail: 28-39 mm Forearm: 28-35 mm; 4-7 g
BEHAVIOUR: Up to 100 individuals form colonies in tree-hollows. Males tend to roost separately from females except during the mating season. Insects are taken between the tree canopy and the undergrowth.
DEVELOPMENT: Insemination of females takes place in autumn, but ovulation and fertilisation do not occur until spring. Sperm is stored over winter in both males and females and mating may continue during this season. A plug forms in the vagina after mating. Pregnancy lasts about three months, after which a single young is born in early summer, weaned about six weeks later.



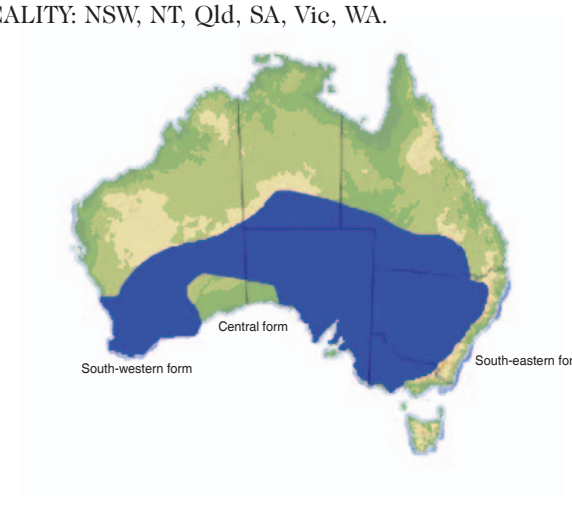
DESCRIPTION: Fur chocolate brown in colour. Has a flatter skull than other members of the genus with brain case not markedly above level of muzzle. Synonyms: *Pipistrellus regulus*; *Eptesicus regulus*; *Eptesicus pumilus* (part); King River Little Bat; Little Bat.
LOCALITY: WA, SA, Vic, NSW, Qld.

Southern Freetail-bat

LATIN NAME: *Mormopterus planiceps* (Peters, 1866)
FAMILY NAME: Molossidae
MEANING: *Mormopterus* - "monster-wing, from Mormo, a Greek mythical monster"; *planiceps* -"flat-headed"
FOOD: Flying and terrestrial insects.
HABITAT: Dry sclerophyll forests, woodlands and deserts.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 50-65 mm Tail: 30-40 mm Forearm: 30-40 mm; 9-15 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, roosting alone or in colonies of up to 100 bats by day in tree-holes, cracks and human constructions. They are easy to handle but aggressive to other bats, although they often share roosts with other species. They fly quickly and directly above the forest canopy, have excellent eyesight and detect insects by echo-location, emitting high-pitched calls from the mouth. They forage over creeks, waterholes and on the ground scurrying around for crawling insects. Can swim well if necessary.
DEVELOPMENT: Single young born Dec suckles from a teat in mother's armpit.



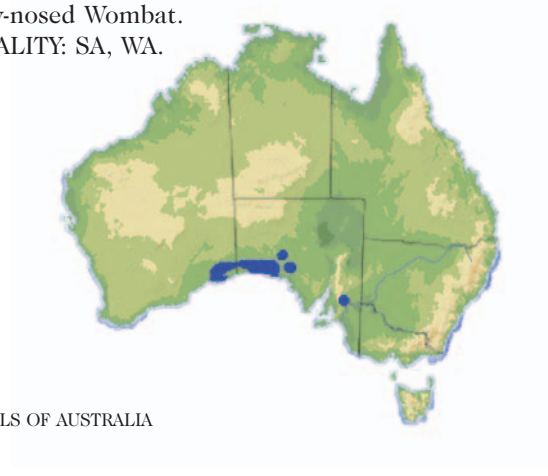
DESCRIPTION: Has an upturned, hound-like snout, flattened head and body which enables it to hide in small cracks and cavitites. The soft fur is grey to brownish-grey above, paler below. Large triangular ears not joined above head. Protruding, wrinkled upper lip has a thick fringe with rigid hairs. Feet stout with fleshy toes fringed with rigid curled hairs. Tail protrudes well beyond tail-membrane.
Synonyms: *Nyctinomus petersi*; *Nyctinomus planiceps*; *Micronomus planiceps*; *Tadarida plancieps*; Little Freetail-bat; Little Flat Bat; Western Mastiff-bat; Western Micronomus; Western Scurrying Bat.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Vic, WA.



Southern Hairy-nosed Wombat

LATIN NAME: *Lasiorhinus latifrons* (Owen, 1845)
FAMILY NAME: Vombatidae
MEANING: *Lasiorhinus* - "hairy-nose"; *latifrons* - "broad-headed"
FOOD: Grasses and herbs. They can survive for long periods without drinking.
HABITAT: Arid and semi-arid woodlands and shrublands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 770-940 mm Tail: 25-60 mm; 19-32 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, they bask in the sun on winter days, sleeping in deep humid burrows to conserve energy and water. The entrances are clustered to form a large central warren with smaller warrens surrounding it; in area, 200-300 m across. Each warren system is occupied by 5-10 wombats. Males become aggressive during the breeding season. Slow and clumsy, they can run up to 40 kph if necessary.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 3 years. The breeding season is from late September to December; they do not breed in drought conditions. Usually a single young is born and attaches to one of the 2 teats in the mother's rear-opening pouch, emerging 6-9 months later, following the mother around until weaned at 12 months. They can live for more than 20 years in captivity.

DESCRIPTION: Distinguished from the Common Wombat by its silky fur, hairy nose and slightly smaller size, this large marsupial is grey to brownish-grey above and paler below. The ears are slender and pointed, the eyes small and head broad and flattened. The tail is very short and hidden by fur. The limbs are short with short toes bearing stout flattened claws; the first toe of the hindfoot is very small; the second and third toes are joined with a double claw used for grooming. Synonyms: *Phascolomys latifrons*; Hairy-nosed Wombat.
LOCALITY: SA, WA.



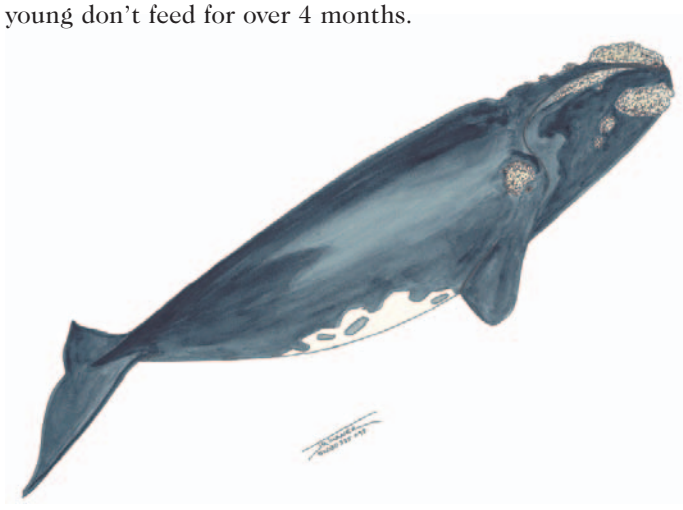
Southern Ningaui

LATIN NAME: *Ningaui yvonneae* Kitchener, Stoddart and Henry, 1983
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Ningaui* - "the name of an Aboriginal mythical being which is said to be tiny, nocturnal, hairy and short-footed and to eat raw flesh"; *yvonneae* - "named after Yvonne C. Kitchener, wife of D. J. Kitchener, Australian zoologist"
FOOD: Insects and other small invertebrates.
HABITAT: Arid temperate sand plains and dunes with mallee and spinifex cover.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 50-70 mm Tail: 60-70 mm; 4-10 g
BEHAVIOUR: Southern-most of the known ningauis. Nocturnal, probably as a predator upon insects and invertebrates. Shelters in low bushes, hollow logs, small burrows and under spinifex during the day.
DEVELOPMENT: Males are sexually active at about eight months of age. The female has seven teats and probably breeds in spring.

DESCRIPTION: A small sized marsupial predator. Their hindfeet are relatively shorter than those of dunnarts. Ningauis look rather like planigales but the head is less flattened and the fur rather more coarse. The pouch is either absent or poorly developed.
LOCALITY: NSW, SA, Vic, WA

Southern Right Whale

LATIN NAME: *Eubalaena australis* (Desmoulins 1822)
FAMILY NAME: Balaenidae
MEANING: *Eubalaena* "true whale"- *australis* "southern"
FOOD: Does not feed in Australian waters.
HABITAT: Shallow bays around southern continents.
STATUS: Vulnerable
LENGTH/WEIGHT: 13.5 - 17.5 metres; 40-80 tonnes
BEHAVIOUR: Swims slowly often breaching, rolls belly up, lobtails or slaps flippers; blowing every 1-2 minutes. Feeds in subpolar waters 30-60degrees S during summer. In winter is usually recorded along southern coastal Australia, from Sydney to Perth between May - October when up to 800 may be seen.
DEVELOPMENT: Usually gives birth in shallow bays at 3 year intervals, from late July-September. Mothers with young don't feed for over 4 months.

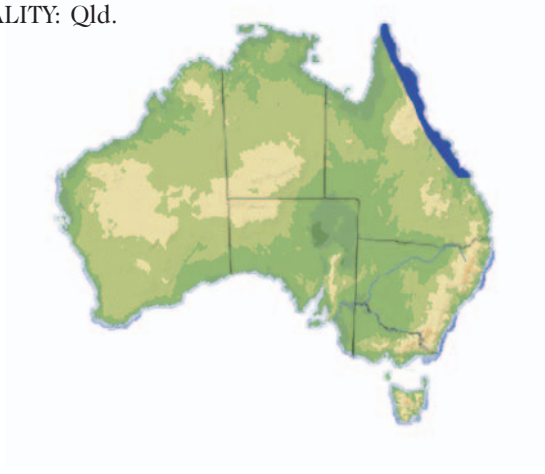


DESCRIPTION: Blue-black to dark brown, scattered white patches, varying in size and shape on belly and sometimes on back. Large head, bukly body tapering rapidly to tail; flippers fan shaped, broad; flukes dark and pointed with concave trailing edge; Blow from front is V shaped with right plume shorter than left. White callosites on top of head, around mouth, and above eyes.
LOCALITY: WA, SA, Vic, Tas, NSW, Qld

Spectacled Flying-fox

LATIN NAME: *Pteropus conspicillatus* Gould, 1850
SUBSPECIES: Three subspecies are recognised; *P. c. conspicillatus* is in Australia.
FAMILY NAME: Pteropodidae
MEANING: *Pteropus* - "wing-foot"; *conspicillatus* -"spectacled"
FOOD: Blossom and fruits. They drink seawater while skimming over the surface.
HABITAT: Rainforests, mangroves and wet sclerophyll forests.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 220-240 mm Forearm: 155-175 mm; 350-600 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, roosting in large trees, hanging from their feet with the head pointing forward and the wings wrapped around the body. Coastal camps are often continually occupied and may comprise of many thousands of bats. Males use secretions from their shoulder glands to attract females and mark territories. In winter and summer many join highland camps where food is more plentiful. Pregnant females form highland maternity camps in summer. No more than 2 bats feed in a tree, which they defend by chasing away intruders, shrieking and slapping their folded wings against the sides of the body. They navigate by sight and avoid flying in complete darkness.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 2 years, mate March to May, give birth to a single young from Oct to Dec. Newborn suckle from a teat in mother's armpit and are carried for 1-2 weeks until well-furred. Left in the camp at night and independent at 12 weeks.

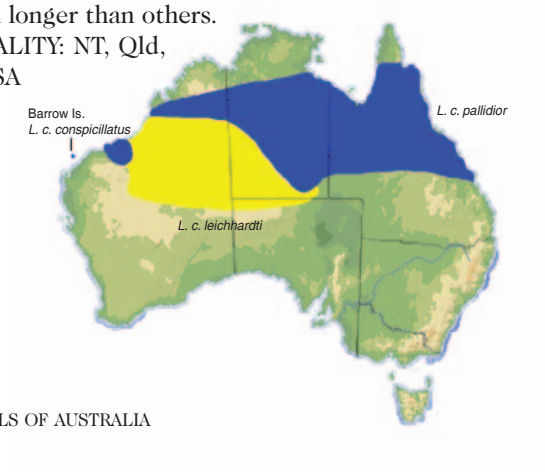
DESCRIPTION: Soft thick fur, dark brown to black, often flecked with white above. Pale yellow areas around eyes usually extend to snout. A yellow collar partially encircling the neck, fox-like head with large eyes and simple ears and no tail. First and second fingers are clawed and the five toes have long curved claws. Synonyms: Spectacled Fruit-bat.
LOCALITY: Qld.



Spectacled Hare-wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Lagorchestes conspicillatus* Gould, 1842
SUBSPECIES: *L. c. conspicillatus*, Barrow Island; *L. c. leichhardti*, mainland Australia; *L. c. pallidior*, coastal north Queensland (could be invalid).
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Lagorchestes* - "dancing-hare"; *conspicillatus* - "spectacled"
FOOD: Leaves, native grasses. Can survive without water.
HABITAT: Tropical grasslands, open forests, woodlands, arid grasslands and shrublands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 400-470 mm Tail: 370-490 mm; 1.6-4.5 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping in cool hides tunnelled into grass tussocks, spinifex hummocks or formed in clumps of porcupine grass. Mostly solitary, they may feed with one or two others and have home ranges of up to 9-10 ha with several hides. Fast movers with a powerful jumping ability. In hot dry conditions they conserve water by raising their body temperature and eating less food. This reduces the amount of water needed for evaporative cooling and digestion. Vocalisations include a soft clicking and a warning hiss.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 12 months, breed all year, development of embryo delayed in drought conditions or when mother has a pouch young. Single young is born and attaches to one of four teats in the mother's pouch. Leaves the pouch at 5 months.

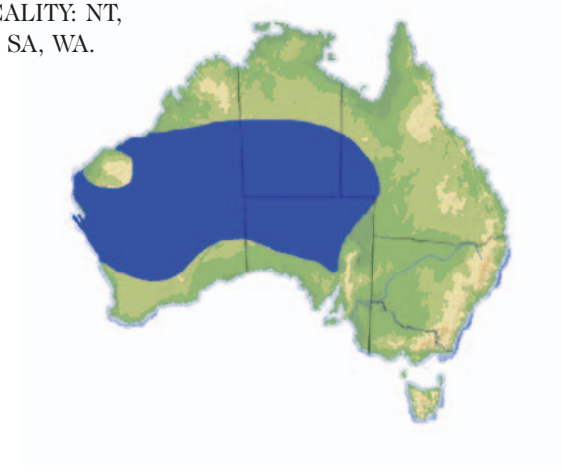
DESCRIPTION: A stocky, short-necked marsupial, derives its name from the rufous-brown rings surrounding the eyes. They are brown flecked with white above, white below with white stripes on the hips. Tail is sparsely-haired darker towards the tip. Face is square if viewed from the front with a black nose and pointed ears. Long hindfeet have no first digit, second and third are joined with a double claw, the fourth is much longer than others.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, WA, SA



Spinifex Hopping-mouse

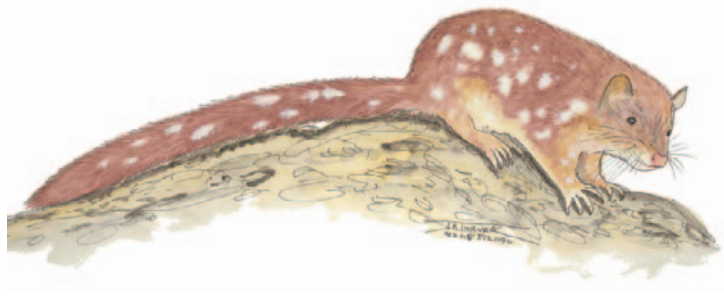
LATIN NAME: *Notomys alexis* Thomas, 1922
SUBSPECIES: *N. a. alexis*, WA, NT; *N. a. reginae*, Qld; *N. a. everardensis*, nw SA.
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Notomys* - "southern-mouse"; *alexis* - "referring to Alexandria Downs Station, NT'
FOOD: Seeds, leaves, roots, insects. They can survive without drinking.
HABITAT: Arid spinifex, tussock grasslands, woodlands, shrubland, desert sand dunes.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 90-115 mm Tail: 115-150 mm; 30-50 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in deep humid burrows to 1 m below ground, with several vertical shafts connected to a broad horizontal tunnel, leading to a nest chamber lined with grass or shredded vegetable matter. Ten adults may share a burrow, plugging entrance with sand to reduce evaporative water loss. Runways join adjacent burrow systems, social group cooperates in digging, rearing young and rejecting intruders.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 8 weeks, they reproduce after periods of good rainfall, rearing litters of 3-4 young. Pregnancy lasts 32-34 days. Young have their eyes open at 20 days and are weaned at 4 weeks, living up to 4 years in captivity.

DESCRIPTION: Has long hindlegs, a bipedal hopping gait and a long tufted tail. Fur is light brown to chestnut above, grey-white below. Both sexes have a small throat pouch of unknown function. All males and some females have a naked, raised, flat glandular area on chest, often stained by orange-yellow secretions when sexually active. Ears long, curved and thinly-haired. One pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth, three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw.
Synonyms: Brown Hopping Mouse; Northern Hopping Mouse.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, SA, WA.

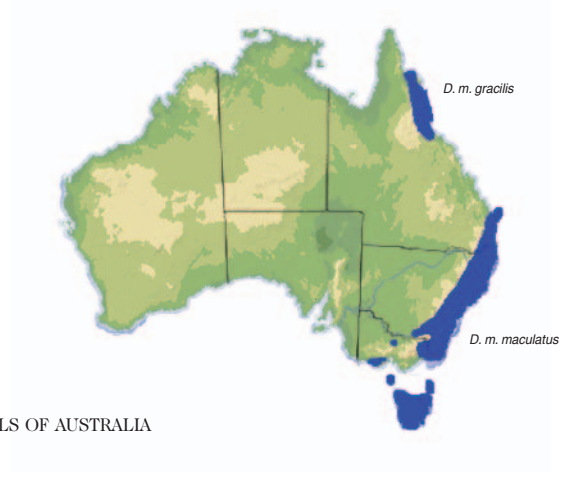


Spotted-tailed Quoll

LATIN NAME: *Dasyurus maculatus* (Kerr, 1792)
SUBSPECIES: *D. m. maculatus*, s Qld to Tas; *D. m. gracilis*, northern Qld.
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Dasyurus* - "hairy-tail"; *maculatus* - "spotted"
FOOD: Scavenges dead cattle, sheep. Hunts for small mammals, birds, reptiles and insects.
HABITAT: Wet and dry sclerophyll forests and rainforests.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 350-760 mm Tail: 340-420 mm; 2-7 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, they sleep in hollow trees or logs, or in rock crevices by day. On cool winter days they often bask in the sun or forage. Dens are shared by family groups and defended aggressively by both male and female. The male may bring food to the suckling mother. Although mainly terrestrial, they are agile climbers and run with a bounding gait, otherwise their movements are slow and deliberate, sniffing regularly for signs of food. Forage alone, scavenging and hunting opportunistically, killing their prey in a clumsy fashion by biting the back of neck and head. Males growl in courtship.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 1 year, they breed from April to August, and copulation may last 8 hours. Females have a shallow rear-opening pouch partially covering six teats. Five young usually born 21 days after mating and attach to teats for 7 weeks. Left in den while mother forages, venturing out at 14 weeks, independent at 5 months.

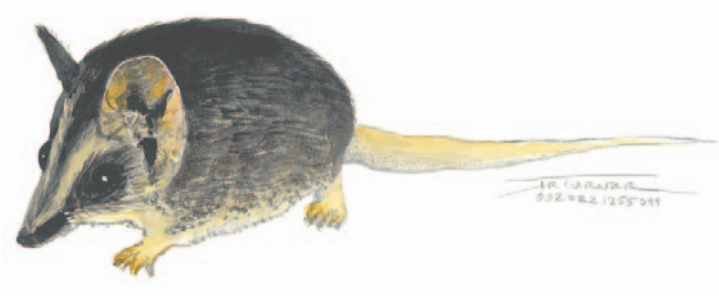


DESCRIPTION: Rich reddish-brown to olive brown fur with white spots of various sizes on back and tail; pale creamy-yellow below. Hindfeet have 5 toes with sharp curved claws and ridged pads. Face relatively short, squat, blunt muzzle.
Synonyms: *Dasyurops maculatus, Viverra maculata*; Tiger Cat; Tiger Quoll; Spotted-tailed Native Cat; Spotted-tail Dasyure.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, Tas, Vic.

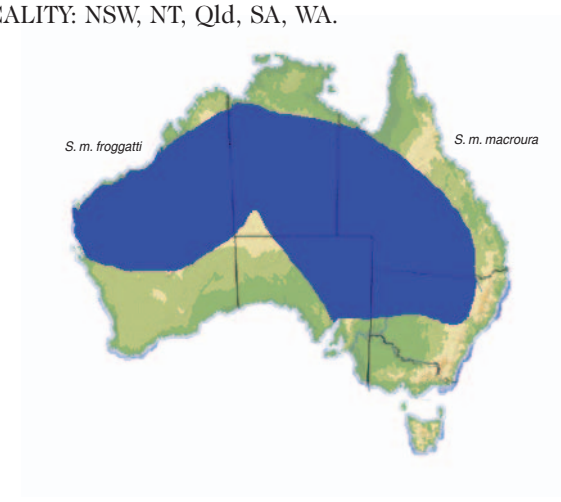


Stripe-faced Dunnart

LATIN NAME: *Sminthopsis macroura* (Gould, 1845)
SUBSPECIES: *S. m. macroura*, central eastern Australia; *S. m. froggatt*, central Australia.
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Sminthopsis* - "mouse-appearance"; *macroura* - "large-tailed"
FOOD: Insects and other small invertebrates. They may be able to exist without drinking, obtaining sufficient water from their food, and producing very concentrated urine.
HABITAT: Arid and semi-arid low shrubland, woodland and tussock grassland.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 70-100 mm Tail: 80-110 mm; 15-25 g
BEHAVIOUR: Little has been studied. Probably strictly nocturnal, sleeping during the day under rocks or logs, or in cracks in the ground. When the food supply is scarce they enter a state of torpor for a few hours, lowering their body temperature to that of the surroundings, conserving energy and using the fat stored in the tail.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 4-5 months in females, 8 months in males. Breed from July to Feb. Two litters of 1-8 young each year. Young born 12.5 days after mating, firmly attach to eight teats in mother's well-developed, centrally-opening, circular pouch. Leave pouch at about 40 days, left in nest while mother forages, weaned at about 70 days.



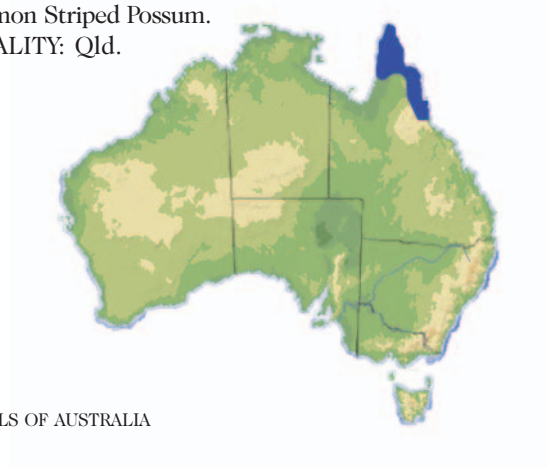
DESCRIPTION: This small, carnivorous marsupial is found over vast areas of arid and semi-arid Australia. Fur is brownish-grey to dark brown flecked with light grey above, with a prominent dark strip along the forehead, pale grey to white below. Head is long and pointed with large protruding eyes and large ears. Tail is long, sparsely-haired with a fattened base in well-nourished individuals and tapers to a point. Synonyms: *Podabrus macrurus, S. froggatti*; *S. larapinta*; Darling Downs Dunnart; Stripe-headed Sminthopsis; Froggatt's Sminthopsis.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, WA.



Striped Possum

LATIN NAME: *Dactylopsila trivirgata* Gray, 1858
SUBSPECIES: Australian form is *D. t. pica*. There are 3 subspecies in New Guinea.
FAMILY NAME: Petauridae
MEANING: *Dactylopsila* - "naked-finger"; *trivirgata* - "three-striped"
FOOD: Mostly wood-boring insects and larvae, extracted by biting into the bark and pulling them out with the long tongue or fourth finger. They also eat leaves, fruits, small vertebrates and the honey of native bees.
HABITAT: Tropical rainforests and adjoining forests and woodlands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 240-270 mm Tail: 310-340 mm; 240-400 g
BEHAVIOUR: Usually active at night, sleeping in leaf-lined nests in tree hollows or clumps of epiphytes. Very agile and fast, leaping through tree canopy in pursuit of rivals, running with a lizard-like gait by swinging diagonally opposing limbs together. Can be noisy, shrieks, snorting, chewing, slurping sounds. If handled emit a strong musky odour.
DEVELOPMENT: Little studied. Mating occurs Feb to Aug. Give birth to 1 or 2 young. Females have two teats in a well-developed forward-opening pouch.

DESCRIPTION: Contrasting black and white stripes from nose to base of bushy tail, making a white Y-shaped pattern on forehead. Is white below, limbs black-striped, tip of pendulous tail is usually white. Large curved ears, large blunt head with long sharp lower incisor teeth and long tongue. Hindfeet have an opposing first toe, second and third are joined with a double claw. Fourth finger on each hand is about twice the length of other four. Synonyms: *Dactylopsila pictat*; Striped Phalanger; White-footed Phalanger; Common Striped Possum.
LOCALITY: Qld.



Subantarctic Fur-seal

LATIN NAME: *Arctocephalus tropicalis* (Gray, 1872)
FAMILY NAME: Otariidae
MEANING: *Arctocephalus* - "bear-head; *tropicalis* - "tropical"
FOOD: Lantern fish, squid, octopus and cuttlefish.
HABITAT: Rocky coastal habitat, rock platforms, exposed boulder beaches.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: 1000-2000 mm; 30-158 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Forages at night diving 10-80 metres. Dives at twilight tend to be deeper than those during darker hours. They do not migrate but will travel long distances. Males compete for territories prior to breeding season, then fast and defend until all females are mated; usually 6-20 females.
DEVELOPMENT: Females become oestrus and are mated about seven days after giving birth. They then alternate between nursing their pups and foraging trips at sea. Weaning occurs at about 300 days. Male pups have higher growth rates and weaning weights than females.

DESCRIPTION: Adult males have chocolate brown to black dorsal fur with a yellow chest and face. A crest of black fur on the top of head becomes erect when excited. They have a well-developed mane on the shoulders and chest. Adult females and dark grey to dark brown dorsally. Chest and throat are soft yellow with pale fur extending above the eyes. Belly fur rich chocolate brown. Pups have a shiny black natal coat with a dark brown belly. Their ears are external. Synonyms: *Arctocephalus gazella tropicalis*; Amsterdam Fur Seal.
LOCALITY: Antarctic Islands, NSW, Qld, SA, Tas, Vic, WA.

Subtropical Antechinus

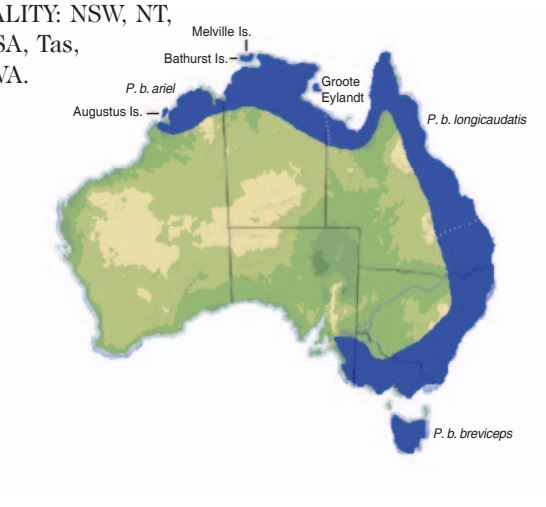
LATIN NAME: *Antechinus subtropicus* Van Dyck, S.; Christidis, L. 2000
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Antechinus* - "hedgehog equivalent"; *subtropicus* - "subtropical"
FOOD: Feeds on insects.
HABITAT: Subtropical vine forests down to 1000metres. (south from Gympie to far NE NSW)
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 90-140mm Tail: 65-110 mm; 50-70g
BEHAVIOUR: Forages for insects both on the ground and in trees.
DEVELOPMENT: All males die following mating which occurs in September. Gestation lasts almost 4 weeks. The females have eight teats and young animals remain in pouch another 5 weeks.

DESCRIPTION: Mid-brown above, colour warmer towards hindparts; Pale fawn below on flanks, thighs and chin; feet with sparse pale buff hairs. Tail is olive brown in colour and thin having a weak ventral crest.
LOCALITY: QLD, NSW.

Sugar Glider

LATIN NAME: *Petaurus breviceps* Waterhouse, 1839
SUBSPECIES: *P. b. breviceps*, NSW, Vic, Tas; *P. b. longicaudatus*, Qld; *P. b. ariel,* NT.
FAMILY NAME: Petauridae
MEANING: *Petaurus* - "rope-dancer"; *breviceps* - "short-headed"
FOOD: Nectar, pollen, insects and their exudates, and tree exudates.
HABITAT: Forests and woodlands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 150-210 mm Tail: 165-210 mm; 95-170 g
BEHAVIOUR: Usually active at night, sleeping in leaf-lined nests in tree hollows may be shared by 2-7 adults and young, with several females and a dominant male who scent-marks other group members and their 1-5 ha territorial boundaries. Young forced to leave at 7-10 months old. If cold will group together in nest, torpid for short periods when food scarce. Agile climbers, can glide over 50 m. Loud 'yip' alarm call, guttural calls if fighting.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature at 8-15 months, males at 12 months. Breed from June to Nov, may rear 2 sets of twins per season. Young are born 16 days after mating and attach to 2 of 4 teats in forward-opening pouch for 40 days, emerging at 60-70 days. Remain in nest for 100-110 days, being weaned at 120 days.

DESCRIPTION: Light grey above, dark stripe along forehead and back, dark patches behind large pointed ears. Creamy-white to pale grey below, short body fur and a bushy tail which may be white-tipped. A square gliding membrane joins fifth finger and first toe. First two digits of forefeet oppose other three. Hindfeet have an opposing first toe, second and third are joined with a double claw.
Synonyms: Sugar Squirrel; Lesser Flying Squirrel; Short-headed or Lesser Flying Phalanger; Lesser Glider.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Tas, Vic, WA.



Swamp Antechinus

LATIN NAME: *Antechinus minimus* (Geoffroy, 1803)
SUBSPECIES: *Antechinus minimus minimus*, Tasmania and Bass Strait Islands; *Antechinus minimus maritimus*, mainland and Glennie Island.
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Antechinus* - "hedgehog-equivalent"; *minimum* - "smallest"
FOOD: Insects and spiders.
HABITAT: Cool-temperate to cold wet heathland, tussock grassland or sedgeland.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 90-140 mm Tail: 60-100 mm; 24-103 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal. Sleeps by day in a well-made nest of grass and leaves. In the early part of the night it forages among dense vegetation, digging in leaf litter and soil for shallow-burrowing insects and other arthropods.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexual maturity is reached at about 11 months and mating occurs from June to August. All males die soon after mating but females may breed in a second or third year. Females have six teats (Tasmania) or eight (mainland) and usually carry a young on each teat. Subsequently they are suckled in a nest.

DESCRIPTION: This is one of the larger antechinuses. It was originally described as a species of the genus Dasyurus (of which it was the smallest member). A carnivorous marsupial with soft, thick fur, chocolate-brown to blackish-brown above, tinged with orange and pale grey below. The head has a long pointed snout, small eyes and ears. The hindfeet are broad with the first toe opposing the other four and the forefeet have long curved claws for digging. Synonyms: *Dasyurus minimus*, Little Tasmanian Marsupial Mouse.
LOCALITY: SA, Tas, Vic.

Swamp Buffalo

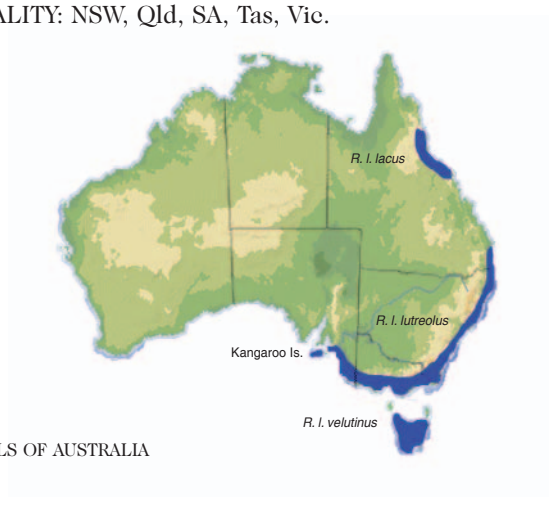
LATIN NAME: *Bubalus bubalis* (Linnaeus, 1758)
SUBSPECIES: *B. b. kerabau*, domesticated or feral, throughout eastern Asia, translocated to The New World and Australia; *B. b. bubalis*, the River Buffalo, mostly domesticated, throughout western Asia and the Old World.
FAMILY NAME: Bovidae
MEANING: *Bubalus* - "buffalo"; *bubalis* - "buffalo"
FOOD: Grasses, water lillies and water reeds.
HABITAT: Tropical swampy woodlands and forest edges.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 2.5-3.0 m Tail: 700 mm; 600-900 kg
BEHAVIOUR: At night, it sleeps under tree cover, grazing and browsing by day and wallowing daily in shallow, muddy pools. Throughout most of the year, animals are segregated into single-sex herds; groups of females are led by a dominant female, while males form looser groups.
DEVELOPMENT: Mating occurs in summer. A single young is born after a gestation of 44 to 47 weeks. Young animals are formed into creches under the care of a "roster" of a few females who guard them while the other mothers go off to feed and wallow.

DESCRIPTION: A large slate-grey cow-like animal with heavy backward-arching horns that are present in both sexes, but those of males are more massive and longer, often reaching 140-150 cm; the maximum length recorded is 194 cm. Its hooves are large and splayed in adaptation to its habitat. Body is sparsely haired; ears relatively narrow and densely haired. Synonyms: *Bos bubalus*; *Bos buffelus*; *Buffelus indicus*; Asian water Buffalo; Water Buffalo; Asiatic Buffalo.
LOCALITY: NT.

Swamp Rat

LATIN NAME: *Rattus lutreolus* (Gray, 1841)
SUBSPECIES: *R. l. lutreolus* (*R. l. imbril, R. l. cambricus*), coastal/subcoastal se Aust., Kangaroo Is; *R. l. velutinus*, Tas., Bass Strait Is; *R. l. lacus*, Atherton Tableland, Qld.
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Rattus* - "rat"; *lutreolus* - "otter-like"
FOOD: Rhizomes, stems and leaves of sedges, grasses also by insects, mosses and fungi.
HABITAT: Coastal swamps, heathland, sclerophyll forests, rainforests and sedgelands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 120-200 mm Tail: 80-150 mm; 55-170 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly nocturnal, often active during the day, sleeping in nests of shredded vegetation in tussock grass, burrow systems, rotting logs or hollows in tree bases. Solitary, in winter they occupy territories of at least 0.2 ha (depending on food). In mating season females expand and defend territories against other females, males search for mates in female territories. Population higher in regrowth vegetation after bushfires. Tunnel through vegatation to access to food and avoid predators. Climbs or swims fast in emergencies.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature at 3 months. Breed all year except in winter; season longer in northern part of range. Litter is 3 or 4 young, weaned at age of 3 weeks.

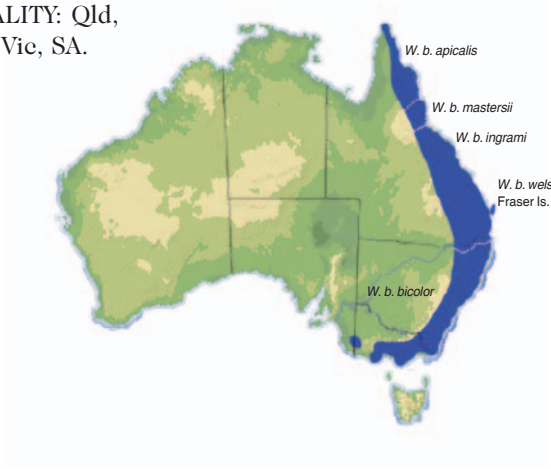
DESCRIPTION: A stocky, robust mammal with soft fur, dark grey to grey-brown above, paler grey or buff below. Tail short, thinly-haired with overlapping scales. Ears short and largely concealed by fur. Feet dark grey-brown, hindfeet relatively short. One pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth, three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *Mus lutreola, R. vellerosus*; *R. cambricus*; *R. imbril*; *R. velutinus*; *R. lacus*; *R. fuscipes*; Eastern Swamp-rat; Tawny Rat; Tawny Long-haired Rat; Velvet-furred Rat; Dusky-footed Rat; Water Rat.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, SA, Tas, Vic.



Swamp Wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Wallabia bicolor* (Desmarest, 1804)
SUBSPECIES: Needs revision. *W. b. bicolor*, NSW, Vic; *W. b. apicalis*, Cape York, *W. B. mastersii*, Cairns, Qld; *W. b. ingrami*, Qld, s Cairns; *W. b. welsbyi*, Stradbroke Is, Qld.
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Wallabia* - "wallaby"; *bicolor* - "two-coloured"
FOOD: Shrubs, pine seedlings, rushes, fungi, vines, ferns and grasses.
HABITAT: Rainforests, sclerophyll forests, dense woodlands and heathland.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 665-850 mm Tail: 640-865 mm; 10-22 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Active both day and night, resting in dense vegetation, remaining in thick cover during the day and moving out to more open grassy areas at night. Mainly solitary, they have home ranges of up to 6 ha or more and sometimes feed with one or two others. They move slowly and often seem uncoordinated with the tail held high, often making high leaps in long grass. Moving quickly they hold the head down and the tail horizontal.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 15-18 months, lives 15 years. Breeds all year. Females mate about 7 days before giving birth. Pregnancy of 33-38 days, young attaches to one of 4 teats in mother's pouch, leaves at 36 weeks, suckling at foot until 15 months old.

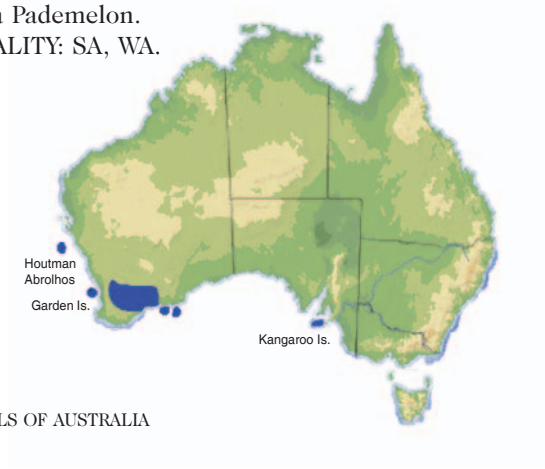
DESCRIPTION: Very dark colour. Fur rough, dark brown to black flecked with yellow above, light red-brown to yellow-brown below. Cheeks, shoulders light yellow to red-brown or black stripe; paws, feet and at times end of tail very dark brown. Hindfeet no first digit, second and third are joined with a double claw, fourth is much longer than others. Synonyms: *Protemnodon bicolor*; Black Wallaby; Black-tailed Wallaby; Fern Wallaby; Black Pademelon; Stinker (Qld); Black Stinker (NSW).
LOCALITY: Qld, NSW, Vic, SA.



Tammar Wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Macropus eugenii* (Desmarest, 1817)
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Macropus* - "long-foot"; *eugenii* - "from I'Isle Eugène, now known as St Peter's Island, Nuyts Archipelago"
FOOD: Native grasses. Able to survive by drinking seawater in drought conditions.
HABITAT: Dry sclerophyll forests and woodlands, mallee and coastal scrub, heathlands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 520-680 mm Tail: 330-450 mm; 4-10 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Usually active for a few hours after dusk and again in the hours before dawn. They sleep in low dense vegetation and move along well-defined routes to grassy feeding sites up to 1 km away. Solitary with defined overlapping home ranges of some 30 ha and may be seen feeding with one or two others.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature at 8 months while still suckling, males at 24 months. Give birth to single young from Jan to July. Mate soon after giving birth, embryo dormant until late Dec. Pregnancy 29 days, newborn attaches to one of 4 teats in mother's pouch, vacating pouch at 36 weeks, suckling at foot until 9 months of age. Live 11 years, juveniles have high death rate in first summer if dry conditions follow a wet, cold winter.

DESCRIPTION: A small wallaby, it has long soft fur, dark grey-brown flecked with light grey above, reddish-brown areas on flanks and limbs, paler below with a white muzzle, a white stripe on cheek and a dark stripe down forehead. Ears slightly pointed and nose is bare. Hindfeet have no first digit, second and third are joined with a double claw, fourth is much longer than others. Synonyms: *Kangurus eugenii, Thylogale eugenii*; *Thylogale flindersi*; *Protemnodon eugenii*; Tammar; Kangaroo Island Wallaby; Dama Wallaby; Dama Pademelon.
LOCALITY: SA, WA.



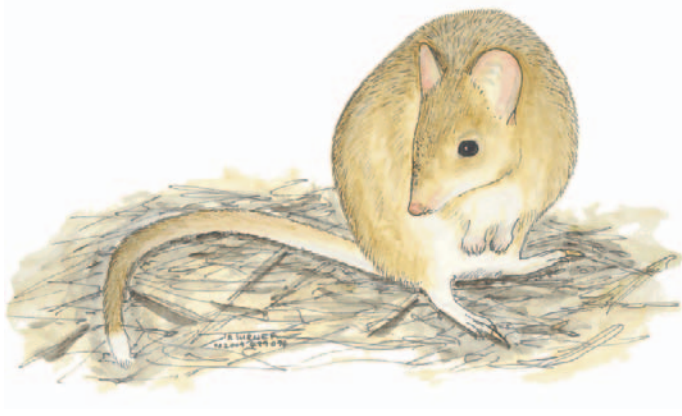
Tan False Antechinus

LATIN NAME: *Pseudantechinus roryi* Cooper, N.K., Aplin, K.P. & Adams, M. 2000
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Pseudantechinus* - "false-antechinus"; *roryi* -
FOOD:
HABITAT: Rocky outcrops; Pilbara uplands through Gibson and Great Sandy Deserts.
STATUS:
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 75-90mm Tail: 70-90mm; kg
BEHAVIOUR: No details
DEVELOPMENT: No details known

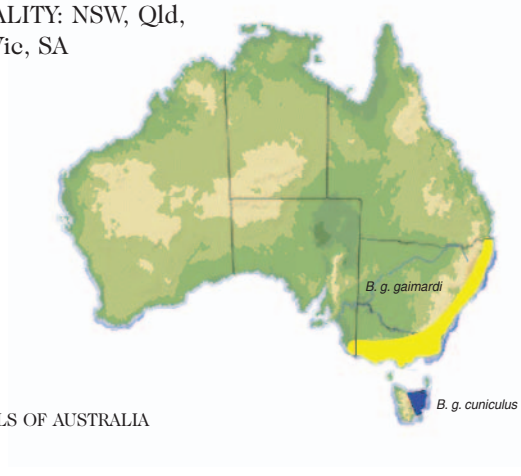
DESCRIPTION: Reddish brown above, back and shoulders bright tan; dark brown guard hairs; Whitish below with hair being dark grey basally and two thirds white. Uppersides of feet are white. Bright orange patch behind ear. Light tan hairs tipped with grey on face and cheeks. Tail tan colour above, paler, at times almost whitish below.
LOCALITY: WA

Tasmanian Bettong

LATIN NAME: *Bettongia gaimardi* (Desmarest, 1822)
SUBSPECIES: *B. g. gaimardi*, se Australia (extinct); *B. g. cuniculus*, Tas.
FAMILY NAME: Potoroidae
MEANING: *Bettongia* - "bettong"; *gaimardi* - " after J. P. Gaimard, French naturalist"
FOOD: Fungi, seeds, roots and bulbs dug up with the forefeet.
HABITAT: Dry sclerophyll forests with a grassy understorey to 1,000 m.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 315-350 mm Tail: 285-350 mm; 1.2-2.3 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping in ovoid nests about 300 mm long of thickly woven dry grass and bark collected in mouth, carried in curled tail, manipulated with snout. Nests have one entrance, built over depressions, under shrubs, tussocks or logs. Mark nest site with anal glands. Solitary, home ranges of 135 ha, travel more than 1 km to feeding areas.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 8-11 months, breed all year, mate soon after birth. After 21-22 days a single young is born and attaches to one of four teats in mother's pouch. Pouch is vacated 14-16 weeks later and young suckles at foot for 8-9 weeks.



DESCRIPTION: Extinct on mainland, widespread in Tas. Prehensile tail used to carry nesting material and well-developed upper canine teeth, upper and lower incisor teeth bite against each other. Broad head, rounded ears, bare nose. Fur rough with soft underfur, brownish-grey flecked with dark brown to black above, greyish-white below. Tail well-furred, dark brown towards end with white tip. Short muscular forelimbs have forward pointing toes with long curved claws. Hindfeed have no first digit, second and third are joined with a double claw, fourth is much longer than others. Synonyms: Eastern Rat-kangaroo; Eastern Bettong; Gaimard's Rat-kangaroo; Gaimard's Bettong.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, Tas, Vic, SA



Tasmanian Devil

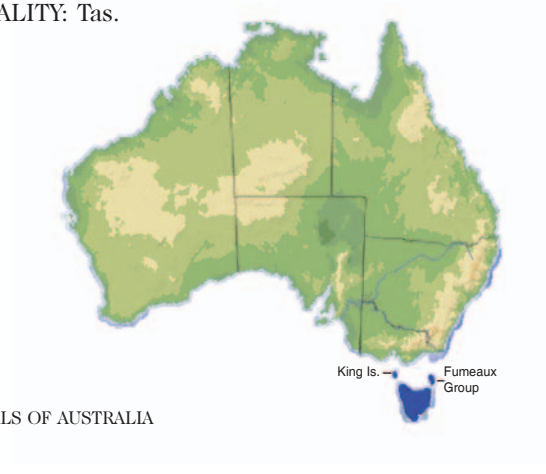
LATIN NAME: *Sarcophilus harrisii* (Boitard, 1841)
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Sarcophilus* - "flesh lover"; *harrisii* - "after G. P. R. Harris, who described the species"
FOOD: They are clumsy, inept killers, eating mainly carrion, weak or penned animals such as lambs or poultry, insects and small vertebrates.
HABITAT: All habitats, preferring sclerophyll forests, scrub and woodland.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 500-710 mm Tail: 240-310 mm; 4.5-12 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, they sleep in hollow logs, caves, rock piles or abandoned burrows by day. Solitary animals with large overlapping home ranges of some 10-20 ha, depending on food, which is often shared with other individuals. In captivity they establish dominance hierarchies and display aggression including jaw-wrestling and teeth-clashing accompanied by loud growls, yells and screams. Ground-dwellers, they move with an awkward slow lope and a rocking run, travel many kilometres searching for food.
DEVELOPMENT: Females breed from 2-6 years of age, live about 8 years. Breeding occurs from March to early June, giving birth to 2-3 young 31 days after mating. Each attaches to one of four teats in the mother's backward-opening pouch, they stay for 13-15 weeks. Remain in the den for 13-15 weeks are weaned at 28-30 weeks.

DESCRIPTION: Largest of the carnivorous marsupials, this powerfully built animal is the size of a small dog with small eyes set in a short, broad head with strong jaws and well-developed teeth. Black fur, usually with white patches on the neck and rump. Muzzle and small rounded ears are sparsely-haired. Limbs are short with strong claws. Synonyms: *Didelphis ursina*.
LOCALITY: Tas.

Tasmanian Pademelon

LATIN NAME: *Thylogale billardierii* (Desmarest, 1822)
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Thylogale* - "pouched-weasel"; *billardierii* - "named after J. J. H. la Billardière, French naturalist who collected first specimens"
FOOD: Grasses, herbs and leaves, hold food in forepaws. In winter dig food out of snow.
HABITAT: Coastal and montane forests, densely vegetated with grassy areas.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 360-720 mm Tail: 320-485 mm; 2.4-12 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, taking refuge in dense cover and have home ranges as large as 170 ha, travelling along well-established runways to feeding areas up to 2 km away. Males establish dominance hierarchies by fighting and ritualised aggression, giving top-ranking males exclusive mating rights with females during the breeding season. They usually feed in groups of 10 or more, rarely venturing more than 100 m from the forest edge. They have a short fast hop and escape to the thick undergrowth when disturbed. Males utter a guttural growl or hiss when fighting and make clucking sounds during courtship.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 14 months, most births from Apr to Jun. Females mate soon after giving birth, Pregnancy 30 days, single young is born, attaches to one of 4 teats in mother's pouch. Young leave pouch at 29 weeks, then suckle at foot for 11 weeks.

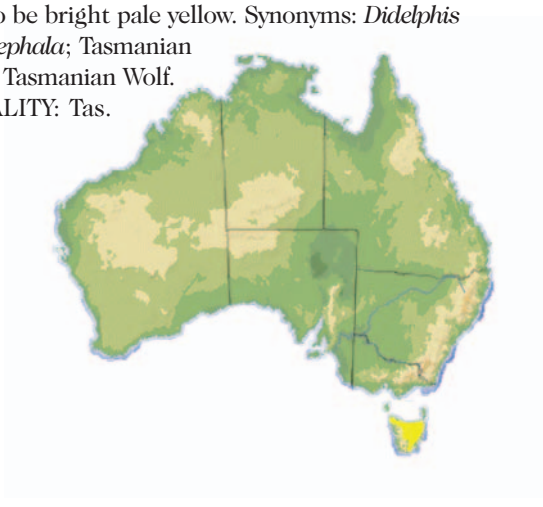
DESCRIPTION: A small, stocky macropod, now extinct in south-eastern SA and Vic. The fur is thick, soft and long, dark brown to golden-brown with a grey base above and pale reddish-buff below with a grey to white base. Tail is short and thick, ears curved and nose bare. Hindfeet no first digit, the second and third are fused with a double claw, fourth is much longer than the others. Synonyms: *Kangurus billardiernii*, Red-bellied Pademelon; Rufous Wallaby.
LOCALITY: Tas.



Thylacine

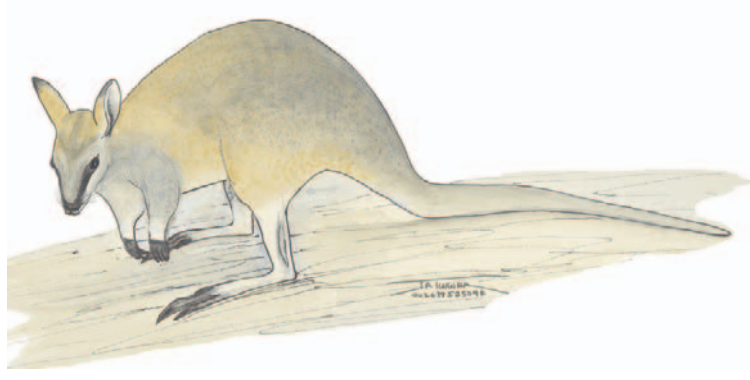
LATIN NAME: *Thylacinus cynocephalus* (Harris, 1808)
FAMILY NAME: Thylacinidae
MEANING: *Thylacinus* - "pouched-dog"; *cynocephalus* - "dog-headed"
FOOD: Marsupials and lambs (when introduced to Tasmania).
HABITAT: Open forest and woodland with adjacent grassland.
STATUS: Extinct
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 1000-1300 mm Tail: 500-650 mm; 15-35 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, sleeping by day in dense vegetation. It seems to have been unable to run fast but probably followed smaller animals until they became tired. They hunted singly, in pairs or with dependent young. Probably also preyed on slow-moving wallabies not long out of the pouch. It attacked lambs when sheep were introduced into Tasmania. The number killed seems not to have been large, but a substantial bounty was placed on Thylacine scalps and this led to heavy pressure on the species.
DEVELOPMENT: Breeding appears to have extended throughout the year, with a peak of births in winter and spring. Females had 4 teats in a backward-opening pouch. Up to 4 but usually 2 or 3 young reared. After leaving pouch, young were left in a nest until weaned.

DESCRIPTION: Presumed extinct in 1930s. It had a remarkable resemblance, particularly in head and forequarters, to a wild dog. However, examination of the skull shows that the brain was considerably smaller than a dog - a fact which may help to explain the demise of the Thylacine on mainland Australia after the arrival of the Dingo, probably about 5000 years ago. Sandy brown, coarse fur, parallel dark brown bands across back, increasing in width towards rump. Dog-like head and forequarters; rump tapering into semi-rigid tail. Eye-shine said to be bright pale yellow. Synonyms: *Didelphis cynocephala*; Tasmanian Tiger; Tasmanian Wolf.
LOCALITY: Tas.

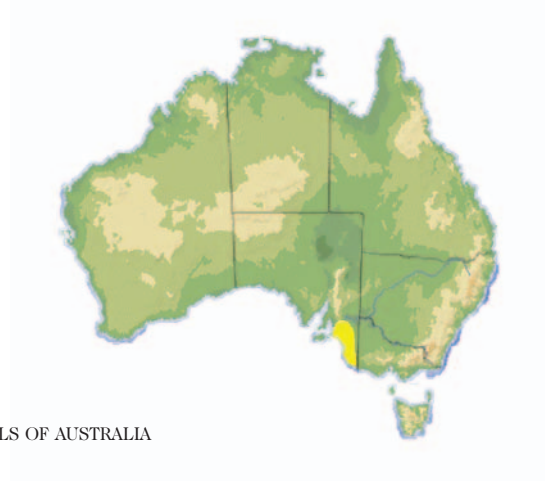


Toolache Wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Macropus greyi* Waterhouse, 1845
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Macropus* - "long-foot"; *greyi* - "named after G. Grey, explorer and governor of South Australia, who collected first specimens"
FOOD: Native grasses
HABITAT: Heathland with adjacent tussock grassland.
STATUS: Extinct
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 810-840 mm Tail: 710-730 mm;
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in the cover of dense vegetation, often casuarina thickets. Social, resting, moving and grazing in groups. It could move with great speed and had an unusual gait in that it was adroit at changing direction or length of stride. The gait was described as being 'two short hops and then a longer one'. The Wedgetailed Eagle was a predator of the young as were foxes and man.
DEVELOPMENT: Unknown. Males and females were similar in size.



DESCRIPTION: It was abundant at the time of European settlement but became extinct in the 19th century, apparently because of the removal of its habitat, aggravated by hunting. Pale greyish-fawn above, fawn below. Tail almost white and with crest on distal third. Dark cheek-stripe from muzzle to ear; back banded with 10-12 soft grey bars.
Synonyms: Monkeyface; Onetwo; Grey's Wallaby.
LOCALITY: SA



Torresian Flying-fox

LATIN NAME: *Pteropus banakrisi* Richards G.C. & Hall L.S. 2002
FAMILY NAME: Pteropodidae
MEANING: *Pteropus* - "wing-foot"; *banakrisi* -
FOOD: Rainforest fruits.
HABITAT: Rainforests
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 160-200 mm Forearm: 128-141 mm; 210-240 g
BEHAVIOUR: Dependent upon rainforest fruits and plays an important role in the rainforest, being the only disperser of large seeds.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. Large young have been seen being carried by the female in December.

DESCRIPTION: Similar in appearance to *P. alecto* but is smaller in size and has heavier dentition. Soft fur, dark brown to black above, often flecked with grey below and sometimes reddish-brown on the shoulders and the back of the neck. The head is fox-like, has large eyes, simple ears and no tail. The first and second fingers are clawed. The five toes have long curved claws. Synonyms: Sapur.
LOCALITY: Moa Island

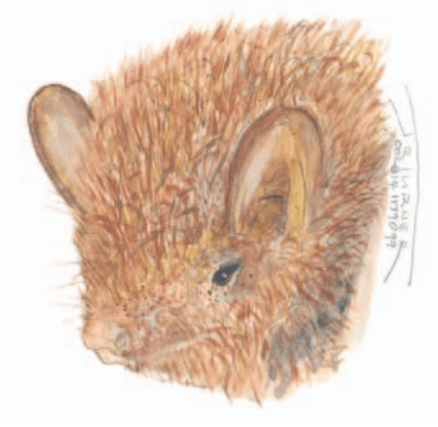
Torresian Tube-nosed Bat

LATIN NAME: *Nyctimene vizcaccia* Thomas, 1914
FAMILY NAME: Pteropodidae
MEANING: *Nyctimene* - "night-moon"; *vizcaccia* - "Vizcaccia's"
FOOD: Flowers and fruits of trees.
HABITAT: Rainforest to wet and dry sclerophyll forest and woodland.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: 120-135 mm; About 40 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, roosting alone in trees close to their feeding sites hanging from a branch with the head pointing forward and the wings wrapped around the body. Some bats change their roosts daily, depending on the food supply. Nomadic and aggressive, sometimes forming large feeding groups around fruiting trees, probably defending feeding territories. They have good vision and avoid flying in total darkness. They forage in the forest understorey, flying close to the ground along forest tracks, often making whistling calls.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. They give birth to a single young between October and December which suckles from a teat in the mother's armpit and is carried with her until well-furred.

DESCRIPTION: A small nectar-feeding bat with protuberant tubular nostrils of unknown function. The snout is short and rounded and the wings and ears have brightly coloured spots. The first digit of the forelimbs bear a claw. There is only one pair of incisors in the lower jaw. A tail is present. Synonyms: *N. c. vizcaccia*; *N. bougainville*.
LOCALITY: Moa Island

Tube-nosed Insect Bat

LATIN NAME: *Murina florium* Thomas, 1908
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Murina* - "mouse-like"; *florium* - "flower-associated"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Tropical misty rainforests.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 47-57 mm Tail: 31-37 mm; 6-8 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, roosting by day in the shelter of dense foliage with the wings overlapping in front of the chest but held away from the body and with the tail-membrane curled forward to cover it. This arrangement acts as an umbrella; water falling or condensing on the wings drains away via the wing tips. At night it flies slowly below the canopy in search of small insects. When feeding, they hang by their feet and thumbs so that the tail-membrane forms a cup into which any insect fragments or faeces fall. Scraps are checked to ensure that nothing edible remains, then, hanging only by the claws on its wings, the bat shakes away the residue.
DEVELOPMENT: Unknown



DESCRIPTION: A small vespertilionid bat characterised by tubular nostrils that lie at the end of short lateral projections, as in Nyctimene, the significance of this arrangement is unknown. Fur is long and soft, reddish-brown above, paler below. A short, round face, small eyes and simple curved ears. Synonyms: *M. lanosa*; *M. toxopeusi*; Flute-nosed Bat.
LOCALITY: Qld.

Unadorned Rock-wallaby

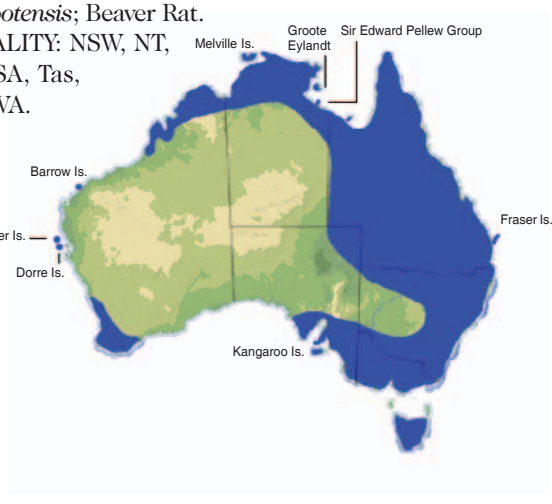
LATIN NAME: *Petrogale inornata* Gould, 1842
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Petrogale* - "rock-weasel"; *inornata* - "unadorned rock-weasel"
FOOD: Grasses, but may supplement diet with leaves and fruits.
HABITAT: Steeply sloping rainforest to sclerophyll forest, woodland.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 450-550 mm Tail: 490-600 mm; 3.1-5.6 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Sleeps most of the day in rock crevices. Feeds in the late afternoon and night on native grasses but they may supplement their diet with leaves and fruits. Some populations of this species inhabit some of the wettest areas in which rock-wallabies live and here they often climb sloping trees.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 18 months, breeds all year with a peak of births from March to July. Females have four teats in a forwardly directed pouch and rear one young which vacates pouch at 27-32 weeks. Young do not follow their mother after leaving pouch but remain in shelter among the rocks until completely weaned. This species exhibits embryonic diapause. Females usually larger than males.

DESCRIPTION: Adapted to life on rock-piles or rocky slopes by having a short, broad foot with granulations over entire sole and a slim, barely tapering tail which is longer than the head and body. Tail is more mobile than other macropodids and is used as a balancer during leaps, including forward, vertical and lateral movements. Following the autumn moult they become progressively more sandy throughout the year, until their colouration matches mature wallaby grass, which grows around the rock outcrops where it lives. Synonyms: Plain Rock-wallaby.
LOCALITY: Qld.

Water-rat

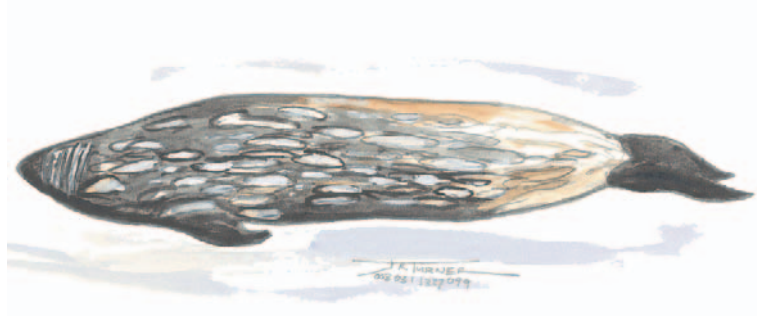
LATIN NAME: *Hydromys chrysogaster* Geoffroy, 1804
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Hydromys* - "water-mouse"; *chrysogaster* - "golden-bellied"
FOOD: Fish, crustaceans, molluscs, frogs, water birds, bats and aquatic insects.
HABITAT: Close to waterways in most habitats including beaches and urban rivers.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 230-390 mm Tail: 225-325 mm; 0.34-1.28 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night although it often hunts after dawn and at dusk. Sleeps by day in a nest at the end of a burrow dug in the bank of a watercourse or lake with the entrance hidden under roots. They have one or more inner nest chambers 200 mm high. They are territorial, fighting to establish male and female dominance hierarchies. Slow on land, they follow tracks along the water's edge to feeding sites and swim mostly submerged propelling itself with its partially webbed hindfeet.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at about 12 months, they continue to grow throughout their life of 3-4 years. Breed all year, with a peak from September to March. The female has four teats and usually rears three or four young which are suckled for 4 weeks and remain with the mother for a further 4 weeks. Several litters may be reared in a year.

DESCRIPTION: The largest Australian rodent. Has dense water-repellent fur. Dark grey to black or brown above, white, cream or golden yellow below, a white-tipped tail. Body is streamlined for swimming with a flattened head, long blunt muzzle, small eyes and ears and a thick tail used as a rudder. Hindfeet are large and broad with webbed toes. One pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and unlike other rodents have only two molars on each side of the lower jaw. Synonyms: *H. lawnensis*; *H. moae*, *H. grootensis*; Beaver Rat.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Tas, Vic, WA.



Weddell Seal

LATIN NAME: *Leptonychotes weddelli* (Lesson, 1826)
FAMILY NAME: Phocidae
MEANING: *Leptonychotes* - "slender claw"; *weddelli* - "named after L. Weddell, antarctic navigator"
FOOD: Fishes, squids and shrimps.
HABITAT: Cold antarctic seas.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: 2.5-3 m; 350-450 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Spends much of its time under ice, remaining submerged for up to an hour. Feeds at night on fishes, squids and shrimps. Males and females are similar in size.
DEVELOPMENT: Mating occurs between October and December, about six weeks after the female has given birth. A single young from a previous mating is suckled for about four weeks but swims with the mother from the age of two to three weeks.



DESCRIPTION: A "true" seal, lacking external ears and with hindlimbs turned backwards to make a propulsive tail-fin. They cannot walk on land but are able to propel themselves by a caterpillar-like undulation. Species occur in both hemispheres but they are not resident in Australian coastal waters. Although one specimen was recorded from the Australian coast caught in a fishing net in Encounter Bay, South Australia, in 1913. Some come ashore to breed on Australian antarctic or subantarctic territories and occasional vagrants from these stocks become stranded on Tasmania and mainland beaches or reefs. Synonyms: *Otaria weddelli*; Weddell's Seal.
LOCALITY: Antarctica, Antarctic Islands, SA.

Western Barred Bandicoot

LATIN NAME: *Perameles bougainville* Quoy and Gaimard, 1834
SUBSPECIES: *P. b. bougainville*, Shark Bay; *P. b. myosuros*, sw WA; *P. b. notina*, SA, south-eastern WA.
FAMILY NAME: Peramelidae
MEANING: *Perameles* - "pouched-badger"; *bougainville* - "named after Baron Bougainville, French navigator"
FOOD: Burrowing insects and their larvae, seeds and succulent roots.
HABITAT: Semi-arid woodland, shrubland and dunes.
STATUS: Endangered
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 200-300 mm Tail: 80-120 mm; 172-286 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in a nest of vegetation over a shallow burrow, usually in the shade of a shrub. Nests are well concealed and the bandicoot enters its nest by pushing through the litter from one end, where the lip of the scrape is lower, forming a runway. Exit is through the same point. Most use the same nest repeatedly but some use a different nest each night. Home ranges overlap but core areas are generally exclusive.
DEVELOPMENT: Breeding occurs in autumn and winter. The female has 8 teats in a backwardly directed pouch but usually rears 2 young.

DESCRIPTION: More delicately built than its eastern relative, has proportionately larger ears. Relatively small, less than a quarter the weight of Long-nosed Bandicoot. Once widespread over s and w Australia, now restricted to relict populations on Bernier and Doore Islands in Shark Bay. Synonyms: *P. fasciata*; *P. myosura*; Barred Bandicoot; Eastern Barred Bandicoot; Shark Bay Striped Bandicoot; WA Striped Bandicoot; Zebra Rat (Nullabor); SA Striped Bandicoot; NSW Striped Bandicoot; Marl; Little Marl.
LOCALITY: WA.

Western Brush Wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Macropus irma* (Jourdan, 1837)
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Macropus* - "long-foot"; *irma* - "significance unknown, perhaps the name of a friend of M. Jourdan, the French zoologist who described the species"
FOOD: Native grasses. They can survive without drinking.
HABITAT: Dry sclerophyll forests, particularly Jarrah; woodlands, preferably with scrubby thickets and wet sites; heathland and mallee scrub.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 830-1530 mm Tail: 540-970 mm; 7-9 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly during the late afternoon and early morning, resting during the night and in the hotter part of the day alone or in pairs in the shade or in clumps of bushes. Quick and agile, hopping with the head held low and the tail straight out behind.
DEVELOPMENT: Females usually give birth to a single young in April or May. The newborn attaches firmly to one of the 4 teats in the mother's pouch, vacating the pouch permanently at 7 months, suckling at foot.

DESCRIPTION: Pale grey above, sometimes tinged with brown, black and white ear margins. A white stripe extends from the ear to nose, with a crest of black hair along the long tail and faint barring on the back and tail of some individuals. The hindfeet have no first digit, the second and third are joined with a double claw and the fourth is much longer than the others. Synonyms: *Halmaturus irma*; Black-gloved Wallaby.
LOCALITY: WA.

Western Cave Bat

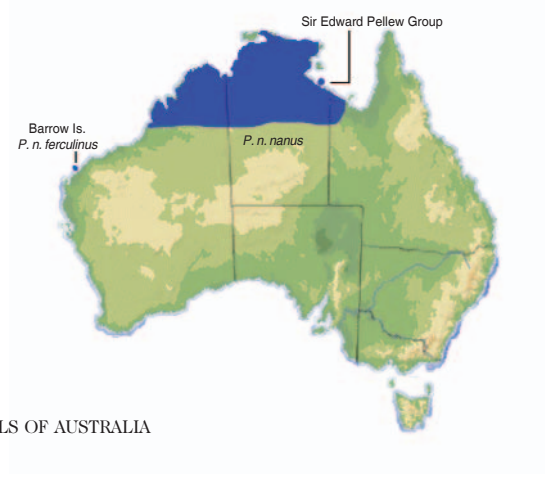
LATIN NAME: *Vespadelus caurinus* (Thomas, 1914)
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Vespadelus* - "hidden-bat"; *caurinus* - "north-western"
FOOD: Small flying insects.
HABITAT: Tropical woodland, grassland or patches of vine thicket.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 30-40 mm Forearm: 26-35 mm; 3-5 g
BEHAVIOUR: Roosts by day in caves and disused mines in small groups or as solitary individuals. Often shares cave with Dusky Leafnosed-bat and Common Sheathtail-bat. It emerges at dusk to forage for small insects. Maternity colonies are formed and may contain several hundred individuals. These are particularly sensitive to human intrusion.
DEVELOPMENT: One young is born in October or November and is initially carried on the mother's back while she forages for food. They are left in small creches on the cave roof when they become too heavy.

DESCRIPTION: A small bat with a distinctive darkly pigmented bare skin patch. Synonyms: *Eptesicus pumilus caurinus*; *Eptesicus caurinus*; Northern Brown Bat; Little Brown Bat; Little Northern Cave Bat.
LOCALITY: WA, NT.

Western Chestnut Mouse

LATIN NAME: *Pseudomys nanus* (Gould, 1858)
SUBSPECIES: *P. n. nanus*, w and nw mainland; *P. n. ferculinus*, Barrow Island.
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Pseudomys* - "false-mouse"; *nanus* - "dwarf"
FOOD: Native grasses and seeds. May be able to survive without drinking.
HABITAT: Woodlands, tropical tussock grasslands, open forests with good ground cover on rocky or sandy soil.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 84-140 mm Tail: 70-140 mm; 25-80 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in grass nests in burrows. They fight in captivity and utter frequent high-pitched whistling calls when active.
DEVELOPMENT: Breeding occurs most of the year except in dry periods during September and November, rearing several litters in quick succession to take advantage of good conditions in a habitat subject to fires and flooding. Females have 4 teats and usually give birth to 3 young. The gestation period of 22-24 days is the shortest known in the hydromyine rodents. Young are furred at 1 week, have their eyes open at 2 weeks and become independent at 3 weeks.

DESCRIPTION: A small mammal of the tropical north of Australia. Light fawn-orange with many long dark brown hairs above with light orange-brown flanks, a pronounced light eye ring and a white belly. The tail is bare with overlapping scales. The ears are small and curved, the limbs short and the body stout. They have one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *Mus nanus*, *Thetomys nanus*; *Thetomys ferculinus*; Little Mouse; Barrow Island Mouse.
LOCALITY: NT, WA, Qld.



Western False Pipistrelle

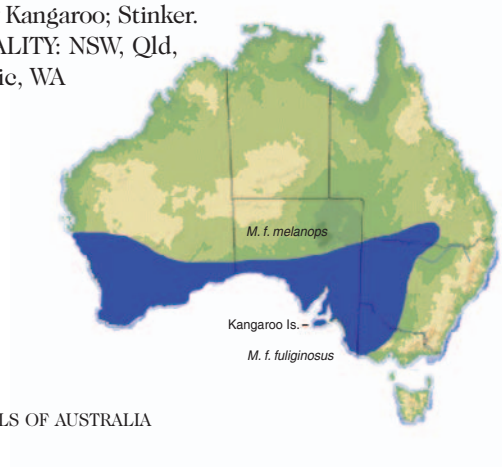
LATIN NAME: *Falsistrellus mckenziei* Kitchener, Caputi and Jones, 1986
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Falsistrellus* - "false-pipistrelle; *mckenziei* - "named after N. L. McKenzie, Australian zoologist"
FOOD: Larger insects.
HABITAT: Cool temperate wet and dry sclerophyll forest.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 50-70 mm Tail: 40-50 mm Forearm: 48-54 mm; 17-26 g
BEHAVIOUR: Mainly active at night, roosting by day in tree-holes, abandoned buildings and sometimes caves, probably forming maternity colonies. A large bat with a fluttering flight, that hunts larger insects above or in the upper layers of the forest canopy. They have good vision and navigate and detect insects using echo-location.
DEVELOPMENT: Males produce sperm in the late summer or autumn when food supplies are plentiful. They store it through the colder months and mate in spring. A single young in born and suckles from a teat in the mother's armpit.

DESCRIPTION: Similar in appearance the Eastern False Pipistrelle. Soft fur, rich brown to reddish-brown above and slightly lighter below. The head has a short, thinly-haired muzzle with glandular swellings. The ears are long and narrow with curved tips, a notch on the outer margin and a narrow, sharply-pointed lobe partly covering the opening. The tail projects slightly from the tail-membrane.
Synonyms: *Pipistrellus tasmaniensis* (part); *Falsistrellus tasmaniensis* (part).
LOCALITY: WA

Western Grey Kangaroo

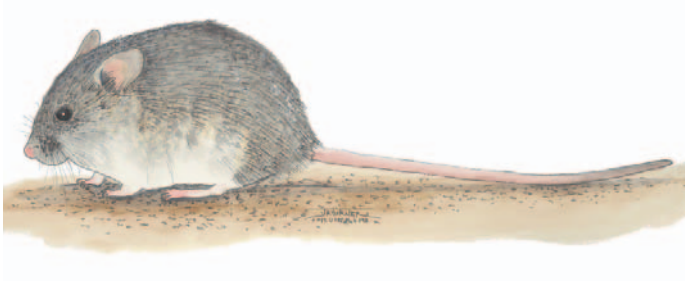
LATIN NAME: *Macropus fuliginosus* (Desmarest, 1817)
SUBSPECIES: *M. f. fuliginosus*, Kangaroo Island; *M. f. ocydromus*, type-locality, York, WA; *M. f. melanops*, type-locality, Adelaide district, SA.
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Macropus* - "long-foot"; *fuliginosus* - "sooty"
FOOD: Native grasses.
HABITAT: Open forests, woodlands and open scrub.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 500-1250 mm Tail: 420 - 1000 mm; 39-72 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, resting in the cover of trees and shrubs. Subgroups of 2-4 animals have overlapping home ranges of up to 8 square kms and belong to a larger mob of 40-50 with a discrete territory. Males have a strong distinctive smell and establish dominance hierarchies by fighting and ritualised acts. They range widely searching for females in heat. Females often congregate with female relatives forming their own dominance hierarchies and will only mate with dominant males. Old males are usually solitary. If alarmed they make guttural coughs and thump their hindfeet as they hop away with body erect and tail curved up.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature at 16 months, males at 31 months. Breeds all year, peak births Sep to Mar. Females mate 2-10 days after pouch vacated. Pregnancy 28-35 days, single newborn attaches to one of 4 teats in mother's pouch, leaves at 10 months, suckling at foot until 18 months old.

DESCRIPTION: Light to dark chocolate-brown fur often with flecks of grey above, dark brown to black paws, feet, tail tip and buff areas on legs and forearms. Paler below. Nose hairy, ears large, fringed with white hairs. Hindfeet no first digit, second and third are joined with a double claw, fourth is much longer than the others. Synonyms: *M. m. fuliginosus*; *M. m. ocydromus*; *M. ocydromus*; *M. melanops*; Black-faced Kangaroo; Mallee Kangaroo; Sooty Kangaroo; Stinker.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, SA, Vic, WA



Western Mouse

LATIN NAME: *Pseudomys occidentalis* Tate, 1951
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Pseudomys* - "false-mouse"; *occidentalis* - "western"
FOOD: Seeds, fruits and fibrous green plant material.
HABITAT: Cool-temperate semi-arid woodland and shrubland on sandy clay or loam.
STATUS: Vulnerable
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 90-110 mm Tail: 120-140 mm; 33-53 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, sleeping by day in a burrow approximatley 20-40 cm deep. Burrows consist of a single vertical entrance shaft, connected to a loop 2-3 metres in diameter and a nesting chamber located opposite the entrance. Nesting material consists of loose, fibrous plant material. It is communal; ten animals were collected from one burrow system.
DEVELOPMENT: Mating probably occurs in August and September and litters of up to 4 young are born around October.



DESCRIPTION: A little larger than the House Mouse this mammal can be distinguished by its very long tail. The fur is greyish above with black guard hairs and grey-white below. The feet are slim and covered with white hairs. Dark hairs on dorsal surface of tail. Paws are white. They have one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw.
LOCALITY: WA

Western Pebble-mound Mouse

LATIN NAME: *Pseudomys chapmanii* Kitchener, 1980
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Pseudomys* - "false-mouse"; *chapmanii* - "named after G. Chapman, Australian zoologist"
FOOD: Seeds and insects.
HABITAT: Arid tropical spinifex grassland and acacia woodland on pebbly soil in Pilbara region of Western Australia.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 50-70 mm Tail: 70-80 mm; 2.5 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in a nest of vegetable fibre in tunnels made in a mound of pebbles constructed by successive generations. Pebbles weighing about 5 g are collected and carried to the mound, which, over generations, may cover up to nine sqm. Providing thermal insulation and probably a moist microclimate, the mound is a practical alternative to burrowing in very hard soil.
DEVELOPMENT: Litte has been studied. In captivity a female produced a litter of four young in late May.

DESCRIPTION: This species, which has a rather long head and large ears, is a little larger than the Pilliga Mouse but significantly smaller than the House Mouse. The fur is brownish-grey above and white to pale yellow below. The tail is thinly-haired with overlapping scales. They have one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: Pebble-mound Mouse, Pilbara Pebble-mound Mouse.
LOCALITY: WA

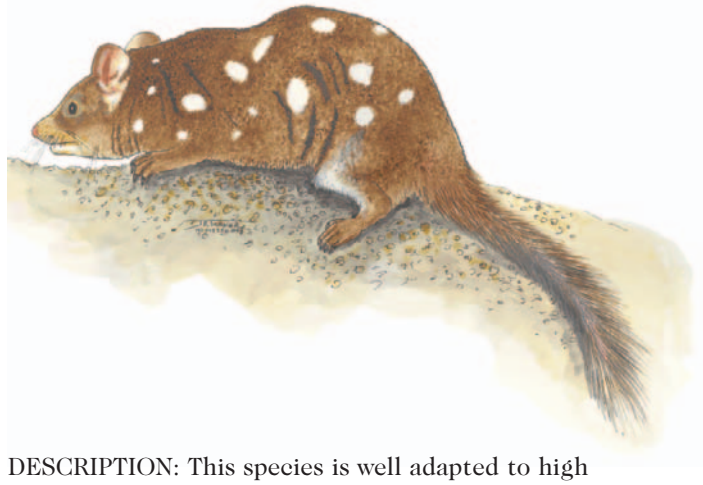
Western Pygmy-possum

LATIN NAME: *Cercartetus concinnus* (Gould, 1845)
FAMILY NAME: Burramyidae
MEANING: *Cercartetus* - "possibly tail-in-air"; *concinnus* - "elegant"
FOOD: Insects, nectar and fruits, holding food in the forepaws.
HABITAT: Dry sclerophyll forests/woodlands (dense understorey), mallee heathlands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 70-110 mm Tail: 70-96 mm; 8-21 g
BEHAVIOUR: Usually active at night, sleeping in abandoned bird nests, among the ground litter or in a nest of shredded bark or leaves built in a tree hollow, stump, or in the crown of a grass tree. Solitary and cryptic, they quickly move through foliage, occasionally leaping between branches, using their tail as a fifth limb. On the ground they move quadrupedally. In cold conditions if food scarce they curl up in a tight ball and become torpid for up to 11 days, lowering body temperature, surviving on fat stored in tail.
DEVELOPMENT: Females sexually mature at 12-15 months and breed all year. They produce 2-3 litters per year, mating soon after giving birth. Usually 4 young are born 50 days later and attach to 4 of the 6 teats in the mother's forward-opening pouch, where they remain for some 30 days, then left in the nest until weaned at 50 days.

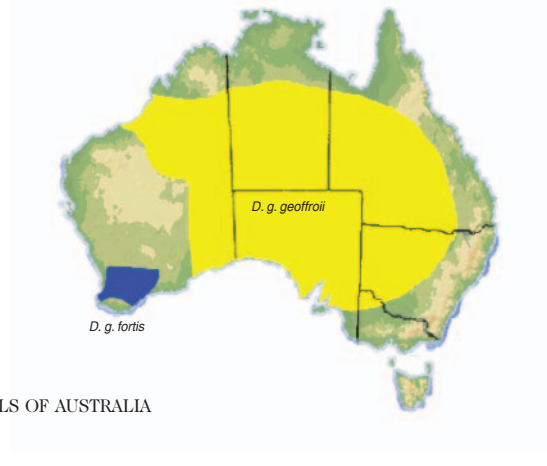
DESCRIPTION: Fawn to reddish-brown above with white belly fur. Head is conical with large ears, large eyes and long whiskers. The strongly prehensile tail has a seasonally-fattened base, is bare for most of its length with fine scales and tapers to a point. It is coiled when not in use. Distinguished from mice by their hindfeet which have an opposing first toe and fused second and third toes with a double claw. Synonyms: *Dromicia caudata, Dromicia concinna*; South-western Pygmy-possum; Lesser Dormouse-phalanger; Elegant Dormouse Opossum.
LOCALITY: SA, Vic, WA

Western Quoll

LATIN NAME: *Dasyurus geoffroii* Gould, 1841
SUBSPECIES: *D. g. geoffroii*, inland Australia; *D. g. fortis*, south-western WA.
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Dasyurus* - "hairy-tail"; *geoffroii* - "named after French zoologist E. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire"
FOOD: Small vertebrates, large insects and carrion when available.
HABITAT: Desert to wet sclerophyll forest.
STATUS: Endangered
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 270-360 mm Tail: 200-280 mm; 890-1310 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, sleeping by day in a nest in a shallow excavation or natural crevice. An agile climber grasping the trunk between the long hindfeet and gripping with the forepaws, but lives mainly on the ground. Female dens are established within an area of 55-120 hectares; male dens are distributed over 400 hectares or more. Female areas do not usually overlap whereas male areas overlap with other males as well as females.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexual maturity is reached at about one year. Up to 6 young are suckled on six teats in the pouch for about 15 weeks.



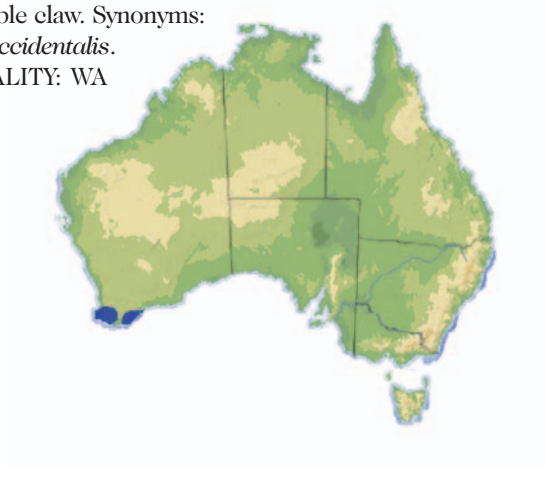
DESCRIPTION: This species is well adapted to high temperatures and aridity. The size of a small cat, this carnivorous marsupial is of medium to slender build with soft dense fur. Brown with white spots on the back but not on the tail; creamy white below. They have large rounded ears and relatively short legs. The Western Quoll differs from the Eastern Quoll in possessing a (small) first toe on the hindfoot, pads granular. Synonyms: *Dasyurinus geoffroii*; Western Native-Cat; Chuditch.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Vic, WA



Western Ringtail Possum

LATIN NAME: *Pseudocheirus occidentalis* (Thomas, 1888)
FAMILY NAME: Pseudocheiridae
MEANING: *Pseudocheirus* - "false-hand"; *occidentalis* - "western"
FOOD: Mainly eucalypt leaves, also flowers and fruits.
HABITAT: Forests, woodlands, rainforests, tea tree thickets, dense shrublands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 300-350 mm Tail: 300-350 mm; 660-1100 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, they sleep in spherical nests (300-350 mm diameter) in tree hollows, dense undergrowth, the forks of tree trunks or shrubs. Nests have a circular entrance, lined with shredded bark or grass carried in the curled tail. Male and female pairs build and use a number of nests, sometimes in same tree. Have overlapping home ranges, young forced to disperse. Emit soft, high-pitched twittering calls, secrete a strong-smelling liquid from anal glands when handled. Almost exclusively arboreal, agile climbers.
DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 13 months, live to 5 or more years. Twins are usually born from late Apr to Nov and 2 litters a year may be raised. Newborn attach to one of 4 teats in mother's forward-opening pouch for 42-49 days, vacating pouch at 125-130 days. Remain in nest or carried on mother's back until weaned at 180-210 days.

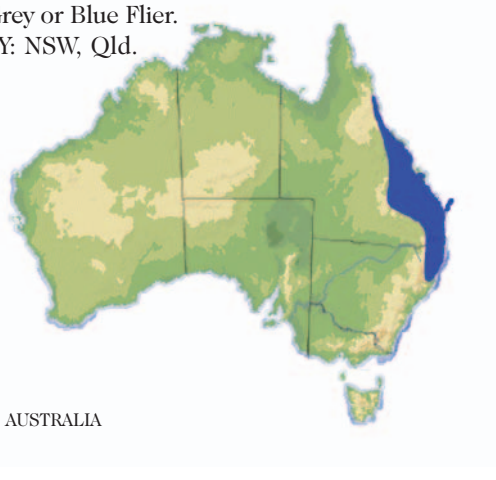
DESCRIPTION: Seen in suburban gardens. Variable grey to almost black back can be tinged with rufous, white to bright rufous below, pale patches below ears and eyes and rufous-tinged legs. Long white-tipped prehensile tail has a fat base and tapers to a slender tip with a friction pad below. Carried in a coil when not used. Ears small and rounded. Hands are grasping with two digits opposing the other three. Hindfeet have an opposing first toe, the second and third are joined with a double claw. Synonyms:
P. p. occidentalis.
LOCALITY: WA



Whiptail Wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Macropus parryi* Bennet, 1835
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Macropus* - "long-foot"; *parryi* - "after E. Parry, explorer"
FOOD: Native grasses, herbs and ferns, seldom drinking.
HABITAT: Open forests with a grassy understorey, often in hilly areas.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 675-955 mm Tail: 725-1045 mm; 7-26 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Active during the early morning and later in the afternoon, resting in shady areas. Dominance hierarchies are established by ritualised aggressive encounters involving grass-pulling with forepaws. Groups of 30-50 have stable home ranges of up to 100 ha or more joining those of neighbouring groups.. When threatened they scatter erratically, thumping the ground with hindfeet as they hop at high speed with back and tail almost horizontal. Noises include submissive coughs, soft clucking, threatening, growling hisses.
DEVELOPMENT: Females mate at 2 years, males at 2-3 years, breed all year with a peak from March to July. They mate near the end of young's pouch life, embryo dormant until pouch is vacated. Pregnancy is 34-38 days, single young attaches to one of four teats in mother's pouch. Leaves pouch at 39 weeks, suckling at foot until 14 months of age.

DESCRIPTION: A slim, graceful, with a triangular face, large brown and white ears, a dark brown forehead and a contrasting white cheek stripe. Winter coat is light grey above, summer coat brownish-grey. White below with light brown stripe along neck and shoulder, white stripe on hip, dark paws, dark tip on long slender tail. Hindfeet no first digit, second and third are joined with a double claw, fourth is much longer than others.
Synonyms: *Wallabia elegans*; Pretty-face Wallaby; Grey-faced Wallaby; Grey or Blue Flier.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld.



White-footed Dunnart

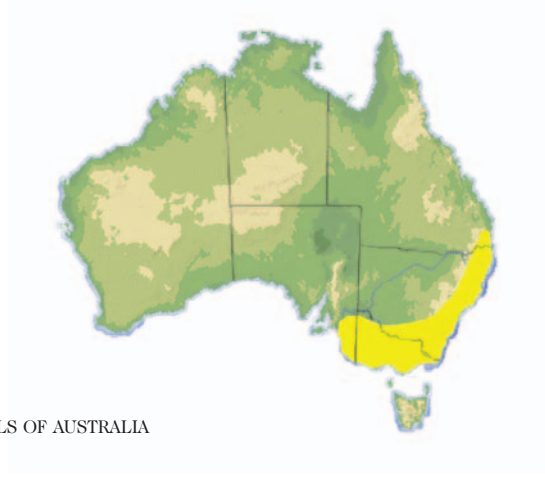
LATIN NAME: *Sminthopsis leucopus* (Gray, 1842)
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Sminthopsis* - "mouse-appearance"; *leucopus* - "white-footed"
FOOD: Insects and their larvae, small reptiles and possibly small mammals.
HABITAT: Woodlands and open forests with good ground cover, heathland, sedgeland, tussock grassland and coastal scrub.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 65-120 mm Tail: 45-105 mm; 7-14 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, they sleep during the day in roughly-shredded bark nests in tree hollows, rotting logs, wood piles and other dry, protected sites. They are solitary. Females have small discrete home ranges and travel no more than about 80 m to find food; males have overlapping home ranges and may travel up to 1 km for food. They are very fast on the ground and are agile climbers.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. The breeding season extends from July to October and females may produce 2 litters of 8-10 young per season. Newborn attach firmly to the mother's 8-10 teats and are completely enclosed in a circular pouch with a central opening. At about eight weeks, the young detach from the teats and are suckled in the nest for a month.

DESCRIPTION: A mouse-size carnivorous marsupial with soft, light grey fur on the back, becoming darker on the rump and pale-grey to white below. The tail is scaly with sparse, coarse hairs. The hindfeet are very narrow with furrowed pads. The head has a long pointed muzzle, large protruding eyes and large curved ears. Synonyms: *Phascogale leucopus*; White-footed Marsupial Mouse.
LOCALITY: NSW, Tas, Vic.

White-footed Tree-rat

LATIN NAME: *Conilurus albipes* (Lichenstein, 1829)
FAMILY NAME: Muridae
MEANING: *Conilurus* - "rabbit-tail"; *albipes* - "white-footed"
FOOD: Unknown
HABITAT: Sub-tropical to cool-temperate wet and dry sclerophyll forest.
STATUS: Extinct
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 230-260 mm Tail: 220-240 mm; About 200 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, it slept by day in a nest of leaves in tree-holes. Mainly arboreal.
DEVELOPMENT: The female had 4 teats and reared up to 3 young which fastened themselves firmly to the mother's teats.

DESCRIPTION: A recently extinct mammal, last collected around 1840. It had rough fur, light grey-brown above and creamy-white below. The tail was grey-brown at the base with overlapping scales. Stocky, with a rabbit-like appearance with long ears, a broad blunt head and elongated hindfeet. They had one pair of upper and lower gnawing incisor teeth and three pairs of molars on each side of the jaw. Synonyms: *Hapalotis albipes*; White-footed Rabbit-rat.
LOCALITY: Qld, NSW, Vic, SA.



White-striped Freetail-bat

LATIN NAME: *Nyctinomus australis* (Gray, 1838)
SUBSPECIES: *N. a. australis*, most of range; *N. a. atratus*, central desert.
FAMILY NAME: Molossidae
MEANING: *Nyctinomus* - "night-wanderer"; *australis* - "southern"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Wet and dry sclerophyll forests, arid woodlands and urban areas.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 85-100 mm Tail: 40-55 mm Forearm: 55-65 mm; 25-40 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active at night, roosting alone or in small colonies of less than 20 bats in tree-holes, cracks and human constructions. They are fast fliers but have difficulty taking off from the ground, usually crawl onto a rock or tree to launch themselves. Have excellent eyesight, hunting above canopy detecting insects by echo-location, emitting high-pitched calls from mouth. May descend to ground to chase and pounce upon crawling insects.
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. A single young born in November or December, possibly from mating 11 months before, suckles from a teat in mother's armpit.

DESCRIPTION: This fierce-looking mammal is quite docile and acquired its name from the upturned hound-like snout. Fur is short and thick, chocolate-brown to reddish-brown or black above. Paler below with white stripes along join of wings and body, sometimes with white areas on chest. Ears round, fleshy and strongly ribbed, almost touching above the head. Upper lip is deeply wrinkled and both sexes have a deep wide throat pouch. Toes are thick, fleshy and fringed with long, rigid, curved hairs. Tail protrudes well beyond tail-membrane. Synonyms: *Nyctinomus albidus*; *Austronomus australis*; *Tadarida australis*; White-striped Bat; White-striped Mastiff-bat; White-striped Scurrying Bat.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Vic, WA.

White-tailed Dunnart

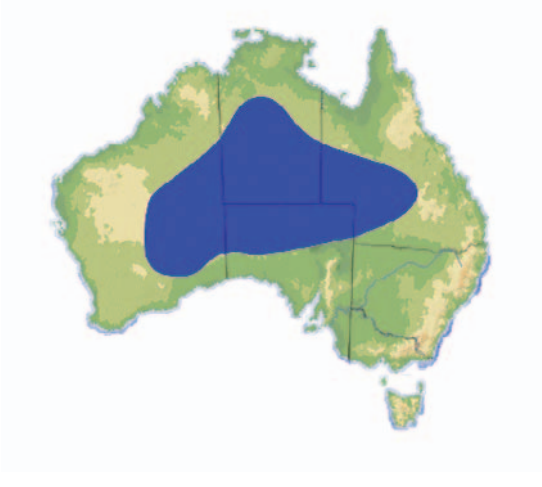
LATIN NAME: *Sminthopsis granulipes* Troughton, 1932
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Sminthopsis* - "mouse-appearance"; *granulipes* - "granule-footed"
FOOD: Insects and their larvae, spiders, cockroaches and centipedes.
HABITAT: Low shrubland, sparse mallee with shrubby ground cover, mostly on sand.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 69-88 mm Tail: 56-66 mm; 18-37 g
BEHAVIOUR: Unknown
DEVELOPMENT: Little has been studied. The breeding season is probably between May and July. Females have a circular pouch with a central opening.

DESCRIPTION: A small, delicate, carnivorous marsupial. Although common in its habitat, little has been studied. The fur is quite long and soft, with a blue-grey base and dark brown tips on the back, giving an overall light fawn to grey colour. The tail is white with a thin dark brown stripe along the upper surface. The head is pointed with a narrow muzzle, large protruding eyes and large ears with a notched margin. The paws are white. Pads on palm and sole finely and evenly granulated. Synonyms: Granular-footed Marsupial Mouse; Ash-grey Dunnart.
LOCALITY: WA.

Wongai Ningaui

LATIN NAME: *Ningaui ridei* Archer, 1975
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Ningaui* - "the name of an Aboriginal mythical being which is said to be tiny, nocturnal, hairy and short-footed and to eat raw flesh"; *ridei* - "after W. D. L. Ride, Australian zoologist"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Subtropical to warm-temperate arid to semi-arid dunes with spinifex hummocks or shrub cover.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 60-70 mm Tail: 60-70 mm; 6.5-10.5 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, sleeping by day in the shelter of a spinifex hummock, under fallen timber or in a short burrow. It preys on a wide variety of insects found on the ground and among the leaves of vegetation, climbing with the help of its weakly prehensile tail.
DEVELOPMENT: Age of sexually maturity not known. Mating occurs from September to January. The female has six or seven teats in a rudimentary pouch and may carry up to seven young, which leave the pouch when about six weeks old and become independent at about 13 weeks. Two litters may be reared in a year.

DESCRIPTION: A small sized marsupial predator, their hind feet are relatively shorter than those of dunnarts. Ningauis look rather like planigales but the head is less flattened and the fur rather more bristly. The pouch is either absent or poorly developed. Synonyms: Inland Ningaui.
LOCALITY: NT, Qld, SA, WA



Woolley's False Antechinus

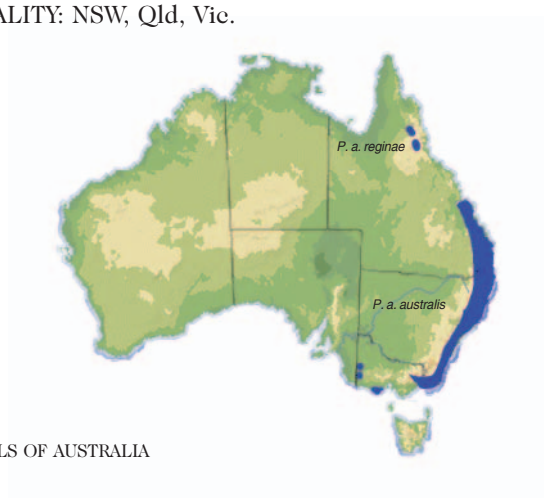
LATIN NAME: *Pseudantechinus woolleyae* Kitchener and Caputi, 1988
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Pseudantechinus* - "false-antechinus"; *woolleyae* - "after P. A. Woolley, Australian zoologist"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Warm temperate arid to semi-arid rocky country, often with mulga and hummock grasses.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 80-100 mm Tail: 70-90 mm; 30-50 g
BEHAVIOUR: Little has been studied. Active mainly at night, sleeping during the day in rocky crevices, often emerging during the day in winter to bask in the sun.
DEVELOPMENT: Little is known. A female in captivity reared a litter of six. The young reached sexual maturity at about 10 months of age. A litter of four resulted from a mating between the wild-caught female and her son in the breeding season of their second year in captivity.

DESCRIPTION: The largest of all pseudantechinuses. The swollen base of the tail is where deposits of fat are stored when food is plentiful. Poorly-nourished individuals use these fat reserves and therefore have a relatively thin tail. The fur is greyish-brown above and greyish-white below with light reddish-brown patches behind the ears. The head is long with a pointed muzzle, large eyes and ears. The hindfeet are broad. The upper third premolar is very small; it is absent from the lower jaw.
LOCALITY: WA

Yellow-bellied Glider

LATIN NAME: *Petaurus australis* Shaw, 1791
SUBSPECIES: *P. a. australis*, e Australia from Portland, Vic, to central coastal Qld; *P. a. reginae*, n Qld to w slopes of rainforest between Mount Windsor and Yamanie, on the north bank of the Herbert River Gorge.
FAMILY NAME: Petauridae
MEANING: *Petaurus* - "rope-dancer"; *australis* - "southern"
FOOD: Nectar, pollen, insects, honeydew and sap obtained by biting into bark.
HABITAT: Wet and dry sclerophyll forests and woodlands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 270-320 mm Tail: 420-480 mm; 450-700 g
BEHAVIOUR: Usually active at night, sleeping in nests in tree hollows lined with leaves carried in the coiled tail. Exclusive home ranges of 40-60 ha occupied by a monogamous pair and their offspring, often sharing a number of dens. May travel 2 km or more for food, may feed in small groups in same tree. Adults scent-mark family members. Emit loud shrieks, growls, whoos, rattling chatter. Agile, can run beneath branches, glide to 120 m.
DEVELOPMENT: Often mates clinging to the underside of a branch. Single young born between Nov and May (throughout year in north). Attaches to one of two teats in forward-opening pouch for 100 days. In nest for 60 days, independent at about 180-240 days.
DESCRIPTION: A rabbit-size gliding possum, dark to pale grey-brown above, off-white to yellow-orange below, with dark stripes along mid back and thigh, dark limbs. Large ears, pointed and almost bare. Tail is long, broad and bushy.

A square gliding membrane joins at wrists and ankles. First two digits of forefeet oppose other three. Hindfeet have opposing first toe, second and third are joined with a double claw. Synonyms: Fluffy Glider.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, Vic.



Yellow-bellied Sheathtail-bat

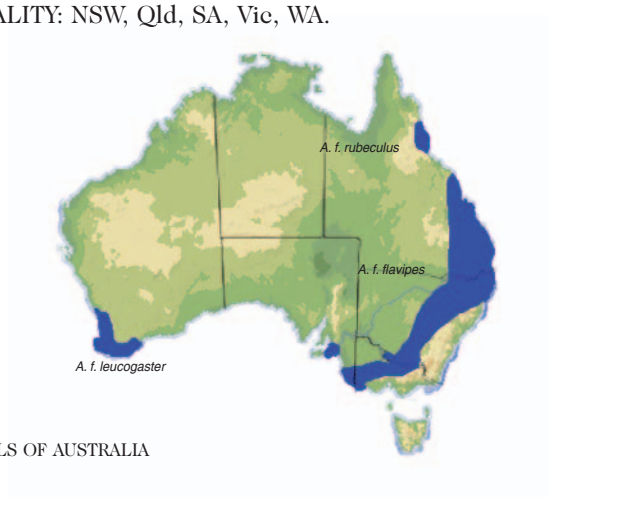
LATIN NAME: *Saccolaimus flaviventris* (Peters, 1867)
FAMILY NAME: Emballonuridae
MEANING: *Saccolaimus* - "throat-pouch"; *flaviventris* - "yellow-bellied"
FOOD: Flying insects, particularly beetles and moths.
HABITAT: Rainforests, sclerophyll forests and woodlands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 75-90 mm Tail: 20-35 mm Forearm: 72-80 mm; 30-60 g
BEHAVIOUR: Active at night, roosting alone or with up to 10 others in large hollow trees, the abandoned nests of Sugar Gliders or in buildings. They are good climbers and fly fast and direct with slow wing beats, hunting high above the forest canopy and in forest clearings. They have good vision and navigate and detect insects by echo-location, emitting audible calls through the mouth while flying.
DEVELOPMENT: Their reproduction and development is unknown.

DESCRIPTION: This placental mammal is the largest of all the Australian sheathtail-bats distinguished by its contrasting glossy black back and white or creamy-yellow belly. Both sexes have a throat pouch which is well-developed in males and reduced to a small fold of skin in females. The wings are long and narrow with the tips folded back over the membrane at rest and lack wing pockets. The tip of the tail is covered with bristles and projects through the tail membrane, sliding freely to increase hindlimb movement. The face is dog-like, mostly bare, with black skin and thick, tough, ribbed ears with a prominent lobe partially covering the ear opening. Synonyms: *Taphozous flaviventris*; White-bellied Sheathtail-bat; Yellow-bellied Freetail-bat.
LOCALITY: NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Vic, WA.

Yellow-footed Antechinus

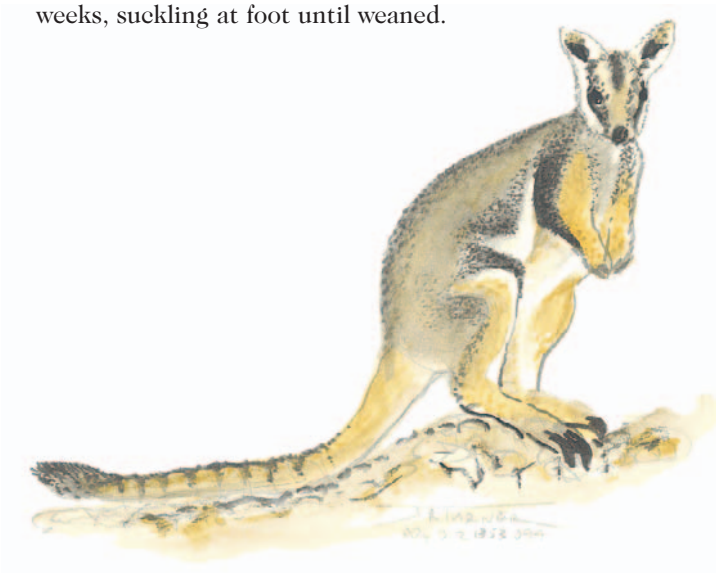
LATIN NAME: *Antechinus flavipes* (Waterhouse, 1838)
SUBSPECIES: *A. f. flavipes*, se Qld, NSW, Vic and SA; *A. f. leucogaster*, WA; *A. f. rubeculus*, ne Qld.
FAMILY NAME: Dasyuridae
MEANING: *Antechinus* - "hedgehog-equivalent"; *flavipes* - "yellow-footed"
FOOD: Insects, with small vertebrates, flowers and nectar.
HABITAT: Rainforests, wet and dry sclerophyll forests to dry mulga woodlands.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 85-165 mm Tail: 65-155 mm; 21-80 g
BEHAVIOUR: Usually active at night, sleep by day in roughly made nest lined with leaves and other vegetation, hollow logs, rocky crevices, caves or buildings. Move quickly and erratically and can run upside down along branches, gripping with broad feet. Pounce on prey, kill quickly and efficiently with bites to head and neck, leaving skin of small mammals turned inside-out. Utter high-pitched squeaks if threatened. Males die after mating.

DEVELOPMENT: Sexually mature at 10-11 months, mate in Aug in north and Sep in south, copulating for up to 12 hours. Up to 12 young born 30 days after mating, although only eight survive to attach to eight teats on mother's abdomen. Females have no true pouch. Ridges of skin develop on either side of teats 2 weeks before birth. Young detach from teats at 40 days. Then left in nest or ride on mother's back, weaned at 3 months.
DESCRIPTION: Has a slate grey head grading to orange-brown on sides, belly, rump and feet, white patches on throat and belly, a pale ring around eye, black tail tip. Head is long, pointed with black snout tip, protruding eyes, thin, crinkled ears. Hindfeet very broad. Synonyms: *Antechinus stuartii*, *Phascogale flavipes*; Yellow-footed Marsupial Mouse; Mardo.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, SA, Vic, WA.

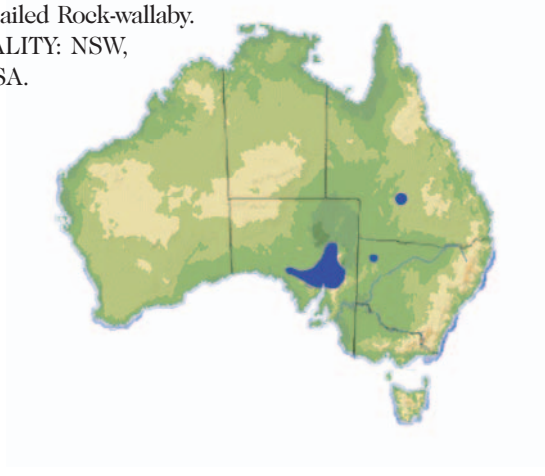


Yellow-footed Rock-wallaby

LATIN NAME: *Petrogale xanthopus* Gray, 1855
SUBSPECIES: *P. x. xanthopus*, Flinders Ranges, Gawler Ranges and Olary Hills, SA and Gap and Coturaundee Ranges, NSW; *P. x. celeris*, Gowan, Grey, Cheviot, Yangang and Macedon Ranges, bounded by Adavale, Blackall and Stonehenge, sw Qld.
FAMILY NAME: Macropodidae
MEANING: *Petrogale* - "rock-weasel"; *xanthopus* - "yellow-footed"
FOOD: Mainly leaves with some grass and herbs. Need water, drink often in hot weather.
HABITAT: Arid rocky sites with open woodland and scrub.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 490-650 mm Tail: 560-700 mm; 6-8 kg
BEHAVIOUR: Active mainly at night, bask in winter sun, shelter during day under rocky outcrops, in vegetation between boulders emerging at dusk to feed. Form colonies, occupy home ranges. Males establish dominance hierarchies. Agile, hopping among rocks with tail arched over back, can climb sloping tree trunks. Travels miles for food, water for young.
DEVELOPMENT: Females are sexually mature at 11-22 months, males at 30 months. May breed all year, mate soon after birth. After 31-33 days a single young is born, attaches to one of four teats in mother's pouch, remains for 28 weeks, suckling at foot until weaned.

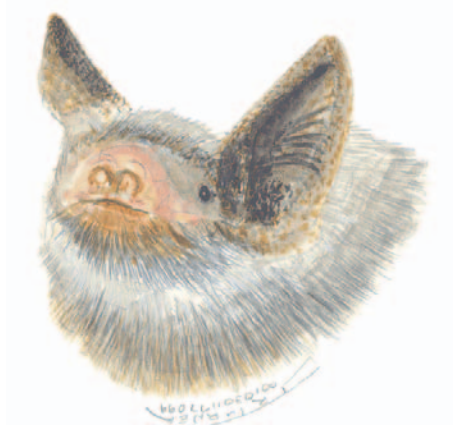


DESCRIPTION: Greyish-fawn back, rich brown stripes along centre of back, hips and arms, white stripes along cheeks and sides, rufous-brown arms and legs, white underparts, rufous-brown tail with dark bands. Ears long, nose bare. Hindfeet have no first digit, second and third are joined with double claw, fourth is much longer than others. Claw of fourth toe protrudes only slightly beyond large pad. Pads are granulated for gripping with a fringe of stiff hairs around them. Synonyms: *P. celeris* (part); Ring-tailed Rock-wallaby.
LOCALITY: NSW, Qld, SA.



Yellow-lipped Bat

LATIN NAME: *Vespadelus douglasorum* Kitchener, 1976
FAMILY NAME: Vespertilionidae
MEANING: *Vespadelus* - "hidden-bat"; *douglasorum* - "Douglas'"
FOOD: Insects
HABITAT: Near creeks and pools from those north-western parts of the Kimberley receiving annual rainfall in excess of 800 mm.
STATUS: Secure
LENGTH/WEIGHT: Body: 34-43 mm Tail: 32-39 mm Forearm: 34-38 mm; About 5 g
BEHAVIOUR: Nocturnal, roosting by day in caves in colonies of up to 50 individuals. Maternity colonies are formed.
DEVELOPMENT: Females give birth to a single young within the period from the end of the dry season to the middle of the wet season.



DESCRIPTION: Greyish to olive buff body; head, feet and forearms yellow; patch of pale yellow fur below, posterior to arms. Glandular pads at sides of mouth give face a less pointed appearance. Synonyms: *Eptesicus douglasi*; Large Cave Eptesicus; Yellow-lipped Eptesicus.
LOCALITY: WA.

DR HURNER
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GLOSSARY

arboreal: living in trees
baleen plates: found in the upper jaw of baleen whales these fibrous comb like plates are used to sieve plankton from the water.
bipedal: moving only on the two hind legs
blowhole: Baleen whales have two holes on the top of their head, through which they breathe, while toothed whales have only one blowhole
brigalow: *Acacia harpophylla* dominated this woodland community in central east Qld. Most of the brigalow has been cleared for agriculture.
browse: to feed on ferns, shrubs or trees (not grasses)
calcar: a spur of cartilage extending from the ankle of a bat towards the tail, it helps support the trailing edge of the tail membrane
callosities: found on the head of right whales, these patched of rough hardened skin are infested with barnacles and whale lice
carnivore: an animal feeding on the flesh of other animals
circumpolar: around the globe at high latitudes
crepuscular: animals active at dawn or dusk
diprotodont: marsupials having only one functional pair of insicors in the lower jaw
digit: a toe or finger
diurnal: an animal active during daylight hours
drey: a usually sperical nest, constructed by a mammal in the branches of a tree
echolocation: a method using sound, that enables whales and bats to navigate and to detect food, the returning echo gives the animal the direction of and distance to an object
ecotone: an area where different vegetation groups or habitats meet or mix
feral: established wild populations of domestic animals
fin: the fin located in the midline of the back of whales and dophins
flippers: the forelimbs of whales and dophins or the forelimbs and hindlimbs of seals
fluke: the horizontal flattened tail fin used to propel whales, dophins and dugongs
folivores: those who eat the leaves of trees
forbs: herbaceous plants not including grasses
frugivores: those who eat fruit
gestation: from fertilisation to birth, the length of pregnancy
Great Dividing Range: a mountain range running from northern Cape York Peninsula down the eastern coast of Australia to western Victoria
graze: to eat grasses or herbaceous plants (not shrubs or trees)
hallux: first toe of the hindfoot, the 'big' toe
herbivores: those who feed on plants
home range: an area used by an individual animal, parts of which may or may not used by other animals of the same species
incisor: the front teeth, used for cutting
insectivore: an animal that eats insects
invertebrate: an animal not possessing a backbone
lob-tailing: a loud splash made when the flukes are raised and smacked onto surface of the water
macropod: kangaroos and wallabies of the family Macropodidae
mallee: multistemmed, small eucalypts, or a plant community or geographical area dominated by these species
mane: long hair gowing on the sides of the neck or on the back
montane: mountainous region below alpine snow line
mulga: tall shrubland or acacia woodland in arid areas of Australia
muzzle: the head forward of the eyes
nasal exfoliation: small flaps or ridges forming a poorly developed noseleaf around the nostrils of some genera of bats
nocturnal: active at night
noseleaf: used in echolocation, comprises as series of fleshy plates surrounding the nostrils of some genera of bats
omnivore: feeds on both plants and animals
pectoral: the chest
pelege: a covering of hair or fur
phalanx: a bone of the finger or toe
polyprotodont: marsupials such as dasyurids and bandicoots having more than pair of functional incisors in their lower jaw
post-nasal ridge: a ridge of tissue runnung across the snout of long eared bats of the genus *Nyctophilus*
prehensile: able to grasp
riparian: referring to the banks of a steam or river
rodent: a mammal with one pair of chisel-like teeth in the upper and lower jaw
rorqual: a whale of the family Balaenopteridae
scat: faecal pellet
sclerophyll: usually referring to eucalypts or heath species with hard leathery leaves
spinifex: spiny hummock grass belonging to the genera *Plectrachne* or *Triodia*
succulent: thick and juicy
taxon: any taxonomic rank e.g. family, genus, species, subspecies
temperate: the zone between the subantarctic and subtropics
terrestrial: land-based
tibia: the shinbone
tragus: a cartilage-based lobe, found extending upwards from the base of the ear opening, in most species of bats
vegetarian: eating only plant matter
ventral: the underside of an animal
vine forest: dominated by vines
wallum: areas in Qld and NSW where sandy coastal heath often contain *Banksia aemula* or Wallum

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