

Slit-faced Bat *Nycteris thebaica*.

16. May. At Hluhluwe whilst trying to smoke a warthog out of an antbear hole in which it had taken refuge, about forty bats flew out and settled in a nearby tree. When the smoke had cleared, they returned to the hole. This makes an interesting addition to the list of animals using antbear holes for shelter.

Vervet Monkeys *Cercopithecus aethiops*.

17. March. Three completely albino individuals were seen running with a troop in St. Lucia Park. They did not form part of the troop however.

Spotted Hyaena *Crocuta crocuta*.

18. January. Three of these animals were seen at a small pan in Hluhluwe. One was actually lying in the mud while the other two were lying on the damp ground at the water's edge. Their coats were damp and covered in mud which indicated that they had been lying in the water.

Rock Hyrax *Procavia capensis*.

19. April. These animals are not often seen in the open, but one was observed having a dust bath on the side of the road in the Royal Natal National Park.

Black Rhinoceros *Diceros bicornis*.

20. January. An injured rhino was being kept under observation because it was thought likely that it would have to be destroyed. Later, however, signs of recovery were sufficient for a decision that it should be left alone. The animal has been subsequently seen on many occasions and although it walks with only a slight limp and is in good condition, it has not been seen to stand for any length of time or to lie down. It adopts a sitting position and has been seen to maintain it, without movement, for as long as twenty minutes. Whilst thus sitting on its rump its head often droops very low and the animal appears to be half asleep. Apart from the comical appearance the rhino looks extremely uncomfortable.

N.N. Dlane

Square-lipped Rhinoceros *Ceratotherium simum*.

21. Air Count — August, 1960. An air count of the rhinos was carried out during the month. Good weather, with good piloting, combined to give what was considered to be a very accurate count. It amounted to 604 animals, of which 67 were small calves under two years old. The total represented an increase of 40 odd over the previous year, and 150 over the count of eight years ago: a slow but steady progress. Although the population is all the time increasing it appears that actual gross gain in numbers is increasing slowly each year, whereas

the rate is slowly decreasing. Some interesting points connected with population structure are:—

- (a) Male/female ratio, with adults and immatures, is close to 1 : 1.
- (b) Between 25% and 30% of the population is immature.
- (c) Taking the greater figure above it is estimated this represents some 420 adults and 180 immatures of which 67 are known to be between 6 and 20 months.
- (d) Assuming equal numbers of both sexes, as appears to be the case, then some 210 adult females are to be expected.
- (e) Combining this with the observed number of small calves it then appears that some 31% of all adult cows are accompanied by young of this size.
- (f) About 45% of all parties seen are of 2 animals, about 15% are 2 animals (mainly males) and 9% are groups of 3, 9% of 4, 9% of 5, 9% of 6 and 4% of 7 to 12. These ratios have not changed much, or at all in the last five years.

J. M. F. C. 14

Warthog *Phacochoerus aethiopicus*.

22. May. In Hluhluwe a large warthog became separated from a group of five others which moved off through long grass. On realising that it was alone, the remaining warthog started walking around with its nose to the ground. On reaching a spot where the others had been it broke into a trot, in this way often losing its direction. When this happened it retraced its steps until it again picked up the trail. Throughout this time the animal kept its tail down.

23. November. The reaction of young warthogs to danger is to move off at high speed immediately. The mother often delays her own departure and then often runs in another direction, presumably to draw the attention of the would-be attacker to herself. Some sows become aggressive and have been known to make a ranger on horseback give way.

Red Duiker *Cephalophus natalensis*.

24. October. A very young lamb at Hluhluwe was seen in company with a troop of Banded Mongooses *Mungos mungo*. The parent had apparently left it in the watchful care of these mongooses while it was away feeding.

Waterbuck *Kobus ellipsiprymnus*.

25. May. Two calves seen running with a cow in Umfolozi were identical in size and were reported by game guards to be twins.

26. January. Vocal sounds from this antelope seem seldom heard or recorded. It was interesting to note, therefore, the reactions of an animal heard in Umfolozi. The sound could