

BRITISH MUSEUM
(NATURAL HISTORY)

CHECKLIST
OF
PALAEARCTIC
AND
INDIAN MAMMALS
1758 to 1946

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ORDER PERISSODACTYLA

FAMILIES: Equidae, page 340
 Rhinocerotidae, page 339
 Tapiridae, page 338

This is a relict order, with many fossil families and genera but only a handful of surviving species. Simpson (1945) divided the existing Perissodactyla into two suborders, the Hippomorpha for the Equidae, and the Ceratomorpha for the Tapiridae and Rhinocerotidae. Each of the last-named families is the type of a distinct superfamily. Blanford, 1891, *Fauna of British India*, 468-479, gives short summaries of the main differences between the families and most of the species of Asiatic Perissodactyla.

SUBORDER CERATOMORPHA

FAMILY TAPIRIDAE

Genus: *Tapirus*, page 338

Genus **TAPIRUS** Brisson, 1762

1762. *Tapirus* Brisson, Regn. Anim. 81-82. *Tapirus terrestris* Brisson = *Hippopotamus terrestris* Linnaeus, from Brazil. Hopwood, 1947, P.Z.S. 117, 533-536, would disregard Brisson and date *Tapirus* from Brännich, 1771, Zool. Fundamenta, 44, 45, with type *Hippopotamus terrestris* Linnaeus.
 1779. *Tapir* Blumenbach, Handbuch Naturg. 1: 129.
 1830. *Rhinochoerus* Wagler, Syst. Nat. Amphib. 17. Substitute for *Tapirus* Brisson.
 1872. *Tapyra* Liais, Climats Geol. 397. Emendation of *Tapirus*.
 1913. *Acrocodia* Goldman, Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, 26: 65. *Tapirus indicus* Desmarest. Valid as a subgenus.

1 species in Asia:

Tapirus indicus, page 338

We follow Simpson in referring all living tapirs to one genus, but differences in the cranium, and in the colour pattern of the adults, seem to justify subgeneric distinction between the Asiatic species and its South American allies.

Subgenus *ACROCODIA* Goldman, 1913

Tapirus indicus Desmarest, 1819

Malayan Tapir

Approximate distribution of species: Sumatra and Malay Peninsula, as far north as the Burmo-Siamese borders in latitude 18° N.

TAPIRUS INDICUS Desmarest, 1819

1819. *Tapirus indicus* Desmarest, Nouv. Dict. H.N. 32: 458. Malay Peninsula. Range: as above.

FAMILY RHINOCEROTIDAE

Genera: *Didermocerus*, page 340

Rhinoceros, page 339

The prior generic name for the Asiatic Two-horned Rhinoceros is *Didermocerus* Brookes, 1828. Simpson (1945) calls this *Dicerorhinus*, and suggests, somewhat half-heartedly, that the name *Didermocerus* may conveniently be dropped, on the ground of its publication in a sale catalogue. This in itself is no bar to "publication" within the meaning of the *Règles*, and the catalogue was on sale to the public for half a crown. Moreover, Simpson adopts *Acinonyx*, which appears in the same publication.

Simpson (1945) lists the living rhinoceroses in two subfamilies: the "Dicerorhininae" with *Dicerorhinus* (= *Didermocerus*), *Ceratotherium* and *Diceros*; and the Rhinocerotinae with *Rhinoceros*. But this arrangement, as Pocock, 1945, *P.Z.S.* 114: 437, points out, gives undue importance to the possession of two horns or one, and obscures the fact that in cranial and dental characters the Asiatic rhinoceroses clearly form one group and the African ones another. We therefore follow Pocock in dividing the living rhinoceroses into the Rhinocerinae (or Rhinocerotinae, as the word should have been formed) with *Rhinoceros* and *Didermocerus*, and the Dicerinae (or Dicerotinae) with *Diceros* and *Ceratotherium*. Pocock (1945, 449) gives a key based on this arrangement.

SUBFAMILY R h i n o c e r o t i n a e

Genus **RHINOCEROS** Linnaeus, 1758

1758. *Rhinoceros* Linnaeus, *Syst. Nat.* 10th ed. 1: 56. *Rhinoceros unicornis* Linnaeus.

1867. *Eurhinoceros* Gray, *P.Z.S.* 1009. *Rhinoceros unicornis* Linnaeus.

2 species: *Rhinoceros sondaicus*, page 340

Rhinoceros unicornis, page 339

For key to these species, see Blanford (1891, 472).

Rhinoceros unicornis Linnaeus, 1758

Great One-horned Rhinoceros

Approximate distribution of species: Nepal, Bihar, Bengal Duars, Cooch Behar, Assam. Becoming rare.

RHINOCEROS UNICORNIS Linnaeus, 1758

1758. *Rhinoceros unicornis* Linnaeus, *Syst. Nat.* 10th ed. 1: 56. Probably the sub-Himalayan Terai of Assam (Lydekker).

1817. *Rhinoceros indicus* Cuvier, *Règn. Anim.* 1: 239.

1830. *Rhinoceros asiaticus* Blumenbach, *Hand. Naturg.* ed. 12, 107. No locality given.

1867. *Rhinoceros stenocephalus* Gray, *P.Z.S.* 1018. Asia.

Rhinoceros sondaicus Desmarest, 1822 Lesser One-horned Rhinoceros

Approximate distribution of species: Burma, Siam, Cochin-China, Malay States, Sumatra, Java. Now a rare animal.

RHINOCEROS SONDAICUS Desmarest, 1822

1822. *Rhinoceros sondaicus* Desmarest, Mammalogie, 2: 399. Java.

1840. *Rhinoceros inermis* Lesson, Compl. de Buffon, 1: 514. Sunderbans, mouths of the Ganges, India. *nom. nud.*, *fide* Sherborn.

1868. *Rhinoceros floweri* Gray, P.Z.S. 1867: 1015. Sumatra (not in Chasen's list, 1940).

See Loch, 1937, The Javan or Lesser One-horned Rhinoceros and its geographical distribution, *J. Malayan Branch R. Asiat. Soc.* 15, 2: 130.

Genus **DIDERMOCERUS** Brookes, 1828

1828. *Didermocerus* Brookes, Cat. Anat. Zool. Museum of J. Brookes, London, 75.

Didermocerus sumatrensis = *Rhinoceros sumatrensis* Fischer.

1841. *Dicerorhinus* Gloger, Handbuch Naturgesch. 125. *Rhinoceros sumatrensis* Cuvier.

1868. *Ceratorhinus* Gray, P.Z.S. 1867: 1021. *Rhinoceros sumatrensis* Cuvier.

1 species: *Didermocerus sumatrensis*, page 340

Didermocerus sumatrensis Fischer, 1814 Asiatic Two-horned Rhinoceros

Approximate distribution of species: ? Assam, Burma, Siam, ? Indo-China, Malay States, Sumatra, Borneo. Becoming a rare animal.

(DIDERMOCERUS SUMATRENSIS SUMATRENSIS Fischer, 1814. Extralimital)

1814. *Rhinoceros sumatrensis* Fischer, Zoogn. 3: 301. Sumatra. Range: Sumatra and Borneo.

DIDERMOCERUS SUMATRENSIS LASIOTIS Buckland, 1872

1872. *Rhinoceros lasiotis* Buckland, Land and Water, 10 August. See Harper, 1940, J. Mammal. 21: 201. South of Chittagong, Eastern Bengal.

(?) 1854. *Rhinoceros crossii* Gray, P.Z.S. 251. Locality unknown. (Based on a horn which could equally well have come from an African rhinoceros.)

1873. *Ceratorhinus niger* Gray, Ann. Mag. N.H. 11: 357, pl. 11. Malacca. Not of Schinz, 1845.

1873. *Ceratorhinus blythii* Gray, Ann. Mag. N.H. 11: 360. Tenasserim.

Range: ? Assam, Burma, Siam, ? Indo-China, Malay States.

SUBORDER HIPPIOMORPHA

FAMILY EQUIDAE

Genus: *Equus*, page 341