

## Mammals recorded during a two-day visit to Lambir Hills, Sarawak, Borneo

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**Photographs by:** Nick Baker, Brian Perttu.

**Subjects identified by:** Nick Baker, Matt Luskin.

**Location:** Lambir Hills National Park, Sarawak, Malaysia, Borneo.

**Elevation:** < 150 metres.

**Habitats:** Lowland primary forest, forest edge.

**Date:** 29 September 2016, 11:00 hrs to 01 October 2016, 09:00 hrs.

### Identity of subjects and descriptions of records:

- 1) Malay Civet, *Viverra zibetha* (Mammalia: Carnivora: Viverridae), one recorded at the edge of the Main Trail leading to Latak Waterfall, 30 September, 00:58 hrs (Fig. 1).
- 2) Long-tailed Porcupine, *Trichys fasciculata* (Mammalia: Rodentia: Hystricidae), one recorded at the edge of the stream adjacent to the Main Trail leading to Latak Waterfall, 01 October, 00:25 hrs (Fig. 2).
- 3) Plantain Squirrel, *Callosciurus notatus* (Mammalia: Rodentia: Sciuridae), one seen at the forest edge near the visitor centre, 01 October, 08:14 hrs (Fig. 3).
- 4) Prevost's Squirrel, *Callosciurus prevostii caroli* (Mammalia: Rodentia: Sciuridae), one observed in the canopy at the forest edge near the visitor centre, 01 October, 08:19 hrs (Fig. 4).
- 5) Sunda ('Cream-coloured') Giant Squirrel, *Ratufa affinis baramensis* (Mammalia: Rodentia: Sciuridae), one observed in the canopy along the Pantu trail - it appeared to be pursuing a squirrel of another, smaller species, 30 September, 10:45 hrs (Fig. 5).
- 6) Bornean Pygmy Squirrel, *Exilisciurus exilis* (Mammalia: Rodentia: Sciuridae), adult and juvenile observed bark gleaning on tree adjacent to Main Trail, 29 September, 12:03 hrs (Fig. 6).
- 7) Short-nosed Fruit Bat, *Cynopterus* sp. (Mammalia: Chiroptera: Pteropodidae), pair found roosting beneath a leaf of a wild banana plant, 30 September, 10:56 hrs (Fig. 7).
- 8) Fawn Roundleaf Bat, *Hipposideros cervinus* (Mammalia: Chiroptera: Hipposideridae), at least 6 individuals observed hunting small insects attracted to chalet lights at forest edge on 29 September, 10:15 to 10:33 hrs. The bats flew within one metre of the observer, at times flying no more than 15 cm above the balcony floor. Variability in pelage colour between individuals was evident, which included fawn (Fig. 8), orange-brown (Fig. 9) and greyish-brown (Fig. 10).



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.



Fig. 5.



Fig. 6.



Fig. 7.



Fig. 8.



Fig. 9.



Fig. 10.

Figs. 1-4, 6-10 © Nick Baker. Fig. 5. © Brian Perttu.

**Remarks:** These records derive from the eastern portion of Lambir Hills National Park, along the trails near the park headquarters which include (i) the trail leading to Latak Waterfall (the 'Main Trail'), and (ii) the trail which loops past the tree tower west of 'waterfall 2', known as the Pantu Trail.

A total of 8 species of mammal were documented during this 46-hour visit, comprising one carnivoran, 5 rodents (1 porcupine and 4 squirrels) and 2 bats. All 8 species have previously been documented within the park or its immediate environs as follows: *Viverra zibetha* (Shanahan & Debski, 2002, Mohd Azlan & Engkamat, 2006), *Trichys fasciculata* (Mohd Azlan & Engkamat, 2006), *Callosciurus notatus* (Shanahan & Debski, 2002, Nakagawa et al, 2007), *Callosciurus prevostii* (Shanahan & Debski, 2002, Nakagawa et al, 2007), *Ratufa affinis* (Shanahan & Debski, 2002), *Exilisciurus exilis* (Shanahan & Debski, 2002), *Cynopterus* sp. (Shanahan & Debski, 2002, Fukuda et al, 2009, both as *Cynopterus brachyotis*), *Hipposideros cervinus* (Shanahan & Debski, 2002, Fukuda et al, 2009).

The *Trichys fasciculata* appears to have lost its entire tail: this is often the case for this species, which reportedly runs from danger and relies upon its loosely attached tail to detach when being attacked by a predator (Phillipps & Phillipps, 2016: 244).

The insectivorous bat is identified as *Hipposideros cervinus* based on the shape of its noseleaf (including the presence of two lateral lappets, clearly visible in Fig. 9), and the variability in fur colour.

The only primate seen and heard was *Homo sapiens*: the call of gibbons was not heard. Neither *Macaca fascicularis* nor *Macaca nemestrina* were observed: both species were photographed by camera trap in Lambir Hills in 2004 (Mohd Azlan & Engkamat, 2006).

An estimated 50% of primate species and many large terrestrial or partly terrestrial mammals have been extirpated in Lambir Hills as a result of overhunting in recent decades, despite their legal protection under Sarawak law (Harrison, 2011). The latter include, for example, *Bos javanicus*, and probably *Helarctos malayanus*, *Hemigalus derbyanus*, *Paradoxurus philippinensis*, *Pardofelis marmorata* and *Rusa unicolor* (Mohd Azlan & Engkamat, 2006).

For introductory comments on the effects of the loss of mammal species on seed dispersal in Lambir Hills, reference should be made to Harrison (2011).

#### References:

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