

A new species of Piping Hares from
Saghalien.

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KYUKICHI KISHIDA.

Zoologist to the Institute for Mammalogy and Ornithology,
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Mr. MAKOTO YOSHIKURA of Shiratoru, has kindly submitted to me for identification four summer examples of piping hares that he has captured in Saghalien last month, and preserved in alcohol. These

specimens show that they belong to a new species more nearly related to the¹⁾ Yeso form, *Ochotona yesoensis* of the author (1930) than either the²⁾ Amur (Tschukschis) form, *Ochotona hyperborea* of PALLAS (1831), the³⁾ Ussuri form, *Ochotona cinereofusca* of SCHRENCK (1859) or the⁴⁾ coast form, *Ochotona littoralis* of PETERS (1892).

***Ochotona yoshikurai* n. sp.**

Japanese name : Karafuto Hatsuka Usagi.

Anglican name : Saghalien Piping Hare.

The holotype of this species is an adult male collected at Mt. Shirutoru, C. Saghalien (E. 142° 40' × N. 48° 40') in the month of October, 1932. The paratypes are two in number, of similar data as the holotype. The allotype is an adult female, also, of similar data of the holo- and paratypes. Those specimens are preserved now in the author's collection.

Color. The back of body is lightly greyish brown, but tinted with yellow. The longer hairs are clayish black on the basal two thirds part and lightly grayish brown washed with dark brown towards tip. The belly is lighter or whitish brown without being yellow, no appearance of their being washed with dark color at the tip being noticeable even on the longer hairs.

The head is more strongly greyish than the dorsum of body. No patch of bright color is seen about the ear. The whiskers are mostly black but paler in parts. The chin is lightly brownish. The ear which

¹⁾ 1930. KISHIDA, K.—Diagnosis of a new piping hare from Yeso,—Lansania, Tokyo, Vol. 2, No. 13, pp. 45-47.

²⁾ 1831. PALLAS, P. S.—Zoogr. Ross. Asiatica, Vol. 1, p. 152.

³⁾ 1859. SCHRENCK, LEOPOLD VON.—Reisen und Forschung in Amur-Lande, Bd. 1, pt. 1. Mammalia.

⁴⁾ 1892. PETERS, W.—S. B. Ges. Naturf. Freunde zu Berlin, S. 95.

is mostly clothed with grey hairs with a few whitish hairs mixed is sooty black on its outer surface and lightly buffy white on the inner surface. The feet are whitish brown above. They are more slightly greyish at the sole than in the case of *Ochotona yesoensis*.

External characters. The ear is oval and smaller than that of Yeso form with the hairs on the above measuring 22 mm. long. The hairs on the feet are the same with those of the Yeso form.

Cranial characters. In the mandible, the condylar process is strongly angulate even at its postero-superior part, and the angular process much more sharply tapering backwards. The parangular ridge at the outer surface of this process coincide with the angular ridge at its middle, whereas the parangular ridge of the Yeso form is parallel nearly to the margin throughout its total length.

In the skull, the nasal bone is found not so broadly inflated anteriorly as that of the Yeso form that the antero-lateral part of the pre-maxillary is left to be seen from above. The sagittal crest, extending to the posterior third of the parietal beyond the transverse line, terminates posteriorly in a small triangular area on the interparietal. The uppermost part of the supra-occipital is unlike that of the Yeso form in which it is slightly excavated, but here be called almost flattened. The posterior maxillary foramen is elongate and much longer than broad, with its sides strongly converged forwards. The foramen must therefore regarded as one of the good indices of this new form.

Measurements of the primary types are shown in the following table.

Nos.	1 (holotype)	2	3	4 (allotype)
Sex.	♂	♂	♂	♀
Head and body.	168.0	...	141.0	... 127.0 ... 149.0
Distance from end of snout to				

frontal margin of eye	18.0	17.5	15.5	17.0
Do. from hind end of eye to ear ...	14.5	16.0	17.0	15.5
Ear.	17.5	15.8	15.0	15.0
Fore foot. s. u.	17.5	16.5	16.5	14.5
Hind foot s. u.	26.5	24.8	26.0	23.5
Skull, greatest length.	39.0	38.7	38.0	42.0
„ nasal.	12.0	11.8	11.2	12.0
„ interorbital width.	4.5	4.0	4.7	4.3
„ zygomatic width.	19.3	19.7	20.0	20.2
„ width of brain-case	18.8	19.0	19.3	19.5
„ depth of brain-case	11.0	12.0	11.8	10.8
„ condylobasal length.	33.3	33.2	32.2	34.5
„ length of incisive foramen	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.5
„ width of incisive foramen	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.3
„ diagonal length of tympanic bulla.	11.8	11.5	11.2	12.0
Upper diastema	8.2	8.2	8.0	8.5
Upper check tooth-row.	6.8	7.5	7.3	7.8
Mandible.	26.2	26.5	26.3	27.0
Lower diastema	5.3	5.3	5.5	5.7
Lower check tooth-row.	6.8	7.0	7.0	6.8

Remarks.

DOCTOR INUKAI of Sapporo has formerly recorded occurrences⁵⁾ of *Ochotona yezoensis* in Saghalien. But whether the animals he calls as such are all identical with this new form or not is a question to be answered by further studies.

⁵⁾ 1931. INUKAI, T.—A record of *Ochotona* from Sakhalien. Transact. Sapporo. Nat. Hist. Soc. Vol. 12, Pt. 1, pp. 6-8.