

Harold W. Manter Laboratory of Parasitology W 529 Nebraska Hall P.O. Box 880514 University of Nebraska-Lincoln Lincoln, NE 68588-0514

12/Nov/2015

Dear Joe:

I would like to borrow two specimens of what are cataloged under the name/Ctenomys boliviensis/. The MSB numbers are MSB67423 and MSB63568.

I would like permission to examine these specimens as we have undertaken a study to investigate the nature of the Pineal in /Ctenomys. /I have chosen these specific specimens as our crew collected a very large number of individuals from the area south of Santa Cruz de la Sierra, and it seems logical to chose individuals to study that are also represented by a large series of skulls in the collection (at MSB).

We plan to first have a CAT (computer aided tomography) scan performed on the specimens here in our vet school diagnostic center. Then we plan to dissect the skull out of the a method of decalcification to remove the calcium phosphate from the bone and then stain and section the specimens and prepare permanent sections of the skull and brain that will show the position and nature of the pineal body. This work is something that we have wanted to do since Syd and I published the paper on the holes in the heads of the tucos, but we did not have the time. I now have a student interested in mammals and especially this topic, so I thought to move forward.

We would send back all preparations that we make from the specimen after our study. Obviously, this would have to be what might be classified as "destructive sampling" but in actuality would be simply transforming a specimen from one state to another, as you will receive the slides and other materials back for future studies.

One thing that I would like to request from you and Jon is that I may not have interpreted the field notes well, but what we need is a specimen that is not decomposed (that is, was collected and preserved as a pickle, for the purposes of pickling and not just because it was rotten (as many times we do make pickles because a specimen is decomposing or is compromised in some other way).

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Scott

- busy here. Any luck on locating the//Echinococcus// samples in the pile of material from Mongolia yet? I will send the letterhead on the loan request for /Echinococcus/ next. Thanks - slg

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Scott Lyell Gardner, Ph.D.

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If we don't work to describe and conserve biodiversity now, our descendants will be very upset. -slg

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"Those willing to give up a little liberty for a little security deserve neither security nor liberty." -Benjamin Franklin

Thank you very much!

Sincerely yours,

Scott L. Cordner

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