On the capture of four young Japanese Pipistrelles from Kofu, and with some notes

甲府市に於けるアブラコウモリの知見其の他

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1. Systematic account.

Adult Japanese Pipistrelles *Pipistrellus abramus* (Temminck, 1835) are commonly found and collected in Japan, while young ones are rare, as probably they breed about in June secretly somewhere in houses.

The authors are able to describe on the example of four young ones which were carried by their mother on its breast, and was caught by Mr. Tsuneo Hakii, Takabatake-machi, Kofu, on the 28th, June, 1955. The female adult flew from somewhere and fell down to the ground after the shock of striking a wall and was brought to the authors.

It had olive-brown on its back and was easily identified as *Pipistrellus abramus*. The authors kept it in a small cage about ten centimeters square, which is used for insects. Then small moths and beetles were given to it as food in the evening. It ate greedily both moths and beetles. On the 29th, photographs of the adult and the young ones were taken at the outside of the cage, and some water was given to it. On the 30th, the authors found that one of young was parted from the mother and never returned to her, the authors tried to put it back, but never could succeed even after many trials, because the mother was so careless and picked its head as if she got angry with the young. Three other young ones were never left the mother and stoutly stuck on the breast. The moths and beetles were also given to the adult. It seemed to the authors that the adult was more favorable the moths more than beetles. On the 31st, afternoon, a strange and unexpected scene was that the mother ate the parted young one although it was still moving.

Then after a while, other young ones were found dead too, while the mother was still alive.

But even the mother seemed to be tired and never tried to eat any food, and died at last on the second of July, after a week kept in a cage.

According to the Natural History of Japanese Mammals by Imaizumi, young discoveries are known from the following places: Three young ones from Haneda (by Nagamichi Kuroda), Akabane (by Yoshinori Imaizumi), Nagoya (two examples by Ginji Taba), China (by Allen). Two young ones from Kagoshima (by Nagamichi Kuroda). Therefore, four young ones are the first case.

The measurements of the adult female and her young ones are as follows*:

Adult female

Forearm	head & body	tail	feet with claw	ear	tragus
33	46	33	7	9	3.5

Young ones

1)	11.4	28	11.0	—	—	—
2)	11.2	26	10.9	—	—	—
3)	11.0	26	9.8	—	—	—

2. The ecological survey in Yamanashi Prefecture.

Japanese Pipistrelles fly actively from middle of March to late November and hibernate from early December to early March.

Every early March, some bats are found near above the moat of Maizuru Park in Kofu, when they were searching for their food. But the most abundant flocks are found in April and October comes next in Yamanashi Prefecture.

In 1930, the authors able to supply a case of only one Japanese Pipistrelle found, among other species such as Greater Horseshoe Bats, Least Horseshoe Bats and Long-eared Bats while hibernating in the Bat Cave, which is now appointed as the Natural Monument, and is also separated from houses, near the lake Motosu, Aokigahara, Fuji area.

In the middle of April in 1955, the senior author found that one flying Pipistrelles near Kofu Zoo during the day time, and it reappeared several times for a few days continuously.

It may be said in this connection that whenever the authors find during the day was alone, while many numbers were found in the evening.

The authors would like to describe a more interesting fact that happened at Davao, when the senior author had been to the Philippine Islands in 1929. An observation of Pipistrelles was made in the cave of a palm tree, they ate many glowworms but left luminous parts and so the luminous parts often fell down like fireworks.

In closing this short description, the authors would like to express their thanks to Dr. Takashima and Dr. Imaizumi for their kind advice.

* As specimens were fixed in alcohol solution, the measurements are not complete.

抄 録

アブラコウモリの幼獣は成獣が多く発見されているに拘らず非常に少い。即ち今泉氏の「日本哺乳動物図説」に依れば 3 仔の場合は羽田 1 例、赤羽 1 例、名古屋 2 例、支那 1 例、2 仔は鹿児島、1 仔の例は奄美大島等である。随つて 4 仔は未だ知られていないように思われる。ここに述べた 4 仔の例は甲府市高畑町に母親に抱かれたまま墜落したもので之を 1 週間飼育したのである。

本種は山梨に於ては 4 月に最も多く出現し 10 月が之に次いでいる。従来日中に於ける発見は何時でも 1 匹のみの飛翔である。又この種の冬眠は家の中であるが、コウモリ穴の岩穴の 1 例もある事を附加し又ダバオに於て本種観察中多数のホタルを食したが、それらの発光部のみを残した事も食性上興味あることとして付け加えて置く。

Upper: Young Pipistrelles sticking on the breast of their mother.

Middle: Adult Pipistrelle and parted young.

Lower: Parted young Pipistrelle which was eaten by its mother later.

All photos taken in June 29, 1955.