OCCASIONAL PAPERS THE MUSEUM TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

NUMBER 29

25 APRIL 1975

A NEW SUBSPECIES OF GEOMYS BURSARIUS (MAMMALIA: GEOMYIDAE) FROM TEXAS AND NEW MEXICO

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As part of a study of the systematics and ecology of pocket gophers occurring on the high plains of Texas and eastern New Mexico, numerous populations of the plains pocket gopher, *Geomys bursarius*, were examined karyotypically. Four chromosomal races were described from this area by Baker *et al.* (1973). Additional studies lead us to believe that two of these races represent an undescribed subspecies of the plains pocket gopher. In addition to karyological evidence, specimens of this subspecies are morphologically distinct from those of all contiguous populations of *Geomys bursarius major*, the race to which they previously were assigned. How a widespread subspecies of pocket gopher could have gone undetected until now is not easily explainable. It is noteworthy, however, that Bailey (1905) did assign the first known specimen of this subspecies to *Geomys arenarius*, which the new subspecies does resemble superficially.

Geomys bursarius knoxjonesi, new subspecies

Holotype.—Adult female, skin, skull, and body skeleton, no. 19872, The Museum, Texas Tech University (TTU); from 4.1 mi. N, 5.1 mi. E Kermit, Winkler Co., Texas; obtained on 27 January 1974 by Stephen L. Williams; original no. 1303; karyotype no. TK 5074.

Distribution.—Presently known from southern Cochran, Yoakum, Terry, Gaines, northwestern Martin, Andrews, Winkler, and Ward counties in western Texas, and Chavez, Eddy, and Lea counties in southeastern New Mexico (Fig. 1). This subspecies generally is restricted to deep, sandy soils of aeolian origin within this region.



FIG. 1.—Map of West Texas and eastern New Mexico showing the geographic distribution of *Geomys bursarius knoxjonesi* (closed circles) and adjacent samples of *Geomys bursarius major* (open circles) used in this study.

Description.—Size small, both externally and cranially (Table 1), particularly evident in measurements of cranial length (Fig. 2); length of tail proportionally long as compared with the length of head and body. Coloration pale; upper parts buffy-brown, paler on sides and venter; some areas on venter covered with almost pure white hair; feet white.

Karyotypic features.—The diploid number is 70 (Fig. 3) and the fundamental number (FN, number of arms of autosomal complement)



FIG. 2.—Dorsal, ventral, and lateral views of the cranium of the adult female holotype, TTU 19872, of *Geomys bursarius knoxjonesi*.

is 68 in Texas populations and 70 in New Mexico samples. The X chromosome is the largest element. The Y is believed to be a medium or small-sized acrocentric. New Mexico samples have a small pair of biarmed elements, whereas karyotypes from individuals from Texas are composed entirely of acrocentrics. The three smallest pairs of elements have secondary constrictions. Texas populations consist of chromosomal race A and the New Mexico population represent chromosomal race B of Baker *et al.* (1973). A variant karyotype (2N=69, FN=68) was described by Baker *et al.* (1973) for a specimen assigned to G. b. knoxjonesi.

Measurements.—Measurements of three samples of G. b. knoxjonesi are given in Table 1. External and cranial measurements (in millimeters) of the holotype (TTU 19872) are as follows: total length, 238; length of tail, 83; length of hind foot, 30; length of ear, 6; greatest length of skull, 40.1; condylobasal length, 38.5; zygomatic breadth, 24.7; least interorbital breadth, 5.4; mastoid breadth, 23.3; length of

Sex and statistics	Totai length	Length of tail	Jo AignsJ Jooî bnid	Greatest length of skull	Condylobasal length	Zygomatic breadth	Interorbital breadth	Mastoid breadth	Length of Sissais	Length of Length of	Length of maxillary toothrow	Palatofrontal depth
				Winkler	and Ward	counties	, Texas					
Males (12)												
Mean	255.5	89.8	31.2	44.1	42.6	27.0	6.0	25.0	15.5	18.4	8.5	16.3
1 SE	±6.37	±2.48	±0.68	±0.47	± 0.48	±0.55	±0.07	± 0.34	±0.21	±0.25	± 0.13	±0.21
Minimum	206.0	77.0	28.0	40.9	39.5	23.8	5.6	23.0	14.4	17.1	7.5	15.3
Maximum	282.0	104.0	35.0	46.0	44.1	29.3	6.4	26.5	16.7	19.6	0.6	17.5
CV	8.6	9.6	7.6	3.7	3.9	7.1	4.1	4.7	4.8	4.8	5.2	4.5
Females (17)												
Mean	232.6	80.6	28.4	40.1	38.9	23.9	5.9	22.6	13.8	16.4	8.1	14.6
ISE	± 3.21	± 1.99	± 0.44	±0.28	± 0.30	±0.22	±0.06	± 0.18	± 0.13	± 0.16	±0.12	±0.13
Minimum	209.0	65.0	25.0	38.0	36.9	22.6	5.5	21.4	12.7	14.7	6.8	13.7
Maximum	255.0	94.0	31.0	43.0	41.7	25.8	6.2	23.8	14.7	17.3	8.9	15.5
CV	5.7	10.2	6.4	2.9	3.2	3.8	4.1	3.3	3.9	4.1	6.0	3.6

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TABLE 1.- External and cranial measurements of seven samples of Geomys bursarius.

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16.5 ±0.19 15.5 17.4 3.7 14.6 ±0.09 14.0 15.3 2.4 17.0 ±0.16 16.1 17.9 3.4 15.3 ±0.14 14.5 17.0 4.1 8.3 ±0.11 7.9 9.0 4.3 7.8 ±0.09 7.0 8.4 4.6 ±0.21 6.6 9.4 8.8 ±0.08 7.6 8.8 4.6 18.7 ±0.29 17.6 20.2 16.0 ±0.43 14.8 17.7 4.3 20.5 ±0.16 19.2 21.5 2.8 17.6 ±1.19 16.0 19.2 4.6 16.2 ±0.39 14.4 18.1 7.6 17.3 ± 0.19 16.4 18.6 3.9 13.4 ±0.16 12.5 14.5 4.7 14.6 ±0.18 13.0 15.9 5.3 Andrews, southern Cochran, Gaines, and Terry counties, Texas 25.7 ±0.36 23.7 27.7 4.4 22.4 ±0.13 21.7 23.2 2.4 27.7 ±0.65 26.3 28.8 2.8 23.8 ±0.27 21.6 26.6 4.9 6.2
5.9
6.5
2.7 5.9 5.4 5.4 5.5 6.6 ±0.10 6.1 7.3 5.6 6.3 £0.05 5.9 6.8 3.6 Collingworth County, Texas 29.6 ±1.00 26.5 37.8 10.7 23.9 ±0.17 222.5 25.2 2.9 29.5 ±0.39 27.0 31.2 4.8 25.0 ±0.34 222.4 5.9 43.6 ±0.53 40.9 3.8 37.5 ±0.64 36.0 39.8 6.9 46.6 ±0.34 45.1 48.6 2.6 41.4 ±0.26 40.1 43.1 2.2 44.8 ±0.53 42.0 3.7 39.4 ±0.25 37.6 41.8 2.5 48.0 ±0.31 45.9 49.6 2.3 42.4 ±0.38 38.7 46.0 4.0 29.7 ±0.58 28.0 34.0 6.2 26.6 ±0.43 23.0 29.0 6.4 31.8 ±0.71 30.0 38.0 8.1 29.8 ±0.57 26.0 37.0 8.3 83.0 ±1.69 74.0 94.0 6.5 73.4 ±2.00 57.0 87.0 10.9 80.5 ±1.68 73.0 91.0 7.5 70.2 ± 1.20 60.0 81.0 7.5 251.6 ±5.72 231.0 280.0 7.2 219.4 ±2.00 203.0 234.0 3.6 2555.8 ±3.08 235.0 273.0 4.3 ±232.3 ±2.64 214.0 253.0 4.9 Maximum CV Maximum CV Maximum CV Females (16) Minimum Females (19) Maximum Minimum Minimum Minimum Males (13) Males (10) Mean 1SE Mean Mean Mean ISE ISE ISE 20

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	Bailey a	nd northe	rn Cochra	in countie	s, Texas, a	and Curry	and Roos	evelt cour	ties. New	Mexico		
Males (6)												
Mean	259.6	81.2	31.2	48.2	46.9	29.1	6.4	27.9	17.1	20.9	8.8	17.1
ISE	± 8.22	± 4.64	±0.60	± 1.41	± 1.27	±1.10	± 0.13	± 1.08	±0.77	±0.67	±0.21	± 0.54
Minimum	234.0	68.0	29.0	42.1	41.6	25.0	6.0	24.0	14.6	18.1	8.2	15.7
Maximum	284.0	94.0	33.0	51.6	50.0	32.3	6.8	31.1	19.5	22.5	9.6	18.9
CV	7.8	14.0	4.7	7.1	6.6	9.3	4.9	9.5	11.1	7.9	5.8	7.8
Females (8)												
Mean	233.4	77.6	28.0	42.0	41.0	25.0	6.1	24.3	14.2	17.5	8.2	15.2
ISE	± 2.53	±2.10	± 0.46	±0.71	±0.76	± 0.40	± 0.10	± 0.51	± 0.34	± 0.40	±0.15	±0.20
Minimum	221.0	71.0	26.0	39.3	38.4	23.3	5.8	22.3	12.8	16.1	7.7	14.5
Maximum	245.0	88.0	30.0	44.8	44.2	26.6	6.6	26.5	15.2	19.0	9.1	15.9
CV	3.1	7.7	4.7	4.8	5.3	4.6	4.7	5.9	6.8	6.4	5.3	3.7
			Ch	avez, Edd	y, and Lea	a counties	, New Me	xico				
TTU 17570 6	243.0	81.0	30.0	42.3	40.2	25.3	5.4	23.0	14.4	17.8	7.9	15.0
TTU 17566 d	225.0	85.0	29.0	41.3	40.4	26.0	5.3	23.7	14.0	17.4	7.7	15.3
Females (6)												
Mean	225.3	79.3	28.0	38.8	37.7	23.3	5.9	21.8	13.2	15.8	8.1	14.6
1SE	土4.40	±2.69	± 0.51	± 0.18	± 0.18	± 0.30	±0.09	±0.17	±0.16	± 0.15	± 0.14	± 0.14
Minimum	210.0	72.0	26.0	38.2	37.0	22.4	5.5	21.5	12.8	15.2	7.4	14.0
Maximum	241.0	89.0	29.0	39.3	38.4	24.2	6.1	22.5	13.8	16.3	8.4	15.0
CV	4.8	8.3	4.5	2.5	1.2	3.1	3.9	1.9	2.9	2.4	4.4	2.4

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				F	ABLE 1.—	-Continue	.p					
			Crosby,	Dickens,	Garza, an	d Lubboc	ck counties	s, Texas				
Males (8)												
Mean	269.0	84.0	30.6	47.8	46.9	30.5	6.6	27.5	17.1	20.6	8.9	17.7
1SE	±4.78	±2.28	± 0.82	± 0.53	± 1.07	± 0.91	± 0.08	± 0.65	± 0.65	± 0.60	± 0.19	± 0.41
Minimum	243.0	76.0	27.0	44.1	42.9	27.3	6.2	24.9	14.6	18.2	7.8	16.0
Maximum	290.0	95.0	34.0	52.9	50.7	32.9	7.0	29.7	20.4	23.1	5.7	19.0
CV	5.0	7.7	7.6	7.3	6.5	8.5	3.6	9.9	10.7	8.2	6.1	9.9
Females (13)												
Mean	236.8	69.0	28.2	42.4	41.4	25.7	6.4	24.1	14.7	17.6	8.2	15.7
1SE	土4.40	± 1.83	±0.51	±0.25	±0.26	± 0.24	± 0.08	± 0.16	±0.17	±0.20	±0.11	±0.09
Minimum	215.0	55.0	24.0	41.4	40.1	24.6	5.9	23.2	13.8	16.7	7.4	15.2
Maximum	274.0	81.0	30.0	44.1	43.1	27.8	7.1	25.0	15.8	19.0	9.1	16.3
CV	6.8	9.6	6.5	2.2	2.2	3.4	4.7	2.3	4.3	4.2	4.8	2.1
				M	orton Cou	nty, Kans	sas					
Males (4)												
Mean	265.5	81.8	34.3	48.8	47.2	29.8	6.1	27.7	16.7	21.0	8.6	17.4
1SE	± 7.71	±5.01	± 1.49	± 0.78	± 0.93	± 0.45	± 0.13	± 0.25	±0.15	± 0.36	± 0.21	± 0.34
Minimum	250.0	68.0	30.0	46.6	44.8	28.9	5.6	27.2	16.4	20.2	8.2	16.4
Maximum	285.0	92.0	37.0	50.0	49.0	31.0	6.8	28.2	17.1	21.9	9.3	17.9
CV	5.8	12.2	8.7	3.2	4.0	3.0	8.7	1.8	1.8	3.4	5.8	4.0
KU 5014 9	234.0	72.0	28.0	41.7	40.5	24.1	6.0	23.1	14.7	17.2	8.0	15.2

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FIG. 3.—Karyotype of the adult female holotype, TTU 19872, of Geomys bursarius knoxjonesi.

nasals, 14.0; length of rostrum, 16.5; length of maxillary toothrow, 8.0; palatofrontal depth, 14.7.

Comparisons.—Populations of Geomys bursarius knoxjonesi are in contact only with populations of G. b. major and, therefore, need extensive comparison only with this taxon. Individuals of Geomys bursarius knoxjonesi are significantly smaller in size than those of G. b. major in several cranial measurements. G. b. knoxjonesi averages smaller than major in most other characteristics (see Table 1, Figs. 4-5, and discussion below) and has a proportionally longer tail. In coloration, knoxjonesi is noticeably paler than major, being a buffy brown rather than a darker (more chocolate) brown on the upper parts. It is of interest to note that Bailey (1905:130) reported the first specimen of knoxjonesi from near Monahans, Texas, as Geomys arenarius. These two taxa do resemble each other in external coloration.

The karyotype of the Texas populations of G. b. knoxjonesi is distinguished from that of adjacent populations of G. b. major by comparing fundamental numbers (70 or 72 in major, as opposed to 68 in Texas populations of knoxjonesi). New Mexican populations of knoxjonesi have a fundamental number of 70, their karyotype having a pair of small biarmed elements. No pair of small biarmed elements has been found in the karyotype of any population of G. b. major having a karyotype with a fundamental number of 70.

The relationship and distinction of the four karyotypic races (A and B in *knoxjonesi* and C and D in *major*) found in *Geomys bursarius* in western Texas and adjacent New Mexico is complicated by polymorphisms, and these were discussed in detail by Baker *et al.* (1973). Their paper should be consulted for additional information.

Another subspecies that approaches *knoxjonesi* in the northeastern part of its geographic range is *G. b. jugossicularis*. Morphologically, samples of *knoxjonesi* differ from those of *jugossicularis* in many of the same characteristics in which they differ from *major*. *G. b. knoxjonesi* is smaller in size and has a proportionally longer tail. Based on coloration, samples of *knoxjonesi* are not separable from our sample of *jugossicularis* from Kansas.

The karyotype of G. b. jugossicularis was reported by Hart (1971) to have a 2N = 72 and FN = 72, identical to that recorded for some populations of G. b. major that we have examined, but the diploid and fundamental values are greater by two than any recorded for G. b. knoxjonesi.

As will be seen in the discussion below, the subspecies of *Geomys* bursarius that are most closely related to *G. b. knoxjonesi* are *G. b.* llanensis and *G. b. texensis*. These two subspecies are geographically separated from knoxjonesi by intervening populations of major. The main differences among these taxa are the generally narrower skulls of texensis and llanensis, particularly evident in interorbital breadth (5.7 and 5.7, respectively, for females and 5.7 and 5.8 for males), and the proportionally shorter tails of texensis and llanensis (40.4 and 38.8 per cent of head and body length, respectively, for females and 38.7 and 36.8 per cent for males).

The karyotype of knoxjonesi is indistinguishable from that of texensis and llanensis.

Remarks.—Both univariate and multivariate statistical analyses were used to study the relationships among populations of Geomys bursarius in Texas and adjacent regions. Samples used in the univariate analyses include three populations of G. b. knoxjonesi, three of G. b. major from near, or adjacent to, the geographical range of knoxjonesi, and one of G. b. jugossicularis (Table 1). Males and females were treated separately because of the high degree of secondary sexual dimorphism in this species. For the univariate analyses, single classification analysis of the variance (ANOVA) and sums of squares simultaneous testing procedure (SS-STP) were used in a manner similar to that employed by Genoways (1973).

Skull measurements were used as defined by Russell (1968) and Genoways (1973). All comparisons were made using adults (as indicated by the completed ossification of the basisphenoid and basioc-cipital bones).

The univariate analyses revealed that samples of *knoxjonesi* were significantly different from samples of *major* and *jugossicularis* in several characteristics. This was particularly true for females. In males, the same trends as for females are present, but the picture is not as clear. This probably results from the smaller sample size and generally higher individual variation in males.

In only two characteristics (total length and length of maxillary toothrow) were the means for samples of males not significantly different (ANOVA). In the remaining 10 characters, several patterns of nonsignificant subsets of means were revealed (SS-STP). For two characteristics (condylobasal length and length of rostrum), the samples were divided into two nonoverlapping subsets-one containing samples of major and jugossicularis; the other, samples of knoxjonesi. The samples of knoxjonesi were significantly smaller than those of the other two subspecies. Subsets containing samples of knoxionesi and major overlapped only at the sample from Lubbock County and vicinity for greatest length of skull. Again, the means for knoxjonesi were significantly smaller. The other seven characteristics exhibit patterns of two or three broadly overlapping subsets. For three of these characteristics (mastoid breadth, length of nasals, and palatofrontal depth), however, samples of knoxjonesi had the smallest mean values. One characteristic in which knoxionesi did not average smaller than major and jugossicularis was in length of tail. It appears that knoxjonesi has a proportionally longer tail in comparison with length of head and body than do major and jugossicularis (average percentage for knoxjonesi samples is 54.2, 49.2, and 55.0, as compared with 45.4, 45.9, 45.5, and 44.5 for major and jugossicularis).

Only in length of maxillary toothrow were the sample means of females not significantly different. In three characteristics (greatest length of skull, mastoid breadth, and length of rostrum), the three female samples of *knoxjonesi* formed a subset that did not overlap the subset formed by the samples of *major* and *jugossicularis*. Samples of *knoxjonesi* also are significantly smaller than all samples of *major* and *jugossicularis*, with the exception of the sample from Bailey and northern Cochran counties, Texas, and Curry and Roosevelt counties, New Mexico, which is intermediate in four characteristics (condylobasal length, interorbital breadth, length of nasals, and palatofrontal depth). This sample of G. b. major is intermediate between typical major and knoxjonesi, these four characteristics being in subsets with each taxon. As in males, females of knoxjonesi have a proportionally longer tail (53.0, 50.1, and 54.3) than do those of major and jugos-sicularis (41.1, 43.3, and 44.4). The one sample of major that approaches knoxjonesi in this characteristic is the one from Bailey and Cochran counties, Texas, and Curry and Roosevelt counties, New Mexico, in which the ratio of the length of tail to head and body length is 49.8.

Based on the univariate analyses, it appears that G. b. knoxjonesi is a distinctly smaller subspecies than either G. b. major or G. b. jugossicularis and is more distinct from both than either is from the other. These differences are more marked in females than in males, but the same trends are present in both sexes. In females, an intermediate sample between the geographic ranges of knoxjonesi and major (Bailey and Cochran counties, Texas, and Curry and Roosevelt counties, New Mexico) is morphologically intermediate in several characteristics, although significantly different from knoxjonesi in several others. This intermediate tendency was not evident in males. Another characteristic of samples of knoxjonesi is that they possess relatively long tails in comparison with the length of head and body.

In the multivariate analyses that were conducted, the OTUs were sample means. Phenetic distance coefficients were derived from standardized characteristic values; these were clustered using UPGMA (unweighted pair-group method using arithmetic averages), and a phenogram was generated. Also, the first three principal components were extracted from a matrix of correlation among the 12 characters. A projection matrix for the first three dimensions was generated and used for plotting OTUs onto these principal components (see Genoways, 1973, for additional discussion of these techniques). In addition to the samples used in the univariate analyses, samples of the following subspecies were used in the multivariate analyses (see also specimens examined): pratincola, ammophilus, attwateri, brazensis, dutcheri, texensis, and llanensis. Additionally, several individuals from near the range of knoxjonesi, for which no chromosomal data were available, were tested to determine their morphometric relationships. These specimens originated from the following localities: 2.9 mi. S Patricia, Martin County, Texas (one female); 4.5 mi. SSW Morton, Cochran County, Texas (one male); 1 mi. SE Santa Rosa,



FIG. 4.—Phenograms of samples of Geomys bursarius (males left, females right) computed from distance matrices based on standardized characters and clustered by unweighted pair-group method using arithmetic averages (UPGMA). The cophenetic correlation coefficient for males is 66.2 per cent; for females, 79.5. Symbols used are as follows: Kl, G. b. knoxjonesi from Winkler and Ward counties, Texas; K2, G. b. knoxjonesi from Andrews, southern Cochran, Gaines, and Terry counties, Texas; K3, G. b. knoxjonesi from Chavez, Eddy, and Lea counties, New Mexico; Ml, G. b. major from Crosby, Dickens, Garza, and Lubbock counties, Texas; M2, G b. major from Collingsworth County, Texas; M3, G. b. major from Bailey and northern Cochran counties, Texas, and Curry and Roosevelt counties, New Mexico; J, G. b. jugossicularis; AM, G. b. ammophilus; AT, G. b. attwateri; B, G. b. brazensis; D, G. b. dutcheri; L, G. b. llanensis; PR, G. b. pratincola; T. G. b. texensis: C. single male from 4.5 mi. SSW Morton, Cochran Co., Texas; MH, sample from Midland and Howard counties, Texas; PA, single female from 2.9 mi. S Patricia, in Martin County, Texas; SA, single male from 1 mi. SE Santa Rosa, Guadalupe County, New Mexico.

Guadalupe County, New Mexico (one male); Midland and Howard counties, Texas (one male, seven females).

The phenogram (Fig. 4) resulting from clustering of phenetic distance coefficients for females is divided into three major groups. One sample is composed solely of G. b. ammophilus. The second group includes the three samples of G. b. major, a sample from Midland and Howard counties (which would be assigned to major based on these data), and samples of jugossicularis, llanensis, and attwateri. Within the third group, the three samples of knoxjonesi form a distinct cluster from samples of pratincola, brazensis, dutcheri, and texensis. The specimen from near Patricia is within this group. Based on this analysis, it appears that knoxjonesi has a greater morphological similarity to subspecies of Geomys bursarius from central and eastern Texas than to geographically contiguous samples of G. b. major and G. b. jugossicularis.

In the phenogram (Fig. 4) for males, two major clusters are present. The upper cluster contains the three samples of *major* and one of *jugossicularis*. Also in this group are the sample from Midland and Howard counties, Texas, and the individual from Santa Rosa, New Mexico. Within the other cluster, three subclusters are evident. The upper of these contains the two Texas samples of *knoxjonesi* and the single specimen from south of Morton, Texas. The second subcluster contains samples of the subspecies *attwateri*, *dutcheri*, *texensis*, and *llanensis*. The last subcluster contains the New Mexican sample of *knoxjonesi* and samples of *pratincola* and *brazensis*. Males, as do females, of *knoxjonesi* have a greater morphometric similarity to those from samples of *Geomys bursarius* from eastern Texas than they do to males in contiguous populations.

The OTUs projected onto the first three principal components are shown in Fig. 5. For males, these two components account for 82.5 per cent of the total phenetic variation (71.2 for I and 11.3 for II) and for females 79.3 per cent (60.9 for I and 18.4 for II). Results of the factor analyses are shown in Table 2. For both sexes, size is the major influence in component I. Males and females both show high positive weighting for interorbital breadth and length of maxillary toothrow and high negative weighting for length of tail in component II. Highest weighting is for length of tail in component III in males. Females have a high negative value for length of tail and a high positive one for length of rostrum in the third component.

In the plots, samples of knoxjonesi form a cluster separated from others. The cluster is much tighter in females than in males. In both sexes, knoxjonesi is separated from *major* in both the first and second components. The sample of *jugossicularis* is separated from knoxjonesi in the first component. The main separation of other samples is in the second component. The sample of *attwateri* also may be separated in the first component, at least in females. The sample of *llanensis* appears morphologically nearest to G. b. knoxjonesi in the plot of females, whereas *llanensis* and *texensis* are nearest for males.

The multivariate analyses clearly indicate that G. b. knoxjonesi is morphologically distinct from contiguous populations of G. b. major. In fact, knoxjonesi shows greater distinctness from major than do any of the other taxa included in this study; it evidently has affinities, both morphologically and karyotypically, with populations of G. bursarius from central and eastern Texas. It would appear to be more closely related to G. b. llanensis and G. b. texensis than to other races to the east.



FIG. 5.—Two dimensional projections of the first two principal components illustrating the phenetic position of samples of *Geomys bursarius* (males, upper; females, lower). See Fig. 4 for key to symbols.

Significance of karyotypic variation.—The karyotype serves to identify populations at the subspecies level, but the actual role of this

TABLE 2.—Factor matrix from correlation among the 12 characters of Geomys bursarius studied.

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		Males			Females	
Character	Component	Component II	Component III	Component	Component II	Component III
Total length	0.906	-0.211	0.044	0.903	-0.291	-0.157
Length of tail	0.410	-0.599	0.654	0.478	- 0.647	-0.508
Length of hind foot	0.765	-0.286	-0.402	0.604	-0.596	0.032
Greatest length of						
skull	0.982	-0.014	-0.123	0.977	0.042	0.134
Condylobasal length	0.984	-0.028	-0.105	0.959	0.083	0.145
Zygomatic breadth	0.938	-0.085	0.164	0.889	0.292	-0.204
Interorbital breadth	0.441	0.688	0.483	0.134	0.753	-0.335
Mastoid breadth	0.925	-0.141	0.140	0.907	0.031	-0.201
Length of nasals	0.936	0.161	-0.170	0.919	-0.141	0.281
Length of rostrum	0.910	0.206	-0.275	0.721	0.334	0.501
Length of maxillary						
toothrow	0.706	0.532	0.134	0.303	0.743	-0.241
Palatofrontal depth	0.949	-0.115	0.044	0.969	0.088	-0.043

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karyotypic variation in speciation in the plains pocket gopher is unknown. It is possible that karyotypic variation may result in reduced fertility in F_1 hybrids between *knoxjonesi* and *major*, but this has not been investigated. It should be pointed out that even if the present karyotypic variation that distinguishes these taxa does not result in reduced fertility, the mechanism for such is available. Because chromosomal characteristics are inherited in a Mendelian manner, and chromosomal rearrangements are believed to occur at a low rate, the karyotypic variation is an important marker of evolutionary divergence. However, the significance of this divergence to karyotypically characterized taxa must be investigated in each case.

The chromosomal variation within *knoxjonesi* is not believed to be a significant factor in reducing fertility between respective populations. The small second arm on the small biarmed elements may have resulted from a pericentric inversion, but in light of the karyotype of the population' from Maljamar and Loco Hills, New Mexico, the second arms may be heterochromatic (Baker *et al.*, 1973). If these arms are heterochromatic, there should be no meiotic problems resulting from the karyotypic differences.

It is apparent from the foregoing analyses and discussion that Geomys bursarius knoxionesi is a distinctive subspecies of the plains pocket gopher, inhabiting the deep aeolian sands of West Texas and southeastern New Mexico. G. b. knoxjonesi is geographically in contact only with the subspecies major. However, our analyses have shown that knoxionesi differs as much or more from major as it does from any of the other taxa of Geomys bursarius included in this study. The highest degree of similarity shown by knoxjonesi is with texensis and llanensis. Whether or not this indicates past genetic affinity can only be a matter of conjecture at the present time. However, it is interesting to note that all three of these taxa represent peripheral populations of the plains pocket gopher. The possibility does exist that llanensis, texensis, and knoxjonesi were previously in contact and that the intervening area was invaded subsequently by major at the expense of the other subspecies. On the other hand, these peripheral populations may represent convergent evolution in the occupancy of similar marginal areas. Whatever the answer, these populations presently represent geographically isolated genetic pools.

There is a question in our minds at present as to whether *knoxjonesi* and *major* actually interbreed along their zone of contact. Although some populations from one area were morphologically intermediate in some characteristics, we have not been able to obtain karyological

hybrids. This relationship will be the subject of continuing study of pocket gophers in this area.

Etymology.—The subspecific name is a patronym honoring Dr. J. Knox Jones, Jr., in recognition of his contributions to the study of Recent mammals and his leadership in the American Society of Mammalogists.

Specimens examined.—Included in the following list are all known specimens of Geomys bursarius knoxjonesi plus those specimens of other taxa actually used for comparative purposes. Localities of G. b. knoxjonesi and G. b. major set in italics are those that were omitted from Fig. 1 to prevent undue crowding of symbols. Specimens housed in The Museum of Texas Tech University carry no institutional designation. Other institutions from which specimens were examined are as follows: Museum of Natural History, The University of Kansas (KU); Texas Cooperative Wildlife Collection, Texas A&M University (TCWC); National Museum of Natural History (USNM).

Geomys bursarius knoxjonesi.—NEW MEXICO: Chavez Co.: 0.75 mi. N, 9.1 mi. W Caprock, 4; 0.7 mi. N, 12.6 mi. W Caprock, 1; 0.7 mi. N, 9.1 mi. W Caprock, 2; 7.2 mi. N, 11.3 mi. E Elkins, 2. Eddy Co.: 1.6 mi. N, 9.5 mi. E Loco Hills, 1; 5.7 mi. E Loco Hills, 3. Lea Co.: 0.6 mi. S, 2.5 mi. W Maljamar, 2. TEXAS: Andrews Co.: 10 mi. NW Andrews, 1; 0.5 mi. N Andrews, 1. Cochran Co.: 1 mi. W Lehman, 1; 4.5 mi. SSW Morton, 1; 3.4 mi. N, 3.3 mi. W Whiteface, 2; 3.2 mi. N, 3.0 mi. W Whiteface, 1; 1.0 mi. N, 0.9 mi. W Whiteface, 4; 1 mi. N, 0.5 mi. W Whiteface, 2. Gaines Co.: 1 mi. SE Seagraves, 1; 5 mi. SE Seagraves 1. Martin Co.: 2.9 mi. S Patricia, 1. Terry Co.: 6 mi. W Brownfield, 6; 4 mi. N Gomez, 23; 1.7 mi. S, 0.5 mi. W Meadow, 2. Ward Co.: 3.5 mi. E Monahans, 9. Winkler Co.: 11 mi. NE Kermit, 2; 10 mi. NE Kermit, 4; 4.1 mi. N, 5.1 mi. E Kermit, 37; 3.6 mi. E Kermit, 1; 5 mi. E Kermit, 2; 6.5 mi. SE Kermit, 1. Yoakum Co.: 7.3 mi. E Plains, 1.

Geomys bursarius ammophilus.--TEXAS: Victoria Co.: Victoria, 1 (USNM).

Geomys bursarius attwateri.—TEXAS: Aransas Co.: 10 mi. SE Austwell, 8 (TCWC); 8 mi. SW Rockport, 5 (TCWC).

Geomys bursarius brazensis.--- TEXAS: Wood Co.: Mineola, 9.

Geomys bursarius dutcheri.—OKLAHOMA: Muskogee Co.: Ft. Gibson, 10 (USNM).

Geomys bursarius jugossicularis.—KANSAS: Morton Co.: 12 mi. N Elkhart, 2(KU); no specific locality, 3 (KU).

Geomys bursarius llanensis.—TEXAS: Llano Co.: 51.6 mi. W Austin, 1; Castell, 1; 7 mi. E Llano, 4 (TCWC); 3 mi. S Llano, 2 (TCWC); 9 mi. N Jct. Texas 20 and Texas 16, on Texas 16, 1.

Geomys bursarius major.—New MEXICO: CUITY CO.: 4 mi. S Melrose, 2. Guadalupe Co.: 1 mi. SE Santa Rosa, 1. Roosevelt Co.: 1.5 mi. W Dora, 1; 1 mi. E Elida, 1; 2.8 mi. E Elida, 4; 1.8 mi. S, 1.1 mi. E Lingo, 3. TEXAS: Bailey Co.: 2 mi. SE Muleshoe, 1. Cochran Co.: 5 mi. W Morton, 1; 1 mi. W Morton, 1. Collingsworth Co.: 2.1 mi. W, 9.1 mi. W Wellington, 9; 1.5 mi. N, 2 mi. E Wellington, 1; 0.5 mi. N Wellington, 3; 0.2 mi. W Wellington, 3; 0.1 mi. W

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Wellington, 15; Wellington, 1. Crosby Co.: 5 mi. E Crosbyton, 1; 7.9 mi. S Crosbyton, 1; Silverfalls, 1. Dickens Co.: 10 mi. E Dickens, 2. Garza Co.: 4.5 mi. NW Post, 1. Howard Co.: 2.1 mi. NE Big Spring, 2. Lubbock Co.: 4 mi. E Idalou, 1; 11 mi. S Idalou, 2; Lubbock, 3; 4 mi. SE Lubbock, 3; 6 mi. SE Lubbock, 2; 5 mi. E Lubbock, 2; 4 mi. N Slaton, 1; Slaton, 1. Midland Co.: Midland, 3; 5 mi. S Stanton, 3.

Geomys bursarius pratincola .--- TEXAS: Newton Co.: Newton, 4.

Geomys bursarius texensis.—TEXAS: Mason Co.: 9.4 mi. W Mason, 1 (TCWC); 1 mi. E Mason, 4 (TCWC); 6.5 mi. E Mason, 1.

Acknowledgments.—Field studies were supported by a grant from the Institute of University Research, Texas Tech University, whereas laboratory work was supported by the Institute of Museum Research of the same institution. Stephen L. Williams prepared the figures. We thank James A. Gray, Stephen L. Williams, John C. Patton, Steven L. Tennison, William J. Bleier, Edward F. Pembleton, J. Hoyt Bowers, Dale L. Berry, Brent L. Davis, and Robert G. Jordan for assistance in collecting specimens.

Dr. Robert S. Hoffmann of the University of Kansas, Dr. David J. Schmidly of Texas A&M University, and Dr. Don E. Wilson of the Bird and Mammal Laboratories of the United States National Museum kindly made specimens available for examination from their respective museums.

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