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WISSENSCHAFTLICHE KURZMITTEILUNGEN

G-band homology in two karyomorphs of the *Ctenomys pearsoni* complex (Rodentia: Octodontidae) of neotropical fossorial rodents

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Despite the extensive chromosomal variation reported in the genus *Ctenomys* (e.g. Reig and Kiblisky 1969), only the polytypism found in *C. torquatus* has been studied using banding techniques (Freitas and Lessa 1984). In this paper we study, by means of G-bands two karyomorphs of the *C. pearsoni* complex Lessa and Langguth 1983, which is closely related to *C. torquatus.* Standard karyotypes of the forms we have studied have been reported by Kiblisky et al. (1977).

Following Gallimore and Richards (1973), G-bands were obtained from bone marrow preparations of nine individuals from each of two localities: Carrasco (2N=56), and Autódromo (2N=70) (see Lessa and Langguth 1983 for precise locations).

The Figure presents the correspondence between the G-banded karyotypes of Carrasco and Autódromo. The main features arising from this comparison are: 1. 20 chromosomal pairs are identical in morphology and G-banding patterns; 2. metacentric pairs 2, 3, 6 and 10 from Carrasco correspond to 8 pairs of telocentrics from Autódromo; 3. four pairs of chromosomes from Autódromo and one pair from Carrasco are unique, i.e., lack any obvious correspondence in the other karyomorph.

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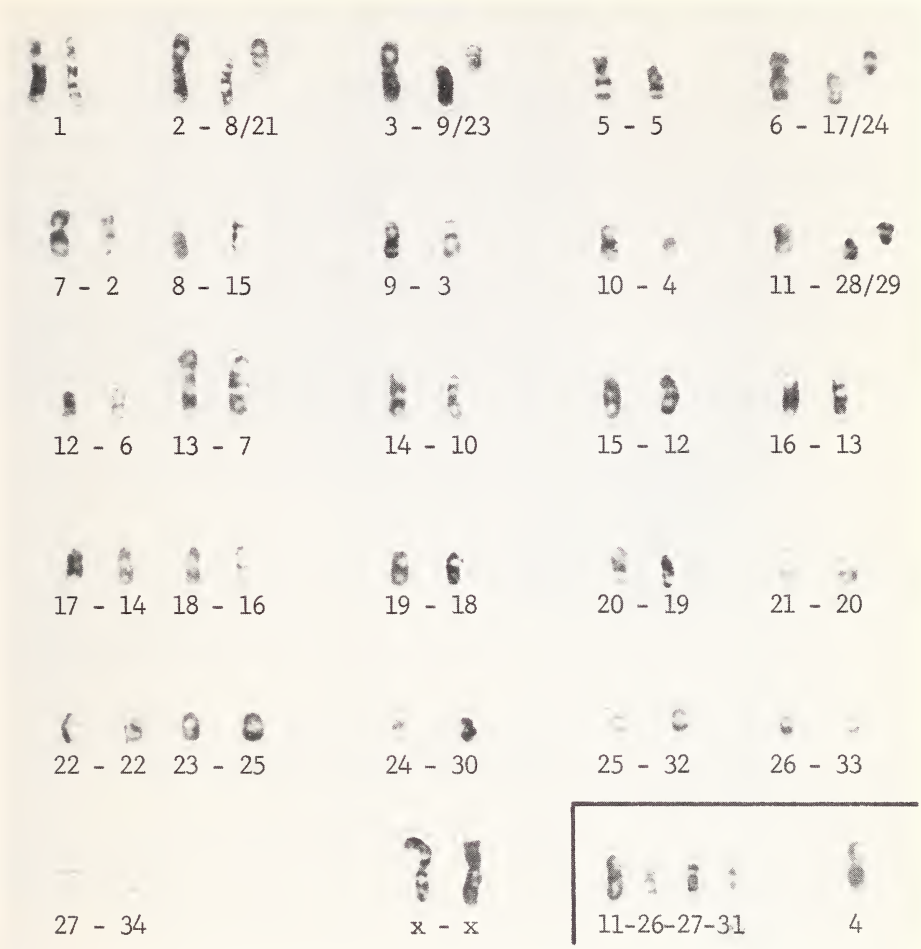

Combined G-banded karyotype of *Ctenomys pearsoni* from Carrasco (left) and Autódromo (right). Inset shows unmatched, unique chromosomes (4 pairs from Autódromo, 1 pair from Carrasco)

A comparison with the bands of *Ctenomys torquatus* (2N=44 and 46, Freitas and Lessa 1984) shows a more limited degree of homology. Pairs 2, 3, 4, 8, and 9 of that species are identical to pairs 2, 3, 7, 6, and 8 from Carrasco. Furthermore, the largest autosomes of the two taxa show a clear similarity in G-bands, but differ by a pericentric inversion.

Robertsonian translocations are the main type of rearrangements detected by G-band comparison of the two karyomorphs of *Ctenomys pearsoni*. However, a number of unique chromosomes indicate that other, more complex rearrangements have also taken place, to the point of making G-band homology impossible. This is even more clear in comparing *C. pearsoni* and the morphologically closely related *C. torquatus*.

These results strongly support the specific status of *C. pearsoni*, distinct from *C. torquatus*, as proposed by Lessa and Langguth (1983). In addition, the status of the karyomorphs of the *C. pearsoni* complex is uncertain. G-bands suggest that these forms differ by numerous and possibly complex rearrangements, which might be associated with specific differences.

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Zwergmaus, *Micromys minutus* (Pallas, 1778), baute in Hänflingsnest, *Acanthis cannabina* (L., 1758)

Von F. Goethe

Eingang des Ms. 27. 7. 1986

Während einer landschaftsökologischen Begehung eines marinefiskalischen Geländes südlich und südöstlich des Nordhafens von Wilhelmshaven fand G. Thesing, Institut für Vogelforschung, Vogelwarte Helgoland, Hauptsitz Wilhelmshaven, am 30. 12. 1985 bei leichter Schneelage in einem kleinen Weißdornbusch *(Crataegus monogyna)* in ca. 140 cm Höhe das Nest eines Hänflings, in welches Zwergmäuse ein Nest gebaut hatten (s. Abb.).

Auf dem aus trockenen Pflanzenstengeln (u.a. *Epilobium*-spec., *Ononis spinosa, Euphrasia officinalis*) gewirkten Hänflingsnest hatten die Nager ihr Nest aus *Phragmites*-Ährchen und *Poa trivialis*-Blättern etwas schräg aufgesetzt, so daß die einzige Öffnung unten etwa mit dem Rand des Vogelnestes abschließt (s. Abb.). Durchmesser und Höhe des Doppelnestes betragen ca. 100 mm.

Die Zwergmaus ist in dem angegebenen Gelände bereits früher nachgewiesen worden (Goethe 1962). Hänflinge haben sich infolge des mächtigen Anwachsens von Buschwerk, insbesondere *Sambucus nigra* und *Rosa canina*, in dem seit Jahrzehnten naturbelassenen Gebiet gegenüber früher (Bub 1962) noch weiter vermehrt.

Bislang wurden zwei derartige Zwergmaus-Singvogel-Nestkombinationen beschrieben: Böhme (1978) berichtet von einem von Kästle in einem Rohrsängernest gefundenen Zwergmausnest. Ein älterer Fall wurde aus Westfalen bekannt: auch hier hatte *Micromys* ein Nest in einem Nest von *Acrocephalus scirpaceus* angelegt (Feldmann 1984).

Das Doppelnest befindet sich in der Sammlung des Verfassers.

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