Small mammals of the Song Thanh and Saola Quang Nam Nature Reserves, central Vietnam

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ABSTRACT. Field surveys in the Song Thanh and Saola Quang Nam Nature Reserves (Quang Nam Province, central Vietnam) were conducted in 2018 and 2019. In total, 197 individuals of small mammals were captured and studied in the field or collected as voucher specimens. Based on these data, an updated checklist of small mammals of Quang Nam Province is provided. A total of 78 species in 15 families and 6 orders is recorded from both reserves: viz., 57 species in the Song Thanh Nature Reserve and 39 species in the Saola Quang Nam Nature Reserve. Records of 20 species are new to the mammal checklist of Quang Nam Province.

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Мелкие млекопитающие заповедников Сонгтхань и Саола Куангнам, центральный Вьетнам

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РЕЗЮМЕ. Полевые исследования в заповедниках Сонгтхань и Саола Куангнам (провинция Куангнам, центральный Вьетнам) были проведены в 2018 и 2019 годах. Было поймано 197 экземпляров мелких млекопитающих, выпущенных после осмотра или собранных в качестве ваучерных образцов. На основании этих данных был обновлен список мелких млекопитающих провинции Куангнам. Всего в обоих заповедниках провинции Куангнам зарегистрированы 78 видов, принадлежащих к 15 семействам и 6 отрядам. В частности, в природном заповеднике Сонгтхань обитает 57 видов, тогда как в природном заповеднике Саола Куангнам зарегистрировано 39 видов. Двадцать видов были новыми для списка видов мелких млекопитающих провинции Куангнам.

КЛЮЧЕВЫЕ СЛОВА: мелкие млекопитающие, чеклист, Сонгтхань, Саола Куангнам, Вьетнам.

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Introduction

The central Annamites possess one of the largest continuous natural forest areas in the mainland of Southeast Asia. This is part of the Annamite Range Moist Forests, one of the world's 200 ecoregions identified as the most important areas for global biodiversity conservation (Olson & Dinerstein, 2002). Within the Indochina Region, it is considered an important biodiversity corridor containing multiple key biodiversity areas within Quang Nam and Thua Thien-Hue Provinces (Tordoff *et al.*, 2012).

Quang Nam Province is located in the central Annamites, about 820 km S of Hanoi, with a total area of 10.574 km². It borders with Thua Thien-Hue Province in the north, Quang Ngai and Kon Tum provinces in the south, Sekong Province, Lao PDR, in the west, and faces the East Sea in the east. Much of the province is covered by mountainous areas with rough topography, which have been known to support high levels of biodiversity and endemism, but also need further scientific investigation (Rundel, 1999; Averyanov et al., 2003; Clements et al., 2006). Several recent studies have discovered unique and endemic mammals in the central Annamites, including the saola *Pseudoryx nghetinhensis*, the large-antlered muntjac Muntiacus vuquangensis, the Truong Son muntjac Muntiacus truongsonensis, and the Annamite striped rabbit *Nesolagus timminsi*, as well as other species of high conservation value, such as the northern buffed-cheeked gibbon *Nomascus annamenis* (Van Ngoc Thinh *et al.*, 2010) and the red-shanked douc langur *Pygathrix nemaeus* (Nadler *et al.*, 2007). Several new species and subspecies of small mammals have also been recorded from Quang Nam Province in recent years, such as: *Harpiola isodon* (Kruskop *et al.*, 2006), *Murina fionae* and *M. anamitica* (Francis & Eger, 2012), *M. lorelieae ngoclinhensis* (Vuong Tan Tu *et al.*, 2014), *M. kontumensis* (Nguyen Truong Son *et al.*, 2015), *Euroscaptor parvidens ngoclinhensis* (Zemlemerova *et al.*, 2016), *Kerivoula dongduongana* (Vuong Tan Tu *et al.*, 2018), and *Myotis ancricola* (Kruskop *et al.*, 2018).

However, little is known about the small mammal fauna of the two protected areas in Quang Nam Province. To fill this gap, in 2008, 2018 and 2019, surveys of small mammals were conducted there by the Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources, the Worldwide Fund for Nature and the Joint Vietnamese–Russian Tropical Research and Technological Centre, with n assistance of the staff of two nature reserves (Fig. 1).

Material and methods

Study site

The Song Thanh Nature Reserve (NR) is located in the southwestern part of Quang Nam Province, at the border region between Vietnam and Laos. It lies in Nam



Fig. 1. Geographic locations of the studied sites (Song Thanh and Saola Quang Nam NRs) in Quang Nam Province.



Fig. 2. Maps showing the location and forest cover of the Song Thanh NR (A) and the Saola Quang Nam NR (B) in Quang Nam Province. Survey localities are shown by black dots.

Giang and Phuoc Son districts (Fig. 2A). Geographic coordinates of the reserve range from 15°12' to 15°41'N and 107°20' to 107°46'E. This NR was established in October 2000, through the governmental decision 3849/QĐ-UB, with a total protected area of 108,398 ha. The site consists of 93,249 ha of a strictly protected zone and 22,067 ha of an ecological regeneration zone.

The Saola Quang Nam NR is located between 17°56' to 18°05'N and 105°51' to 106°04'E, in the northwestern part of Quang Nam Province. The reserve lies within Dong Giang and Tay Giang districts (Fig. 2B). This NR was established in July 13, 2012, through the governmental decision 2265/QĐ-UBND, with a total protected area of 15,486.46 ha. The site consists of 13,805.13 ha of a strictly protected zone and 1,681.33 ha of an ecological restoration zone.

The survived sites are shown in Fig. 2.

Methodology

Given the diversity of small mammal fauna in the area at hand, different methods were used to collect mammals. Individuals that could not be identified with a high level to confidence in the field were collected and brought back to the laboratory for further analyses. Clearly indentified individuals were captured, photographed, measured, and then released immediately. During the survey, we conducted day and night time excursions and using specialized trap methods for small mammals. Few trap types were used:

– Three kinds of Sherman live–traps $(3\times3\times10 \text{ cm}; 5\times5\times18 \text{ cm}; 7\times7\times30 \text{ cm})$ were used to catch medium-sized rodents and shrews. Tomahawk cage traps $(20\times20\times60 \text{ cm})$ and local cage traps $(15\times15\times25 \text{ cm})$ were used to large–sized rodents and squirrels. Baits for trapping must be odiferous enough to draw rodents into the traps from some distance, sticky enough to be fixed in the trap and stable enough to keep from rotting. Baits were changed every day after checking the traps.

 Two types of mole-traps – Japanese hand–made traps and Talpex traps. Mole-traps were set on the trails where mole tunnels were observed.

- Pitfall traps (plastic glasses and baskets) with a plastic drift–fence were used for small–sized rodents and shrews.
- Different types of mist nets $(2 \times 3 \text{ m}, 5 \times 3 \text{ m})$ and $12 \times 4 \text{ m}$, two—handle hand net ("flap—trap"), and harp trap $(1.5 \times 1.5 \text{ m})$ were used to live capture bats. The nets and traps were set to cross trails in the forest, over small ponds and streams in the forest or near forest edges, at openings at the forest edges and the entrances of caves. Flap—trap was used for active bat capture on the open places (roads and riverbeds).

All trapping was conducted in accordance with the guidelines recommended by the American Society of Mammalogists (Sikes *et al.*, 2011).

The external body measurements are as follows: head and body length (HB), tail length (TL), hind foot length (HF), ear length (E) and weight (Wt) were taken by tapeline and digital caliper. For bats, forearm (FA) and tibia (Tib) lengths also were measured (Kruskop, 2013).

The nomenclature of mammals follows Wilson & Reeder (2005) unless stated otherwise.

Time and efforts survey

Fieldworks were conducted in the Song Thanh NR during 24-30 June, 2008 and 7-22 March, 2018 by the Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources, Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology; and from 24 April to 11 May, 2019 by the Joint Vietnamese-Russian Tropical Research and Technological Centre. The survey area in 2008 and 2018 lied from the protected area's headquarter to Khe Vinh Forest Station, and from Khe Vinh to Ta Bhinh Commune of the Song Thanh NR. We also surveyed sites around La Bo B and La Dee villages of Cha Val Commune. The survey area in 2019 was located some 8 km SW of La Dee Village. Forests in the Song Thanh NR were identified as closed evergreen monsoon tropical forests. The forest consisted of regenerated trees with a diameter of about 50-80 cm, palms, bamboo and lianas with several small and medium streams.

Fieldworks in the Saola Quang Nam NR were conducted during 7–19 March, 2018 by the Institute of

Table 1. Total survey efforts in Quang Nam Province. D.O. – daytime observation (hours); MN – mist nets (m²/n/h); H – harp trap (m²/n/h); M – mole-traps (trap nights); P – pitfall traps (trap nights); S & C – Sherman and cage traps (trap nights); N.O. – nighttime observations (hours); n – number of captured specimens.

Site	Date of survey	D.O.	MN	Н	М	P	S & C	N.O.	n
	07/03/2018	2.5	162	54	_	20	50	3.0	
	08/03/2018	3.0	162	54	_	20	50	2.0	
	09/03/2018	3.0	135	54	_	20	50	3.0	
	10/03/2018	2.5	108	54	8	20	50	3.0	95
Song Thanh NR	11/03/2018	6.0	108	54	8	40	80	6.0	-
	12/03/2018	3.5	459	54	_	20	30	9.0	
	13/03/2018	4.0	_	27	_	_	20	3.0	
	24/04-11/05/2019	15.0	1820	_	50	211	716	46.0	24
	Efforts	35.5	2954	234	66	351	1046	75	119
	14/03/2018	3.0	_	54	8	20	50	6.0	78
	15/03/2018	4.0	108	54	8	20	50	3.0	
	16/03/2018	6.0	324	-	8	20	80	6.0	
Saola Quang	17/03/2018	4.0	540	108	8	20	60	_	
Nam NR	18/03/2018	4.0	270	54	_	_	40	_	
	19/03/2018	4.0	270	108	_	_	40	3.0	
	Efforts	29	1512	405	32	80	340	21	
,	Total		4466	639	98	431	1386	96	197

Table 2. Small mammals recorded in two nature reserves of Quang Nam Province. ST – Song Thanh NR; SLQN – Saola Quang Nam NR; C – captured (specimen); O – observed (individual). References: a – Long (2005); b – Van Ngoc Thinh *et al.* (2006); c – Kawada *et al.* (2009, 2012); d – Le Xuan Canh *et al.* (2011); e – Nguyen Truong Son & Vu Dinh Thong (2011); f – Bui Tuan Hai *et al.* (2015).

	Scientific name	This survey				Literature sources			
No.		ST		SLQN		ST	CLON	Comments	
		С	О	C	О	51	SLQN		
1	Dendrogale murina		*				a	* Not collected, only calls were recorded	
2	Tupaia belangeri	1	6	2	6	d	a, b	Common species	
3	Galeopterus variegatus		1		3			The first record for Quang Nam Province	
4	Hylomys sp.	2						The first record for Quang Nam Province	
5	Crocidura zaitsevi	2						The first record for Quang Nam Province	
6	Crocidura tanakae	3				f	f		
7	Suncus murinus	2		2		d			
8	Chimarrogale varennei				2			The first record for Quang Nam Province	
9	Euroscaptor parvidens	2		7		d	С		
10	Cynopterus sphinx	1		7		d, e	a	Common species	

11	Cynopterus brachyotis			d		Not detected
12	Macroglossus sobrinus	2	3		a	
13	Megaerops niphanae	1		d, e	a	
14	Rousettus leschenaulti	2				The first record for Quang Nam Province
15	Sphaerias blanfordi		1			The first record for Quang Nam Province
16	Rhinolophus affinis	10	8	d, e	a	Common species
17	Rhinolophus chaseni			d, e		Not detected
18	Rhinolophus lepidus	2			a	
19	Rhinolophus cf. luctus	1			a	
20	Rhinolophus macrotis	1		d, e		
21	Rhinolophus malayanus	1		d, e		
22	Rhinolophus microglobosus	2	3			The first record for Quang Nam Province
23	Rhinolophus pearsonii	1	1	d, e	a	
24	Rhinolophus pusillus	3	6	d, e		
25	Rhinolophus shameli			d, e		Not detected
26	Coelops frithii			d, e		Not detected
27	Hipposideros armiger		1			The first record for Quang Nam Province
28	Hipposiderxos cineraceus	1		d, e		
29	Hipposideros galeritus	2		d, e		
30	Hipposideros grandis	4	2	d, e	a	Previously reported as <i>H. larvatus</i>
31	Hipposideros gentilis	7	10	d, e	a	Common species. Previously reported as <i>H. pomona</i>
32	Megaderma spasma	1	1		a	
33	Miniopterus pusillus	1				The first record for Quang Nam Province
34	Tylonycteris fluvida	1		d, e		Previously reported as <i>T. pachypus</i>
35	Tylonycteris malayana	7	3	d, e	a	Previously reported as <i>T. robustula</i>
36	Pipistrellus javanicus	3				The first record in Quang Nam Province (except to Cu Lao Cham)
37	Pipistrellus coromandra		3			The first record for Quang Nam Province
38	Scotomanes ornatus		1			The first record for Quang Nam Province
39	Myotis horsfieldii	2		d		
40	Myotis laniger			e		Not detected

41	Myotis ater	3						The first record for Quang Nam Province
42	Myotis muricola						a	Not detected
43	Myotis siligorensis					d, e		Not detected
44	Murina eleryi (?)						a	Not detected, reported as M. aurata
45	Murina cyclotis	2				d, e	a	
46	Murina feae	2				d, e	a	
47	Murina cf. fionae	2						
48	Kerivoula flora						a	Not detected
49	Kerivoula cf. dongduongana	3		1				The first Record for Quang Nam Province
50	Kerivoula hardwickii	1				d, e	a	
51	Kerivoula kachinensis	1						The first record for Quang Nam Province
52	Kerivoula titania	1				e		
53	Ratufa bicolor		4		1	a, d	a, b	
54	Hylopetes alboniger		2		1	d	b	
55	Petaurista philippensis		2		2	d	a	
56	Callosciurus erythraeus	1	8	2	7	a	a	Common species
57	Callosciurus finlaysonii					d		Not detected
58	Callosciurus inornatus	2						The first record for Quang Nam Province
59	Dremomys rufigenis	1	2	2	4	a, d	a, b	Common species
60	Menetes berdmorei	2		1	2	d		
61	Tamiops maritimus						ь	Not detected
62	Tamiops rodolphii	1	6	1	10	a, d	a	Common species
63	Rhizomys pruinosus		4		24	d		
64	Bandicota indica					d		Not detected
65	Berylmys bowersi	4		1				The first record for Quang Nam Province
66	Dacnomys millardi	1		1				The first record for Quang Nam Province
67	Maxomys surifer	4		2		d		
68	Mus musculus	1						
69	Leopodamys cf. revertens	7		6				The first record for Quang Nam Province
70	Niviventer fulvescens					d		
71	Niviventer cf. huang	5						
72	Rattus exulans	3						
73	Rattus argentiventer					d		Not detected

74	Rattus rattus				d		Not detected
75	Rattus tanezumi	1			d		
76	Rattus nitidus	1					The first record for Quang Nam Province
77	Atherurus macrourus		1	1	a, d	a, b	
78	Hystrix brachyura		1	1	d	a, b	

Ecology and Biological Resources, Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology. The survey area was from A Tep Station to Bhalee Village, and from A Tep Station to the border between Quang Nam and Thua Thien—Hue provinces, along Ho Chi Minh Highway. The site was dominated by monsoon tropical broad—leaf evergreen forests. Main habitats contained mostly secondary forests regenerating after cultivation. The forests had a number of large trees with a diameter over 1 m.

Total survey efforts are shown in Table 1.

Results

In total, 197 individuals of small mammals (bats, rodents, moles and shrews) were captured in 2008, 2018 and 2019. The data obtained from collected specimens, direct observations in the field, the materials retrieved from local households, and a combination of previously published records show that the small mammal fauna of two protected areas in Quang Nam Province consists of 78 species. Of them, 54 species in 15 families and 6 orders were identified on the basis of the collected specimens. Specifically, the Song Thanh and Saola Quang Nam NRs have 57 and 39 species of small mammals, respectively. The present study adds 20 new species records to the mammal checklist of Quang Nam Province (Table 2).

Key small mammal species recorded from two protected areas

ORDER SCANDENTIA Family TUPAIDAE Dendrogale murina (Schlegel, Müller, 1843)

The northern smooth–tailed tree shrew is wide-spread from the Central Highlands to southern Vietnam (Timmins *et al.*, 2003; Dang Ngoc Can *et al.*, 2008). In Quang Nam Province, this species was recorded from the Saola Quang Nam NR by Long (2005). In 2018–2019, we were unable to collect any specimens of this species. In May 2019, calls of *D. murina* were recorded by Dr. Igor Palko in the shrubbery alongside the small road, in the Song Thanh NR.

ORDER DERMOPTERA Family CYNOCEPHALIDAE Galeopterus variegatus (Audebert, 1799)

The Sunda flying lemur is known from Indochina (Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia), Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia (Francis, 2008). In Vietnam, the species is distributed in central Vietnam and the Central Highlands (Dang Ngoc Can et al., 2008), though there is also a doubtful sighting in the Cat Tien National Park (Polet & Ling, 2004). During our surveys, this species was directly observed in the Song Thanh NR (Fig. 3). All records were done after 19:00 pm only because the Sunda flying lemurs are only actives at night. Local interviews and retrieved skulls from local householders in La Boi Village, Cha Val Commune of Song Thanh NR confirm its occurrence in the survey areas. This is the first record of this species from Quang Nam Province. The species is listed as Endangered in the Vietnam Red Data Book (2007). Populations are in decline in most of distribution areas because of illegal hunting.

ORDER EULIPOTYPHIA Family SORICIDAE

Chimarrogale varennei Thomas, 1927

In Vietnam, there are two water shrew species: viz., *Chimarrogale himalayica* (known from northern Viet-



Fig. 3. Galeopterus variegatus. Photographed by Nguyen Manh Ha.

nam) and *C. varennei* (known from southern Vietnam). The Varennei's water shrew *C. varennei* has been recorded only from Dak Lak, Lam Dong and Kon Tum provinces in the Central Highlands (Abramov *et al.*, 2017). During our surveys, the latter species was observed twice at night in areas along streams in the Saola Quang Nam NR. In addition, specimens of *C. varennei* were collected along streams in the Saola Hue NR (around the bordering zone with the Saola Quang Nam NR). These findings represent new records for central Vietnam. The current status of this species has not been evaluated yet. However, it is being threatened due to human activities. For example, electrofishing has strong impacts on this semi-aquatic species.

Crocidura tanakae Kuroda, 1938

A widespread and common species known throughout Vietnam (Abramov *et al.*, 2013), while a closely related Vietnamese species, *C. attenuata*, appears to occur only to the east of Red River, in northeastern Vietnam (Bannikova *et al.*, 2011; Abramov *et al.*, 2012), *C. tanakae* does not appear to be so restricted and has been recorded on both sides of the river in northern Vietnam and also in central and southern Vietnam (Bannikova *et al.*, 2011; Jenkins *et al.*, 2013). The genetically confirmed records are also known from Quang Nam Province (Esselstyn & Oliveros, 2010). During our surveys, a few specimens were collected from the Song Thanh and Saola Quang Nam NRs by pitfall traps.

Crocidura zaitsevi Jenkins, Abramov, Rozhnov, Makarova, 2007

This small-sized white-toothed shrew is widespread in central and southern Vietnam (Abramov *et al.*, 2013). In 2019, few specimens of *C. zaitsevi* were collected from the Song Thanh NR by pitfall traps. This is the first record for Quang Nam Province.

Family TALPIDAE *Euroscaptor parvidens* (Miller, 1940)



Fig. 4. Euroscaptor parvidens. Photographed by Bui Tuan Hai.

Currently, four mole species of the genus *Euroscaptor* have been reported from Vietnam (Kawada *et al.*, 2009, 2012; Zemlemerova *et al.*, 2016). The status of endemic small–toothed mole *E. parvidens* was assessed by Kawada *et al.* (2009), and was recently re-evaluated by Zemlemerova *et al.* (2016) who described a new subspecies, *E. parvidens ngoclinhensis*, from the Kon Tum Plateau. The nominotypical subspecies *E. parvidens parvidens* is restricted to the Dalat Plateau, including the Chu Yang Sin National Park in Dak Lak Province (Kawada *et al.*, 2009) and the Bi Doup–Nui Ba National Park in Lam Dong Province (Abramov *et al.*, 2010; Zemlemerova *et al.*, 2016). During our surveys, three specimens were collected from the Song Thanh NR (Fig. 4) and seven from the Saola Quang Nam NR.

ORDER ERINACEOMORPHA Family GALERICIDAE Genus *Hylomys* Müller, 1840

Until recently, all the lesser gymnures of the genus Hylomys from the mainland of Southeast Asia, including Vietnam, were referred to as *Hylomys suillus* (Dang Ngoc Can et al., 2008; Francis, 2008). A recent multilocus analysis of the phylogenetic relationships within Hylomys revealed that H. suillus sensu lato may represent a paraphyletic taxon of five to seven full species including an undescribed taxon from southern Vietnam, Hylomys sp. (Bannikova et al., 2014). These authors also suggested that the name *H. suillus* should be applied to the Java population only, whereas the lesser gymnures from northern Vietnam could be treated as a distinct species H. microtinus Thomas, 1925. An unnamed southern taxon was found in Binh Phuoc, Dong Nai, and Dak Lak provinces of southern Vietnam (Bannikova et al., 2014; Pavlova et al., 2018). In 2018, one specimen of Hylomys sp. was collected by Sherman trap which was set up in the forest along a stream in the Song Thanh NR. In 2019, another gymnure specimen was found dead on a small road in the same nature reserve. Morphological identification of northern and southern taxa of lesser gymnures is difficult. Prior to a proper genetic investigation we are unable to make a correct species identification. Previous studies in Quang Nam Province did not record Hylomys species.

ORDER CHIROPTERA Family PTEROPODIDAE Cynopterus sphinx (Vahl, 1797)

The greater short-nosed fruit bat is common and widespread in Vietnam (Dang Ngoc Can *et al.*, 2008; Kruskop, 2013). This species is often observed feeding on forest edges and in areas of secondary growth with fruit trees and sometimes can be quite numerous there. As a result, they are usually caught in the net with large numbers. During the study, eight individuals of this species were caught by mist net set up along stream near the A Bok Patrolling House with secondary forest with bamboo undergrowth.

Sphaerias blanfordi (Thomas, 1891)

The Blandford's fruit bat was first recorded from Vietnam in 2001 (Vu Dinh Thong *et al.*, 2001), based on the specimens collected from the Pu Hoat NR (Nghe An Province). Recent surveys have expanded the species distribution in Vietnam (Dang Ngoc Can *et al.*, 2008). During our surveys, only one specimen was collected by mist net set up along a stream in a natural forest mixed with bamboos in the Saola Quang Nam NR. This is the first record of the species from Quang Nam Province.

Family RHINOLOPHIDAE *Rhinolophus* cf. *luctus* Temminck, 1834

Based on the results of morphological studies, there are up to 15 groups of more than 70 species in the genus Rhinolophus in the world (Csorba et al., 2003). Krushkop (2013) argued that in Vietnam there are 19 species of the genus *Rhinolophus*. Hoang Trung Thanh (2017) evaluated and complemented the taxonomic information on this genus, with a total of 20 species. The great woolly horseshoe bat R. luctus is the largest species in the genus belonging to the 'trifoliatus' species group. In Vietnam, this bat has a wide distribution but is rare (Kruskop, 2013). In Quang Nam Province, this species was firstly recorded from the Ngoc Linh Quang Nam NR (Tordoff et al., 2000) and later from the Saola Quang Nam NR (Long, 2005). During our survey, only one individual of this species was captured from over a small stream in a tall forest with lianas.

A similar species, *R. francisi*, was recently described from Borneo and Thailand (Soisook *et al.*, 2015). According to the latter study, it also occurs in Quang Nam Province of Vietnam. Although the two species could apparently be separated by size (FA = 65 mm or more in *R. luctus*, less than 60 mm in *R. francisi*), a variation in the latter species is poorly studied and thus an accurate identification requires genetic data.

Rhinolophus affinis Horsfield, 1823

This horseshoe bat has a wide distribution in Southeast Asia (Kingsada *et al.*, 2011), and in Vietnam inhabits both primary and secondary forests at the elevations of ca. 200–1900 m asl (Kruskop, 2013). According to our previous studies, it is the most common *Rhinolophus* species in Vietnam, except for lowland forests. In 2019, in the Song Thanh NR, three specimens (two males and one female) were captured by mist nets set across small streams surrounded by primary forest.

Family HIPPOSIDERIDAE *Hipposideros* cf. *grandis* Allen, 1936

The grand leaf-nosed bat is common in southern Vietnam (Kruskop, 2013; Hoang Trung Thanh *et al.*, 2015). This species was hitherto considered a subspecies of *H. larvatus* sensu lato (see Koopman, 1994). However, the presence of several full species within

the 'larvatus' species complex was supported by both morphology and genetics (Kitchener & Maryanto, 1993; Thabah et al., 2006; Kruskop, 2015), and a larger and brightly coloured form from southern Indochina indeed representing a species distinct from the 'typical' H. larvatus of Java, Sumatra and Malaysia. The name grandis Allen, 1936 is widely accepted as a valid one for this form, however, the subject requires further clarification (C. Francis, pers. comm.). During our surveys, several specimens of H. cf. grandis were captured in both studied areas. The external body measurements of this species are as follows: HB = 61.7–68.9 mm, TL = 31-37 mm, E = 23-24.4 mm, FA = 64.3-64.7 mm, Tib = 23.4–26 mm. The dorsal body part has three coloration zones: grayish pale hair bases, a dark brown zone and pale tips. This coloration resembles that of the darker mainland form, but the dark brown zone is narrower, with less abrupt contrast as compared to pale bases. Pale tips are very short, and are barely observable on stuffed skins. Ventral fur is monotonously grayish pale. Adult females seem to be more yellowish.

Family MINIOPTERIDAE *Miniopterus pusillus* Dobson, 1876

This small species of bent-winged bats has wide but sporadic distribution across Southeast Asia; in Vietnam, it was hitherto reported from six localities only (Kruskop, 2013). A single adult female of *M. pusillus* was captured in the Song Thanh NR into mist net set across a forest river, in front of the mouth of swampy ravine. It represents the first record of the species from Quang Nam Province. No other observations of bent-winged bats were made in the area, which may indicate the possible migratory status of the caught individual.

Family VESPERTILIONIDAE *Pipistrellus javanicus* (Gray, 1838)

The Javan pipistrelle is one of the most common *Pipistrellus* species in Vietnam, occurring widely across the country (Kruskop, 2013). Three adult females were captured in Song Thanh by nets set across forest rivers with sandy riverbeds. Numerous pipistrelles of presumably the same species were observed in open places over river shallows and nearby car road. Animals were seen foraging in the evening hours (soon after sunset) at about 6–15 meters from the ground. Though this species has a wide distribution, in Quang Nam Province it was hitherto recorded from the Cu Lao Cham Island only (Kuznetsov, 2000).

Tylonycteris malayana Chasen, 1940

This species was listed within *T. robustula* (Koopman, 1994) for a long time; under this name it has been reported from at least eleven provinces across Vietnam, including Quang Nam (Kruskop, 2013). Its species status has recently been confirmed by genetic data (Vuong Tan Tu *et al.*, 2017). A single female was netted in the

Song Thanh NR over a river backwater surrounded by tall forest.

Tylonycteris fluvida (Peters, 1872)

Although quite common in Vietnam, this species was listed within *T. pachypus* for a long time (see Koopman, 1994). Its species status was confirmed by genetic data (Vuong Tan Tu *et al.*, 2017). In Song Thanh, a single female was captured by hand net over a road, soon after sunset. Presumably, these bats were observed foraging over open places along with *Pipistrellus javanicus*.

Scotomanes ornatus (Blyth, 1851)

The Harlequin bat is a large species of the subfamily Vespertilioninae with a very recognizable appearance (Fig. 5). The species is an aerial hawker and thought to be mainly a tree-dweller, though it was also reported to roost in limestone caves. Therefore, it is manly found in mountainous forested areas with mosaic landscapes and available water sources. Its main distribution range is situated in the Himalayas and mountainous areas of southern and south-central China (Csorba et al., 2008). However, this bat penetrates along mountain ranges far to the south, in Vietnam reaching the Dalat Plateau in Lam Dong Province (Dang Ngoc Can et al., 2008; Kruskop, 2013). This bat usually forages quite high above the ground (10 meters and more), therefore, it is difficult to capture it. In south-central Vietnam, the Harlequin bat was most recently recorded from Quang Ngai Province in 2016 (Nguyen Truong Son et al., 2016b). During our surveys, an adult male was captured in the Saola Quang Nam NR while foraging along a small river valley.



Fig. 5. Scotomanes ornatus. Photographed by Nguyen Truong

Myotis ater (Peters, 1866)

Myotis is the largest bat genus with more than 110 accepted species in the world fauna (Ruedi et al., 2013), though its taxonomic structure and an actual species number have not been revised until now. Smaller species, known as the 'whiskered bats morphogroup', represent a huge complex of morphologically similar species with tangled relationships and sometimes uncertain species boundaries (Kruskop & Borisenko, 2013). The Malayan whiskered bat, M. ater, was reported from Vietnam in 1999 for the first time (Bates et al., 1999) and since then has been found in several provinces across the country (Kruskop, 2013). Four individuals (all females, three adults and one immature) were captured by mist net set along a small forest stream in Song Thanh, probably representing the first record for Quang Nam Province. Identification was based on relatively large size (FA = 36.5 mm and more) and dark gray fur coloration.

Murina cf. fionae Francis, Eager, 2012

Murina is among the bat genera of which structure and composition undergone greatest changes in the last two decades. Fourteen species are currently recognized in Vietnam (Nguyen Truong Son et al., 2015), of which five are known from Quang Nam Province. M. fionae is a relatively large tube-nosed bat related to the smaller M. cyclotis; in Vietnam, it was hitherto reported from seven provinces, including Quang Nam. In our study, a single male of M. cf. fionae was captured in Song Thanh by mist net in a narrow ravine covered with primary forest.

Murina feae (Thomas, 1891)

This bat was hitherto treated as part of *M. tubinaris* for a long time (see Koopman, 1994). Later, it was shown that small gray-colored tube-nosed bats from Southeast Asia represent a full species, separate from the typical *M. tubinaris* (Csorba *et al.*, 2011). This species was described as *M. cineracea* and referred to as such until its senior synonym, *M. feae*, was discovered (Francis & Eger, 2012). This small tube-nosed bat is reported from eighteen Vietnamese provinces (Nguyen Truong Son *et al.*, 2015), which makes it one of the most widespread *Murina* in the country. In our study, an adult female was captured in Song Thanh by mist net in a narrow ravine covered with primary forest.

Kerivoula titania Bates, Struebig, Hayes, Furey, Mya, Thong, Son, Harrison, Csorba, Francis, 2007

The species was described in 2007, based on the specimens collected from the Dakrong NR in Quang Tri Province (Bates *et al.*, 2007). The Titania's woolly bat has a medium size as compared to other *Kerivoula* species (Nguyen Truong Son *et al.*, 2016a). It is widespread in Vietnam and often recorded in habitats between secondary and primary forests with bamboos and shrubs at the elevations of 300–800 m. During our

surveys, several individuals were captured in the Saola Quang Nam NR.

Kerivoula kachinensis Bates, Struebig, Rossiter, Kingston, Oo, Mya, 2004

The Kachin woolly bat belongs to the 'hardwickii' species complex, within which it stands out by its relatively large size and peculiar proportions of the skull (Nguyen Truong Son et al., 2016a). In comparison to other Kerivoula species, this species was rarely observed or captured during surveys. It was firstly reported in Vietnam from the Chu Mom Ray NP in Kon Tum Province and Muong Muon area in Lai Chau Province (Vu Dinh Thong et al., 2006). Also, the species was recorded from the Pu Huong NR in Nghe An Province (Dang Ngoc Can et al., 2008) and from Bu Gia Map in Binh Phuoc Province (Kruskop, 2010). Due to the wide but sparse distribution, the origin of this species is difficult to associate with a certain territory. During our surveys, an adult male was captured by harp trap set up in a tall forest mixed with lianas in the Song Thanh NR.

Kerivoula cf. dongduongana Tu, Hassanin, Furey, Son, Csorba, 2018

The Indochinese woolly bat was a new species of bats described in 2018 on the basis of the samples collected from the Ngoc Linh NR, Kon Tum Province. Currently, this bat species is known from the Annamite Mts only (Vuong Tan Tu et al., 2018). The biological, ecological and behavioral information of this species is still scarce. During our surveys, we collected four adult females of this species from the Saola Quang Nam NR, along a stream with regenerated small woody forests, lianas and bamboo forests. The external body measurements of this species are as follows: HB = 32.0-37.8 mm, TL = 39-44 mm, E = 12.4-14.3 mm, FA = 32.0-34.7 mm, Tib = 15.6–17.2 mm. K. cf. dongduongana is smaller than other large size species (K. kachinensis, K. papillosa, K. lenis, K. titania), but corresponds to the similar-sized species within the 'hardwickii' complex, such as: K. hardwickii, K. depressa, K. furva (Vuong Tan Tu et al., 2015, 2017, 2018). Phylogenetic and echolocation call analyses are important to confirm the relationships between the specimens from the Saola Quang NR with other congeners.

Kerivoula hardwickii (Horsfield, 1824)

The Hardwicke's woolly bat is a common species and small taxon within the 'hardwickii' complex (Nguyen Truong Son et al., 2016a; Vuong Tan Tu et al., 2018). It seems to also have a different echolocation call as an indirect result of allopatric speciation (Dounangboubpha et al., 2015). This species also overlaps in its size with K. dongduongana and other species of the 'hardwickii' complex. It is widespread in Vietnam and often recorded in habitats between secondary and primary forests with



Fig 6. Ratufa bicolor. Photographed by Le Manh Hung.

bamboos and shrubs at the elevations of 200–1000 m asl. During the surveys in 2008 and 2018, 16 individuals were captured in the Saola Quang Nam and Song Thanh NRs.

ORDER RODENTIA Family SCIURIDAE

Ratufa bicolor (Sparrman, 1778)

The black giant squirrel is widespread in Vietnam and often observed and captured in primary or regenerated forests with many large trees. Usually, it lives and moves in tall trees and is active during the daytime, especially in the early morning and late afternoon. During daytime surveys, a few individuals were observed in the Song Thanh NR in 2018 and 2019 (Fig. 6). This species is considered an indicator for good quality habitats (Modak *et al.*, 2016)

Hylopetes alboniger (Hodgson, 1836)

The particolored flying squirrel has a vast distribution range across Southeast Asia. Throughout its range, this squirrel is found at middle elevations in montane regions that are classified as either tropical or subtropical (Thorington *et al.*, 2012). During our surveys, we observed this species once in the Song Thanh NR and one individual was trapped by local people in the Saola Quang Nam NR (Fig. 7).

Callosciurus inornatus (Gray, 1867)

The inornate squirrel has a broad distribution in northern Vietnam (mainly, south of Red River) and penetrates to the central Vietnam, southward to Hai Van Pass (Dang Huy Huynh *et al.*, 2007; Dang Ngoc Can *et al.*, 2008). Two adult males (Fig. 8) of this squirrel were collected from the Song Thanh NR during our survey in 2018. They were caught by local cage livetraps set up in the secondary forest near an agricultural field. This is the first record of this species from Quang Nam Province.



Fig. 7. *Hylopetes alboniger*. Photographed by Nguyen Truong Son.

Genus Tamiops Allen, 1906

Asian striped squirrels of the genus Tamiops are widespread in Southeast Asia. Four species, T. swinhoei, T. maritimus, T. mcclellandii, and T. rodolphi, are listed for Vietnam (Dang Ngoc Can et al., 2008). Most of the Tamiops species are identified on the basis of external morphology (Chang et al., 2011). In general, the genus Tamiops is not only complex in external morphology but also overlaps in terms of its distribution area (Francis, 2008). Previous studies in protected areas of Quang Nam Province revealed the presence of two species: T. maritimus and T. rodolphi (Long, 2005; Van Ngoc Thinh et al., 2006; Le Xuan Canh et al., 2011). During our surveys, we collected two specimens of T. rodolphi and observed *Tamiops* spp. up to sixteen times during excursions in both NRs. However, we did not record T. maritimus.



Fig. 8. Callosciurus inornatus. Photographed by Nguyen Truong Son.

Family MURIDAE Berylmys bowersi (Anderson, 1879)

The giant white—toothed rat is broadly distributed in Vietnam, and commonly found in dense primary forests, bamboo forests, rocky slopes and hills near forested areas (Dang Huy Huynh *et al.*, 2007). During our surveys, five specimens were collected (four from the Song Thanh NR and one from the Saola Quang Nam NR) by cage live-traps mostly along small streams (Fig. 9). Although it is a common species, it is surprising that most of the hitherto surveys in Quang Nam did not record it.

Dacnomys millardi Thomas, 1916

The Millard's giant rat *D. millardi* is a poorly-known species. It has been recorded from eastern Nepal, north-eastern India, southern China (south and west Yunnan) and from adjacent areas of Laos and Vietnam (Abramov *et al.*, 2017). This species was considered to be restricted to northern Vietnam only (Dang Ngoc Can

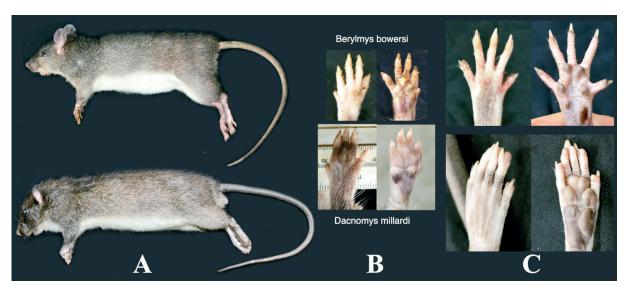


Fig. 9. Berylmys bowersi (top) and Dacnomys millardi (bottom). A – lateral view; B – palmar view of fore foot; C – plantar view of hind foot. Photographed by Ly Ngoc Tu & Bui Tuan Hai.

et al., 2008). Nonetheless, recent studies show that its distribution extends to as far as Kon Tum Province in south-central Vietnam (Abramov et al., 2017). During our fieldwork, one specimen of this species was collected from the Saola Quang Nam NR in 2018 and one specimen from the Song Thanh NR in 2019 (Fig. 9). This species has huge and swollen pads in both front and hindfeet (Fig. 9B). Musser et al. (2006) suggested that the size and protrusion of small mammal pads are dependent on their habitats. In the Saola Quang Nam NR, D. millardi was found in a small waterfall in between two cliffs of a rugged terrain (Fig. 10). All known Vietnamese specimens were collected in riparian habits, alongside small forest rivers and streams (Alexei Abramov, unpublished data).

Leopoldamys cf. revertens (Robinson, Kloss, 1922)

According to the earlier checklist (Dang Ngoc Can et al., 2008), four species of Leopoldamys are recognized in Vietnam, namely L. sabanus, L. edwardsi, L. milleti, and L. neilli. A recent revision of the genus Leopoldamys based on molecular and morphological data (Balakirev et al., 2013) listed a different set of four species for Vietnam: L. revertens (distributed in lowlands of eastern and central Indochina), L. herberti (western and central Indochina, northward to northern Vietnam), L. edwardsi (China and northern Vietnam, northward of 21°N), and L. milleti (endemic of Dalat Plateau, southern Vietnam). The true L. sabanus is restricted to Borneo Island only. Giant rats of the genus Leopoldamys were common in the studied area. We caught 13 specimens – seven in

the Song Thanh NR and six in the Saola Quang Nam NR – provisionally assigned to *L. revertens*. This is the first record of the species from Quang Nam Province.

Niviventer cf. huang (Bonhote, 1905)

Rats of the genus *Niviventer* are widespread throughout Southeast Asia. Most researchers recognized four species of Niviventer in Vietnam: N. confucianus, N. tenaster, N. langbianis and N. fulvescens. The latter species is listed for Quang Nam Province (Dang Ngoc Can et al., 2008; Le Xuan Canh et al., 2011). According to the recent taxonomic revision (Balakirev et al., 2012), at least eight Niviventer species occur in Vietnam. The authors treated Vietnamese members of the 'Niviventer fulvescens species complex' as two morphologically similar but genetically distinct species, N. huang and N. fulvescens. The first one is widespread throughout Vietnam to SE China, whereas N. fulvescens occurs at high elevations of the Himalayan mountain area and found only in north-western part of Vietnam. Few specimens N. cf. huang were caught in the Song Thanh NR in 2018 and 2019.

Rattus exulans (Peale, 1848)

This species occurs in many habitats and is widespread in Southeast Asia (Francis, 2008). In Vietnam, it has a vast distribution in southern parts of the country northward to Chu Lai in south-east of Quang Nam Province (Dang Ngoc Can *et al.*, 2008). In our surveys, three



Fig. 10. Biotopes at A Bok Stream in Saola Quang Nam NR.

specimens were collected from the Song Thanh NR in 2018. All the specimens were caught by local cage live-traps set up in secondary forests near local households and agriculture fields.

Rattus nitidus (Hodgson, 1845)

The white–footed Indochinese rat is widespread throughout Southeast Asia (Francis, 2008). The species has been recorded from many types of forest habitats, croplands and around human settlements. One specimen was caught in the Song Thanh NR in 2019.

Conclusion

A number of biodiversity studies were conducted in Quang Nam Province from 2005 to 2011 and most of them focused on the mammal fauna. According to the results of previous works, a total of 56 small mammals species was listed for Quang Nam Province (Long, 2005; Van Ngoc Thinh et al., 2006; Kawada et al., 2009, 2012; Le Xuan Canh et al., 2011; Nguyen Truong Son et al., 2011). Based on our results, the list of small mammals is expanded to 78 species. Certain changes in the list have resulted from novel taxonomic findings in several species complexes (e.g., Leopoldamys, Niviventer, Hylomys, Crocidura, Hipposideros etc.). However, during our surveys 20 small mammal species were recorded from Quang Nam Province for the first time (Table 2).

The small mammal fauna of Quang Nam Province is diverse and some species are abundant. Common species in the studied areas include *Rhizomys pruinosus*, Callosciurus inornatus, Petaurista philippensis, Tupaia belangeri, Tamiops rodolphii, Leopoldamys revertens, Rhinolophus affinis, Tylonycteris malayana, Kerivoula titania, K. hardwickii, and Crocidura zaitsevi. However, some dominant small mammal species in the central Annamites, such as *Hipposoderos larvatus*, some *Myotis* species, Niviventer and Rattus rats, were not recorded. Among 78 recorded species, four species are included in the Vietnam Red Data Book (2007): viz., the Sunda flying lemur Galeopterus variegatus (Endangered), black giant squirrel Ratufa bicolor (Vulnerable), particolored flying squirrel Hylopetes alboniger (Vulnerable), and giant flying squirrel *Petaurista philippensis* (Vulnerable).

The present study has also contributed additional information on the distribution of some species having narrow ranges. For example, the inornate squirrel *Callosciurus inornatus* was hitherto recorded from northern Vietnam to Bach Ma Mountain only (Dang Ngoc Can et al., 2008). Bach Ma Mt. was once considered a geographical barrier for some mammal species in Vietnam (Sterling et al., 2006). However, in this study *C. inornatus* was found in Quang Nam Province (south of Bach Ma Mt.). So, the actual geographical boundary of this species is yet unclear. The Millard's giant rat *Dacnomys millardi* was recently found in the southern part of Kontum Plateau (Abramov et al., 2017), some 1000 km to the south of the currently known limit of the species

range, and apparently has a continuous distribution along the Annamite Range. Our data have also clarified the geographic distribution of some insectivorous species, such as *Hylomys* sp., *Chimarrogale varennei*, *Crocidura zaitsevi*, and *Euroscaptor parvidens*.

The results of the present study confirm wealth and diversity of small mammals in this part of the central Annamites. Despite a high species diversity and abundance of large and small mammals in the studied area, some rodents have severely declined in recent years mainly due to illegal hunting and trapping activities. The majority of local communities in Quang Nam Province have a tradition of setting traps before the Lunar New Year, from October to December of the lunar calendar. We observed many mammal skulls and small mammals kept on the kitchen's upper parts in local households.

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