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**Kyoto University Overseas Research
Reports of New World Monkeys
II**

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CONTENTS

Preface

IZAWA, KOSEI and G. BEJARANO: Distribution Ranges and Patterns of Nonhuman Primates in Western Pando, Bolivia	1
IZAWA, KOSEI and M. YONEDA: Habitat Utilization of Nonhuman Primates in a Forest of the Western Pando, Bolivia	13
MASATAKA, NOBUO: A field study of the social behavior of Goeldi's monkeys (<i>Callimico goeldii</i>) in North Bolivia I. Group composition, breeding cycle, and infant development	23
YONEDA, MASAOKI: Ecological studies of <i>Saguinus fuscicollis</i> and <i>Saguinus labiatus</i> with reference to habitat segregation and height preference	43
SETOGUCHI, TAKESHI, T. WATANABE and T. MOURI: The upper dentition of <i>Stirtonia</i> (Ceboidea, Primates) from the Miocene of Colombia, South America and the origin of the Postero-internal cusp of upper molars of howler monkeys (<i>Alouatta</i>)	51

Preface

I am very pleased that Kyoto University Oversea Research Reports of New World Monkeys are published here. This report constitutes of the results of Kyoto University Oversea Research of New World Monkeys operated in the field season of 1979. All the financial support needed was generously given by the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture of the Japanese Government. Kyoto University has sent expeditions to South America three times including the preliminary research in the fiscal year of 1976. In 1977, the first large-scaled expedition was organized and made researches on both extinct and extant New World monkeys in Colombia, Peru, Bolivia and Brazil. The reports for these activities have been published in 1979. Here we present the results given by the second expedition in the field season of 1979.

After the World War II, many Japanese scientists started to work on monkeys. To clarify the origin and evolutionary processes of man itself, these workers believed researches on monkeys are indispensable. They made researches not only in Japan but commenced to work in Asia and Africa. Before the establishment of the Primate Research Institute in Kyoto University, Kyoto University started to send primatological expeditions and since then continued to accumulate the basic data, but the areas researched were confined in Asia and Africa, and South America was excluded by some reasons or other.

The Japan Monkey Center organized the first primatological expedition along the upper course of the Amazon River in 1971 under the auspices of the Japanese Government, and continued to send expeditions in 1973 and in 1975 as well. The main purposes of these expeditions were to research on social organization, behavioral pattern, diet and morphological characters of several South American monkeys. By the results of these expeditions, it became clear that although platyrrhine monkeys inhabit in less diversified environments than catarrhine monkeys, the former shows a wide range of variation of ecological and morphological characteristics as the latter does.

Primate Research Institute of Kyoto University decided to succeed the works of the Japan Monkey Center in South America and commenced to research there with two main purposes. First, several species of platyrrhine monkeys are selected as keyholders for phylogenetical diversification among whole South American monkeys, and, ecology and morphology of them are intensively researched. This part of the project is just the continuation of the Japan Monkey Center's program. And second, a paleontological program is added. This is surely a new one and by this we try to trace the phylogenetical history of platyrrhines.

South American monkeys are usually divided into two groups: Callithricidae and Cebidae. The systematic position of goeldi's monkeys is uncertain; some systematists classify them in the Callithricidae and others in the Cebidae. Thus, goeldi's monkeys are thought to be an intermediate stock between these two families. Because of this, goeldi's monkeys are selected as the key-holders for phylogenetical diversification among platyrrhines. Kosei Izawa, Gaston Bejarano, Masaaki Yoneda and Nobuo Masataka succeeded for the first time in the world in provisioning goeldi's monkeys in Bolivia. Masataka observed the provisionized goeldi's monkeys for long periods of time and obtained data for development of youngs and individual relationships among the troop. Izawa and Bejarano took part in researches on ecology of them in the areas outside of provisioning spot. They clarified that goeldi's monkeys occasionally compose a troop together with several other species, for example, with Weddell's saddle-back tamarins and red-chested moustached tamarins. Yoneda observed them and

especially the mode of composition of troop and ecology.

Akisato Nishimura continued to research on woolly spider monkeys in Brazil. Among the cebids, some monkeys utilize their prehensile tail as the fifth leg and others do not. Woolly spider monkeys show just an intermediate stage between these two extremities. Nishimura accumulated really important basic data of ecology and sociology of them, but in 1979 he made observations only in a rainy season. He was eager to obtain the data in a dry season so that from August to October in 1980 he visited Brazil again and continued to research by his private fund. Because of the lack of enough time to regulate his data both of rainy and dry seasons, his report on woolly spider monkeys is not included here. Important reports of his will be published soon separately in refereed publications of international scope.

I myself took part in paleontological project to prospect fossils with Tsuyoshi Watanabe, Takeshi Setoguchi and Toshio Mouri. Along the Andes Mountains in Colombia, terrestrial deposits from the Oligocene to the Miocene are extensively developed and yield a lot of the Tertiary mammal fossils. To collect primate fossils and to regulate them with ecological informations to get the basic data for paleoecology are the major purpose for our paleontological project. Very fortunately, we succeeded in discovering the upper dentition of the late Miocene *Stirtonia* which has long been unknown. Comparing with recent material, it is now clear that *Stirtonia* is a direct ancestor to extant *Alouatta*. From Argentina, much older fossil primates are known from the upper Oligocene and the lower Miocene. We do not have any casts of these for comparison so that we do not have any means to compare our material of *Stirtonia* with fossils from Argentina. We dispatched Setoguchi from October to November, 1980 for three weeks to Argentina under the auspices of the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture of the Japanese Government. The result of his work there is also included in this report.

I am very indebted to the Governments of Colombia, Peru, Bolivia and Brazil and especially the following institutions, and also the Japanese Embassies to these countries for their kind permission and helpful cooperation to complete our research project: INGEOMINAS, INDERENA, Museo de Historia Natural de Universidad Nacional, in Colombia; Ministerio de Planeamiento y Coordinacion de Presidencia de la Republica, in Bolivia; Ministry of Agriculture, Museum of Natural History of National San Marcos University, IVITA, in Peru; Centro Primatologico do Rio de Janeiro (CPRJ), in Brazil.

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