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■ HISTORY OF INTRODUCTIONS

SOUTH AMERICA

Margarita Island, Venezuela (Isla de Margarita)

It has been suggested (Eisenberg 1989) that the presence of brown capuchins on this island indicates that they were originally introduced by Amerindians.

■ DAMAGE

Brown capuchins feed on crops, especially immature corn in Colombia and Guyana (Wolfheim 1983). They are destructive to cacao, citrus, palm and corn cultivation in Surinam (Husson 1957), are accused of raiding crops and gardens in Peru (Grimwood 1969), and are shot to protect crops in south-east Bolivia (Wolfheim 1983).

Family: Cercopithecidae

Old World monkeys

TALAPOIN

Miopithecus talapoin (Schreber)

■ HISTORY OF INTRODUCTION

FERNANDO POO AND CANARY ISLANDS

Talpoins from the forests of western Angola, Cameroon and Gabon may have been introduced to Fernando Poo and the Canary Islands (Holden and Diller 1994).

GREEN MONKEY

Vervet monkey, greenish monkey, green gueron, grivet, savanna monkey

Cercopithecus aethiops (Linnaeus)

= *C. sabeus* (Linnaeus)

■ DESCRIPTION

HB 400–830 mm; T 500–700 mm; WT 2.5–9.0 kg.

Slender with long tail; upper parts bright gold green, but varying from silver grey to reddish green; face black; forearms and forelegs grey; underparts, cheeks, sides of neck white to yellowish white; eyelids pale pink; scrotum pale blue and penis red; tail greyish green on basal two-thirds and yellowish distally.

■ DISTRIBUTION

Africa, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Senegal and Somalia south to South Africa.

■ HABITS AND BEHAVIOUR

Habits: diurnal; arboreal and terrestrial; territorial. **Gregariousness:** troops of 6–50 (old male, several



females, young) and up to 140; density 0.87–153.7/km². **Movements:** home range 9.4–518 ha. **Habitat:** forest, woodland savannah, forest edges, thickets, riparian woodland, acacia groves. **Foods:** fruits, berries, grass seeds, leaves, flowers, bark, sap, bulbs, roots, shoots, seed pods, grain, young birds, birds' eggs, insects, spiders, reptiles (lizards), herbs, human food scraps. **Breeding:** breeds all year (August–September St. Kitts); in Kenya mates April–June; gestation 165–203 days; 1 or rarely 2 young; clings to mother for 3 months; weaned 3–6 months; inter-birth interval 1 year; females breed at 3–4 years, males at 4–5 years. **Longevity:** 24 years (captive). **Status:** common and abundant; hunted for meat in many areas.

Note: Behaviour on St. Kitts reported to differ slightly from that of African animals.

■ HISTORY OF INTRODUCTIONS

Green monkeys have been introduced successfully on Barbados, St. Kitts and Nevis in the West Indies, and São Tiago in the Cape Verde Islands.

ATLANTIC OCEAN ISLANDS

Cape Verde Islands

Green monkeys (*C. a. sabeus*) have been introduced by humans to the island of São Tiago (Bannerman and Bannerman 1968), probably from mainland Africa (Osman Hill 1966). They are the only mammal apart from introduced rats in the Cape Verdes. They were once more common, but still inhabited the most inaccessible heights on the island in the 1960s. They were formerly also on the island of Brava, and noted

there in 1987 (Alexander 1898), when they were abundant in the larger valleys causing much damage to the sugar cane.

WEST INDIES

Barbados, St. Kitts and Nevis (Lesser Antilles)

The green monkey is reported to occur on Barbados, St. Kitts (St. Christopher), and Nevis (Sade and Hildreth 1965; Hall 1981; Walker 1992), in the Lesser Antilles, where they are thought to be an accidental introduction associated with the slave trade between Senegal and the West Indies in the 1600s.

C. a. saheus was first reported on St. Kitts by Father Labat (*Nouveau Voyage aux Isles de L'Amérique*, Paris, 1722) who visited the island in 1700, although there is a doubtful record that they were present on Barbados as early as 1682. According to Labat, they escaped on St. Kitts from the houses of the French when the land was laid fallow under English control. In 1719 (Smith 1745), they were numerous on Mount Misery and were reported again in 1866 to be abundant on the island. Numbers on Barbados initially increased substantially then crashed in the eighteenth century because of loss of forest habitat and bounty hunting, but increased again in the 1950s after some areas had become reforested (Walker 1992).

In 1965 they were present in all parts of St. Kitts where there was some forest cover and were most abundant in the forest of the central mountain ranges, especially in the ravines, with a total population in the vicinity of 1500 monkeys (Sade and Hildreth 1965).

■ DAMAGE

In Africa the green monkey is a frequent agricultural pest and raids orchards, native's crops and villages (MacKenzie 1953; Ansell 1960; Osman Hill 1966; Wolfheim 1983) and is a frequent pest around lodges and campsites (Estes 1993). They damage orchards and market gardens in South Africa, where control of their numbers is carried out (Hey 1964, 1967). In Africa they are known to attack humans in situations where there is overpopulation due to tourists feeding them (Brennan *et al.* 1985). They cause extensive damage to cacao plantations in Sierra Leone, feed in maize patches in Ethiopia and are a notorious crop raider in Senegal, Sierra Leone, Ghana, Nigeria, Uganda, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Zambia and Cameroon (Wolfheim 1983). They damage cereal crops, fruits, vegetables and sugar cane (\$20 000 cane in one area) in Zimbabwe (Jarvis and La Grange 1984). Their crop raiding has led to extermination programs in several countries (e.g. Sierra Leone and Uganda). They will steal from houses and gardens and from people at picnic spots. In their favour, they are

reported to sometimes eat large numbers of injurious insects (Osman Hill 1966).

On São Tiago, in the Cape Verde Islands, green monkeys are reported to be a pest of fruit plantations and to have formerly raided sugar cane crops (Bannerman and Bannerman 1968). On St. Kitts, West Indies, they may have been responsible for the extermination of the Puerto Rican bullfinch, *Loxigilla potoricensis grandis* (Sade and Hildreth 1965).

MONA MONKEY

Cercopithecus mona (Schreber)

■ DESCRIPTION

HB 400–500 mm; T 540–800 mm; SH 320–350 mm; WT 2.5–7.5 kg.

Upper parts speckled reddish and black, darkest towards the rump; hands and arms black on lateral surface; legs black, speckled with red spots on lateral surface; under parts and medial surface of limbs, greyish white; tail patch to hips white; tail speckled reddish and black, tipped black.

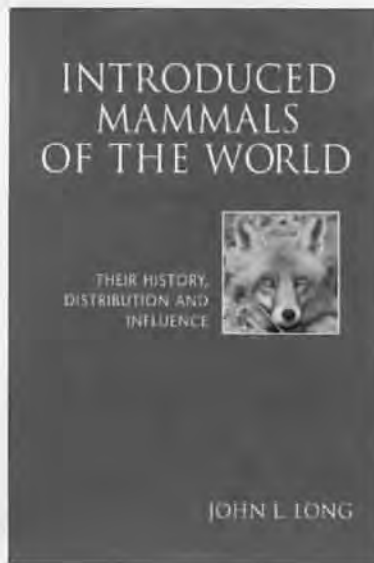
■ DISTRIBUTION

West Africa. Senegal through coastal west and central Africa to western Uganda.

■ HABITS AND BEHAVIOUR

Habits: agile, territorial. **Gregariousness:** groups or family parties of 8–20 and up to 38. **Movements:** no information. **Habitat:** rainforest, islands of forest in





**Introduced Mammals
of the World**
**Their History, Distribution
and Influence**
John L. Long

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