

NEW LOCALITY RECORDS OF THE MONKEY-FOOTED RAT (*Pithecheir parvus*) AND CRAB-EATING MONGOOSE (*Herpestes urva*) IN KUALA LOMPAT, KRAU WILDLIFE RESERVE, PAHANG, MALAYSIA THROUGH CAGE-TRAPPING SURVEYS

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ABSTRACT

The Monkey-footed Rat (*Pithecheir parvus*) and the Crab-eating Mongoose (*Herpestes urva*) has previously recorded in Peninsular Malaysia. This paper reports a new locality record of these species obtained in Kuala Lompat, Krau Wildlife Reserve (KWR) using cage trapping surveys during biodiversity inventory conducted from Mac-June 2013. These findings are the seventh record of Monkey-Footed Rat and the ninth record of the Crab-Eating Mongoose in Peninsular Malaysia, after the last records in 2006 in Kuala Gandah, Pahang and Gunung Basor Forest Reserve, Kelantan in 2005, respectively.

Keywords: Muridae, Herpestidae, Kuala Lompat, Krau WR, cage-trapping survey

The Monkey-footed Rat (*Pithecheir parvus*) and the Crab-eating Mongoose (*Herpestes urva*) has previously recorded in Peninsular Malaysia. The Monkey-footed Rat was recorded in forest reserves in five states, namely Selangor, Negeri Sembilan, Johor, Pahang and Terengganu, with a total of 53 individuals trapped (Lim & Muul, 1975; Lord Medway, 1969; John Harrison, 1966). The capture of one specimen of this species during the biodiversity inventory from March – August 2013 at Kuala Lompat, Krau Wildlife Reserve constitutes a new locality record and a second record for the KWR. A young specimen captured in pit-fall traps in Kuala Gandah (Zalipah *et. al.*, 2007). Based on the number of individuals captured from all these records, it does indicate that the species is not as rare as was reported before. However the species is sparsely distributed and nowhere found in abundance.

In contrast, the Crab-eating Mongoose is uncommon. One individual of each was sighted in forest reserves in Perlis, and capture in Ulu Gombak Forest Reserve in Selangor, and it was described as a new mammal to Peninsular Malaysia (Wells and Francis, 1988). The present two specimens captured in Kuala Lompat constitutes a new locality record in KWR, Pahang

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