

## New data on the terrestrial mammals of the Oued Ad-Dehab region of Western Sahara

Richard MOORES <sup>(1)</sup>, Daniel BROWN <sup>(2)</sup> and Robert MARTIN <sup>(3)</sup>

<sup>(1)</sup> 92 Cambridge Street, Norwich, NR2 2BE (United Kingdom)  
rd\_moores@yahoo.co.uk

<sup>(2)</sup> 3/4, 3 Mingarry Street, Glasgow, G20 8NP (United Kingdom)  
danbrownecology@googlemail.com

<sup>(3)</sup> 82 Gladstone Street, Norwich, NR2 2BJ (United Kingdom)  
robwilliammartin@gmail.com

Disponible en ligne (Available online): 28 avril 2012

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A recent expedition searching for mammals was undertaken to the Oued Ad-Dehab region of Western Sahara from 24th-31st January 2012. This short paper provides some additional species and information to the recent paper by Chevalier *et al.* (2012).

### *Felis margarita* (Chat des sables – Sand Cat)

A total of three individuals were observed over two nights (26th and 28th January 2012) including a single in the southern section of Oued Jenna, and animals at 23°33'58.13"N 15°40'10.46"W and at 23°10'45.93"N 15°02'15.84"W.



**Figure 1.** *Felis libyca* – 9 kilometres east of Gleb Jdiane (Photo Richard Moores)

***Felis libyca* (Chat ganté – African Wild Cat)**

A single was observed hunting along the Awserd Road at 22°43'29.99"N 14°32'05.65"W on 28th January 2012.

***Gerbillus henleyi* (Gerbille pygmée – Pygmy Gerbil)**

A single individual was trapped in gardens at Taourta, Dakhla peninsula (23°47'18.55"N 15°54'06.92"W) on 28th January 2012.

***Gerbillus gerbillus* (Petite gerbille du sable – Lesser Egyptian Gerbil)**

A single was trapped at 22°47'59.47"N 14°37'10.46"W on 28th January 2012 and a further individual was observed in the western section of Oued Jenna on the same date. Further unidentified gerbils considered likely to be this species were recorded along the entire length of the Dakhla - Awserd road.

***Mus musculus (domesticus)* (Souris grise – (Western) House Mouse)**

A single individual was trapped in gardens at Taourta, Dakhla peninsula (23°47'18.55"N 15°54'06.92"W) on 28th January 2012.

***Lepus microtis* (Lièvre de savanne – African Savanna Hare)**

A single was found freshly dead on the road approximately 44 kilometres northwest of Awserd on 29th January 2012. All other hares seen during three trips (in 2006, 2010 and 2012) in the region are considered by the authors to be this species and not Cape Hare (see Moores *et al.* 2012 for further information).



**Figure 2.** *Gerbillus henleyi* – Taourta (Photo Robert Martin)





**Figure 3.** *Gerbillus gerbillus* – Oued Jenna (Photo Daniel Brown)



**Figure 4.** *Mus musculus* – Taourta (Photo Robert Martin)

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## ***References***

- Chevalier, F. ; Thevenot, M. & Bergier, P.** 2012. Notes sur quelques mammifères terrestres observés près de Dakhla, Oued Ad-Deheb. *Go-South Bulletin* 9 : 1-6.
- Moore, R.D. ; Brown, D. ; Martin, R.W. & Lees, A.C.** 2012. Status and identification of hares *Lepus* sp. in Western Sahara and southern Morocco. *Go-south Bulletin* 9 : 126-130.