

Table 3

Total numbers of chiggers found on the rats examined.  
No chiggers were found on the shrews or civets.

| Host species                | <i>Rattus rattus</i><br><i>jalorensis</i> | <i>R. r.</i> <i>diardii</i> | <i>Rattus</i><br><i>exulans</i> |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| No. of individuals          | 19  | 2                           | 2                               |
| No. of captures             | 112                                       | 3                           | 2                               |
| chigger species:—           |   |                             |                                 |
| <i>Euschöngastia indica</i> | 1,054                                     | 35                          | 0                               |
| <i>E. mutabilis</i>         | 21  | 0                           | 0                               |
| <i>Trombicula deliensis</i> | 7   | 1                           | 0                               |

*E. indica* is one of the few chiggers which tend to infest nests whether these be in house, in trees, or in burrows (it is almost the only chigger found on town rats in Malaya). In this case we suspect that the Wood Rats were keeping up an infestation in their nests in the trees. *T. deliensis* is the vector of scrub typhus.

#### References:

- Audy J. R., (1948) Natural History and scrub typhus. *Malay. Nat. J.* 3  
114-129.
- Lack D., (1943) The age of the Blackbird and The age of some British  
birds. *British Birds* 36 166-175, 193-197, 214-221.
- (1946) *The life of the Robin* 2nd Ed. Whitherby, London.

## Review:

### NATURE NOTES FROM KING GEORGE V NATIONAL PARK

Reports of Government Departments are often consigned to the shelf or the waste-paper basket with hardly a glance. That however is a fate which should not overtake the *Annual Report of the Game Department, Federation of Malaya, for the year 1949*, indeed one regrets that since it is but a duplicated report it is likely to fall to pieces only too soon.

The Nature Notes are drawn almost entirely from observations made in the King George V National Park by the Game Warden, and their contents can be appreciated best from the following extracts.

**Elephants** Fresh spoor was to be seen almost everywhere throughout the park. They frequent the salt licks, but usually at night or in the very early hours of the morning, although one case is recorded of a small herd arriving at 4.30 p.m.

Malayan Nature Journal

5 (1951) 201-203

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**Seladang** It is remarked that the herds in the park do not vary in number by more than one or two at the annual censuses, although each year numerous calves are born. Twin calves are reported on one occasion. The following noises made by Seladang were recorded:—

Deep bellowing from a bull, almost a roar. High bellowing from a cow in the throes of calf-birth. Deep mooing. Gentle lowing of calf to calf. Bleat of a calf. Startled snorts and an almost moaning sound; there was no tiger in the area when this moaning sound was heard.

At Kuala Tahan there are two small grazing grounds which are frequented almost daily by Sambur, and by Seladang at intervals. There seem to be two herds of Seladang, each with a maximum number of twenty animals, while occasionally old bulls wander out and show themselves. When the herds appear they usually stay for several days in the vicinity, and they have been recorded as staying for as long as fourteen days. They come out to graze at all times of the day, and are quite undisturbed by the bustle and noise of camp life at headquarters, only a short distance away. The Seladang is, however, by nature a timid animal, and does not take unnecessary risks, the taint of human scent in the wind at a distance of approximately eighty yards usually puts the herd to flight, but beyond this distance the herd will ignore human beings going about their lawful occasions.

**Deer** Sambur are well distributed throughout the park, particularly near the many tributaries of the Tembeling River. On one occasion the unusually large number of five were seen together in Junut Belau. The small Barking Deer is not uncommon and may be frequently seen in one or other of the salt licks.

**Tapir** Owing to their nocturnal habits tapirs are difficult to observe, they have however been seen near Gua Siput on the path from Batu Lompat to Kuala Tahan, and continue to visit Jenut Kumbang (salt lick). Fresh spoor is always in evidence and it is remarkable the speed at which this seemingly cumbersome animal can gallop over very steep country.

**Rhinoceroses** Old spoor of the two-horned species was observed on the hills above and to the east of Gua Siput, and there are old wallows along the path from Kuala Tahan to Batu Lompat. The warden hopes that the one-horned species may be found in the north-east region of the park when circumstances permit a visit there.

**Carnivores** Wherever Seladang, deer, and pig are located there also will be found the fresh spoor of tiger. Tracks of Wild Dog were frequently seen in the vicinity of Jenut Kumbang and a pack of five were observed by the game warden on the river bank of the Ulu Tahan. Most of the rivers in the park have their Otter families which are quite