

## Fragmenta Theriologica

### New Locality Record of La Laguna Mountain Shrew, *Sorex ornatus lagunae* Nelson et Goldman, 1909, in Cape Region of Baja California, Mexico

NOWE STANOWISKO RYJÓWKI *SOREX ORNATUS LAGUNAE* NELSON ET GOLDMAN  
W POŁUDNIOWEJ DOLNEJ KALIFORNI (MEKSYK)

Danuta WOŁOSZYN, José Cuauhtémoc GUEMEZ & Bronisław W. WOŁOSZYN

Wołoszyn D., Gumez J. C. & Wołoszyn B. W., 1985: New locality record of la Laguna mountain shrew, *Sorex ornatus lagunae* Nelson et Goldman, 1909, in Cape region of Baja California, Mexico. Acta theriol., 30, 8: 157—160 [With 1 Table & 2 Figs.]

*Sorex ornatus lagunae* was previously known only from the holotype (skin, skull) and one skin without skull. Two additional specimens recently taken at Palo Extraño (Cape region of Baja California, Mexico) constitute a new locality record.

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One of the rarest mammals in the Cape region of Baja California Sur, Mexico, is the shrew *Sorex ornatus lagunae* Nelson et Goldman, 1909. Only three specimens have been reported and only two collected since its discovery and description.

The story of discovery of *Sorex ornatus lagunae* is as follows (Banks, 1967:224): "... Nelson and Goldman (1909) described *Sorex lagunae* from a single specimen taken by them on January 29, 1906 at La Laguna. When Jackson (1928:169) considered them to be a race of more northern *S. ornatus*, he still had only the type specimen a female available for examination. Murray trapped a male shrew at Laguna on June 11, 1948. Unfortunately, the skull was lost. Standard measurements of the specimen, as recorded on the label, are 108-43-12-8... Murray's notes record that the shrew was captured "in a space hollowed out of the stream bank beside the water. The spot was partially covered by overhanging plants and had many dried leaves around. This was in one of the densely wooded parts of the stream shaded by overhanging oaks". A. J. Sloan saw a shrew briefly in May, 1965, as he was searching for lizards. It was under a log forming part of a pile of trash at the base of a large poplar tree near camp. Despite extensive effort, we were unable to trap any shrews..."

D. Wołoszyn and B. W. Wołoszyn attempted to collect this shrew during their research in La Laguna Mountains (1982) but did not succeed.

However, two specimens were recently collected at a place called Palo Extraño, situated in the La Laguna Mountains at an elevation of 1.600 m, at  $23^{\circ} 28'30''$  N  $109^{\circ} 53'03''$  W. This locality is 5 km southwest of the type locality (La Laguna) in the same pine-oak-woodland biotic zone (Fig. 1B). The first specimen was collected by F. Cota<sup>1</sup> on 26 October, 1982, while the second one was obtained by J. C. Guemez<sup>2</sup> and A. Cota<sup>1</sup> on 10 March, 1983 and deposited in the Institute of Systematic and Experimental Zoology, Polish Academy of Sciences in Kraków, Poland. Data on specimens and on the three previous individuals are presented in Table 1.

The last of the two specimens collected recently was studied.

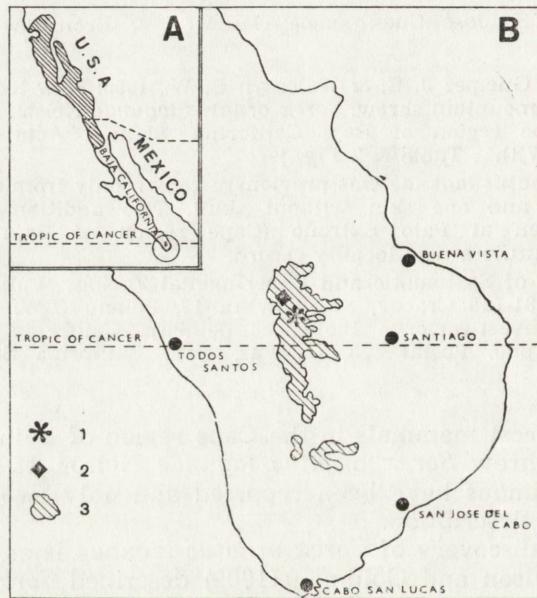


Fig. 1. Geographical distribution of *Sorex ornatus lagunae*. A. General distribution of *Sorex ornatus* (partly after Hall, 1981). B. Distribution of *Sorex ornatus lagunae* in Cape Region of Baja California: 1. Palo Extraño — a new locality, 2. La Laguna — locus typicus of *S. o. lagunae*, 3. Pine-oak woodland.

## RESULTS

Color<sup>3</sup> (winter pelage) of upper parts is darker than hair brown a little greyish superficially, under parts paler than upper parts, hair brown with tips of light drab hair, tail fuscous above, a little paler below.

Measurements: were as follows (in parenthesis measurements of holotype, after Jackson (1928: 170).

Total body length 86 (98), tail 36 (41), hind foot 12 (12.5), ear 7 (—).

<sup>1</sup> C.I.B.'s Field technician; <sup>2</sup> C.I.B.'s researcher; <sup>3</sup> After Ridgway nomenclature.

Table 1

Data of the five specimens of *Sorex ornatus lagunae* collected and observed up to now in La Laguna Mountains, Baja California. Sur.

Locality	Collecting date; Sex	Collector	References	Museum
La Laguna	Jan. 28, 1906; ♀	E. W. Nelson E. A. Goldman	H. H. T. Jackson 1928: 169—170	No. 147119 US Natural Museum Biol. Survey Collection
La Laguna	June 11, 1948; ♂	K. Murray	R. C. Banks, 1967: 224	Mus. of Vertebrate Zool. Univ. of California, Berkeley
La Laguna	May 19—21, 1965; ?	A. J. Sloan	R. C. Banks 1967: 224	
Palo Extraño	Oct. 26, 1982; ♂	F. Cota	Personal inf.	Centro de Investigaciones Biologicas de Baja California sur, A. C. La Paz, México.
Palo Extraño	March 10, 1983; ♀	J. C. Guemez A. Cota	Our specimen	Inst. Syst. Exp. Zool., Kraków, Poland. No. M/6224/84.

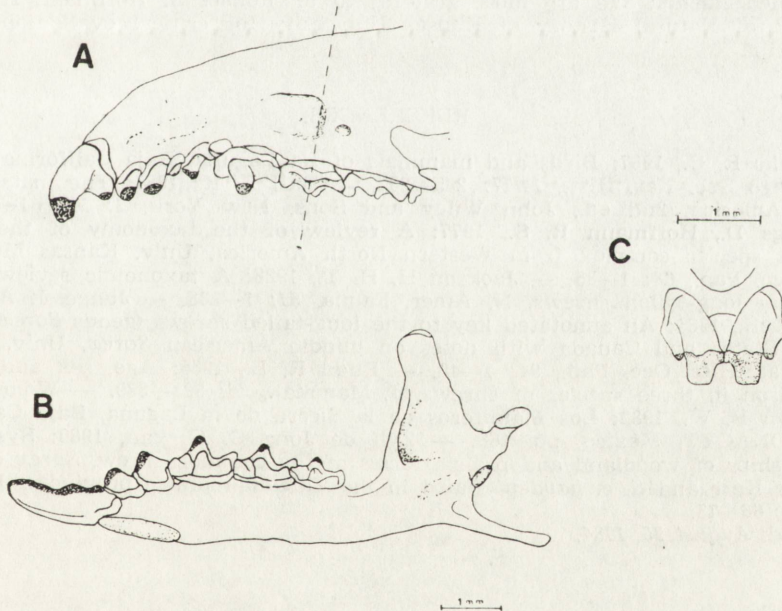


Fig. 2. A. The rostral part of the skull of the specimen *S. o. lagunae* from Palo Extraño. Note the position of lacrimal foramina above the metastyle of  $M^1$ . B. The right mandible of the specimen from Palo Extraño. C. Frontal view of first upper incisors of the specimen from Palo Extraño. Note the similarity of the structure of medial tines to *Sorex ornatus* (see Hennings & Hoffmann, 1977: 10, fig. 5H).

Skull (Fig. 2A) is delicate, slightly damaged in the occipital region, probably during capture. *Foramen occipitale magnum* lies more dorsally in comparison with *S. vagrans*.

Teeth moderately worn (Fig. 2), age class between 2 and 3 (Rudd, 1955). Third unicuspid (U3) is noticeably smaller than U4. The position of the lacrimal foramina above the metastyle of M<sup>1</sup> — is like that in *S. cinereus* (see: van Zyll de Jong, 1980), the lower incisor with 3 small cusps. First upper incisors show the *S. ornatus* pattern (Henning & Hoffmann, 1981). Measurements (in mm): greatest skull length 15.00<sup>4</sup>, cranial width 7.70<sup>4</sup>, condylobasal length: 15.00<sup>4</sup>, maxillary width: 4.60, least interorbital width: 3.25, palatal length: 6.34, upper incisors width: 1.56, width across M<sup>2</sup>—M<sup>2</sup>: 4.20, length of upper unicuspid tooth-row: 2.00, length of molariform tooth-row: (P<sup>4</sup>—M<sup>3</sup>): 3.70, mandible length: 7.00, height of the coronoid process: 3.48, length of mandibular tooth-row: 4.48, length of lower molar tooth-row: 3.30, length of lower incisor: 2.12.

Our specimen is smaller than the type specimen (see Jackson, 1928), but general characteristics of the skull are typical for the *S. ornatus* group: relation of U3 to U4, the lack of postmandibular canal and position of *foramen occipitale magnum* allow us to assign our specimen to *Sorex ornatus lagunae*.

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<sup>4</sup> Measurements from slightly damaged skull.