

Taxonomy There is no doubt that the African elephant shows considerable geographical variation, which is beautifully illustrated by Bosman & Hall-Martin (1986: 13). But delimitation of subspecies and their ranges presents considerable problems due mainly to the obvious difficulty of assembling adequate numbers of specimens. The subspecies limits in any arrangement must therefore be largely provisional. Ansell (1974a: 3) did not give any subspecies for Malawi, though listing the nominate race for Zambia. Lydekker (1907: 392) allocated the Mchinji specimen in the BM to *L. a. knochenhaueri* and the map in Frade (1955: 780) shows *knochenhaueri* in Malawi with the Zambian form indeterminate.

Order PERISSODACTYLA (Odd-toed ungulates)

Family RHINOCEROTIDAE (Rhinoceroses)

[Rookmaaker (1983: 40) mistakenly listed the White rhinoceros, *Ceratotherium simum* Burchell, as formerly occurring in Malawi on the authority of "Kirby, 1920: 224 (Mwanza bush, skulls found 1904)." This was a misinterpretation of Kirby who was explicit in stating that "... no trace of the animal has ever been found between the Zambezi River and its present range in the Nile region, a distance well over one thousand miles." Kirby also noted that: "On the east coast it occurred from Zululand up to the Zambezi, above where the Shire River enters the latter from the north and in 1904 the writer found two incomplete skulls near that spot in the Mwanza bush." One of Loveridge's collecting sites south of the Zambezi was a rocky ridge known locally as Mwanza (Loveridge, 1953: 466; 1954: 187) and, although this is a fair distance upstream from the Shire confluence, it may well be the place mentioned by Kirby. P.A. Clancey, 1971, A handlist of the birds of southern Mozambique, page 159 listed Muanza (*sic*) at 18°50'S. 34°50'E. In any case it is perfectly clear that the skulls were found on the southern side of the Zambezi and that Kirby's "Mwanza bush" was nothing whatever to do with the Mwanza River or Mwanza District in Malawi.]

Genus *DICEROS* Gray

Diceros Gray, 1821, London Medical Repository, 15: 306. Type species: *Rhinoceros bicornis* Linnaeus.

Diceros bicornis (Linnaeus)

MAP 100

Black rhinoceros

[*DICEROS BICORNIS BICORNIS* (Linnaeus)

Rhinoceros bicornis Linnaeus, 1758, Syst. Nat., Ed. 10, 1: 56. Type locality: "India"—Cape of Good Hope according to Thomas (1911, Proc. zool. Soc. London: 114). EXTRALIMITAL. Extinct (Groves, 1967; Rookmaaker & Groves, 1978).]

DICEROS BICORNIS MINOR (Drummond)

Rhinoceros africanus Kirk, 1864, Proc. zool. Soc. London: 655. *Nec Rhinoceros africanus* Blumenbach, 1797 which is a synonym of the nominate race.

Rhinoceros bicornis minor Drummond, 1876, Proc. zool. Soc. London: 109. Type locality: Zululand (see Groves, 1967: 273).

Diceros bicornis nyasae Zukowsky, 1964, Zool. Gart. (N.F.) 30: 93. Type locality: Karonga, Malawi and Niam-niam, east of Lake Rukwa, Tanzania. According to Mertens (1966) and Groves (1967: 273) this name is invalid as it was proposed by implication.

Specimens KM, BM, CUMZ.

Extralimital 1232-D-4, 1332-B-2, 1332-D-1 (Ansell, 1978: Map 120).

Habitat and habits Woodlands and thickets, marginally more open country. Solitary. **General** Rhinoceros were in the past found virtually throughout Malawi, except for the montane areas. They occurred among the foothills of the Nyika Plateau (McClounie, 1903: 429) but were never recorded on the plateau proper. Today they are found only in the Kasungu National Park and the Mwabvi Game Reserve, Jachmann (1984b) estimating 10–20 in Kasungu and no more than six or seven in Mwabvi.

Family EQUIDAE (Horses, asses, zebras)

Genus *EQUUS* Linnaeus

Equus Linnaeus, 1758, Syst. Nat., Ed. 10, 1: 73. Type species: *Equus caballus* Linnaeus (the domestic horse).

Equus burchellii (Gray)

MAP 101

Zebra. Burchell's zebra

[*EQUUS BURCHELLII BURCHELLII* (Gray)

Asinus burchellii Gray, 1824, Zool. J., 1: 247. Type locality: Little Klibbolokhoni Fontein, South Africa, 27°50'S. 24°25'E. EXTRALIMITAL.]

EQUUS BURCHELLII CRAWSHAI de Winton

Equus zebra Kirk (1864: 654). *Nec* Linnaeus, 1758 (the Mountain zebra).

Equus burchelli crawshai de Winton, 1896, Ann. Mag. nat. Hist., (6) 17: 319. Type locality: Henga highlands west of Lake Nyasa (= the Nyika Plateau).

Equus tigrinus Johnston, 1897, British Central Africa: 292. Type locality: "British Central Africa" (= Malawi).

Equus (Hippotigris) foai Prazak & Trouessart, 1899 (or 1898), Bull. Mus. H.N., Paris, 5: 350. Type locality: "Région montagneuse du sud du pays des Angonis sur la rive gauche (septentrionale) du Bas-Zambèze, en face de Tête". This is really too vague to locate exactly though it could possibly be the Kirk Range.

Equus annectens Rothschild, 1906, Proc. zool. Soc. London: 691. Type locality: near Fort Jameson (= Chipata), Zambia.

Specimens KM, NMB, BM, AMNH, MCZ.

Extralimital 0933-C-1, 0933-C-4, 1133-A-1, 1232-D-2, 1232-D-4, 1332-B-2, 1332-D-3 (Ansell, 1978: Map 121).

Habitat and habits Grassland, including montane grassland, and woodland, sometimes on broken hilly ground. Family groups of dominant male with females and young, and male bachelor groups; sometimes amalgamating into large herds. On the biology of the species on the Nyika Plateau see Lemon (1968).

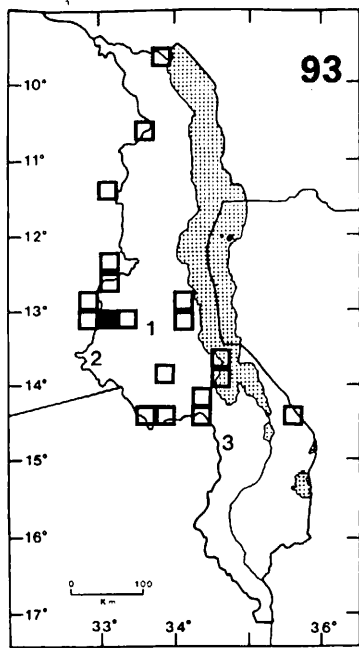
General Zebra were formerly widely and generally distributed in Malawi. Today they are greatly reduced occurring in some, though not all, of the protected areas. In June 1985 seven were reintroduced to the Liwonde N.P. (see page 18, footnote).

[Both the Mountain zebra, *Equus zebra* Linnaeus and the Wild ass, *Equus africanus* Fitzinger figured in early faunal legislation on the First Schedule, special licence only (Duff, 1903: 411). Neither species has ever been known anywhere near Malawi.]

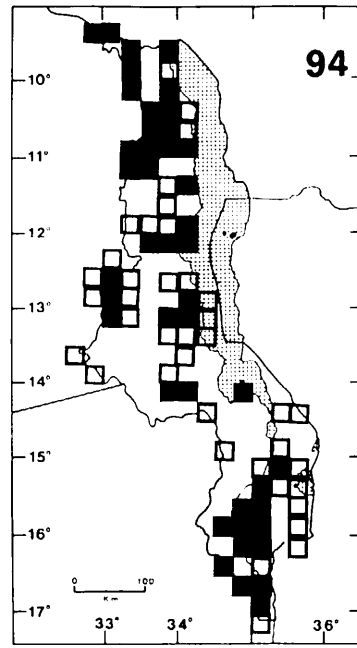
Order HYRACOIDEA

Family PROCAVIIDAE (Hyraxes or Dassies)

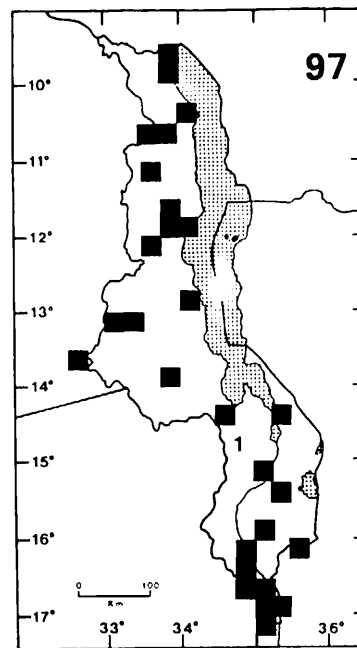
Bothma (1971) recognised *Heterohyrax* as a genus which Hoeck (1978) supported on the basis of additional anatomical and behavioural data. In view of the difficulty of distinguishing between *Procapia*, *Heterohyrax* and *Dendrohyrax* in the field we have been cautious in our acceptance of sight records for these genera.



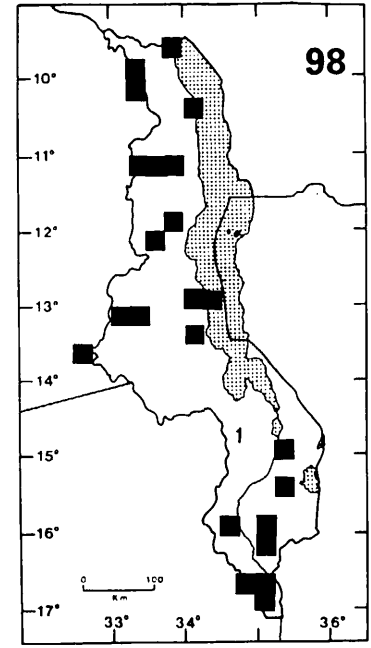
Acinonyx jubata
Chcctah



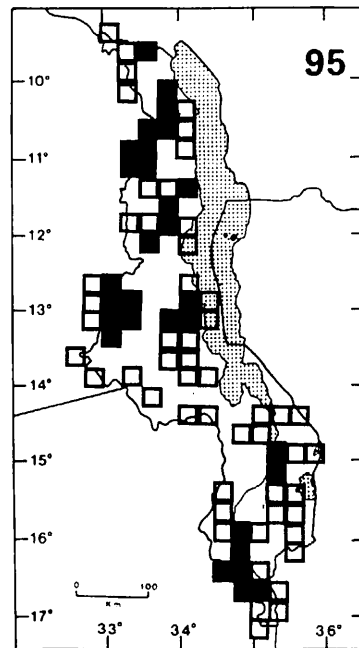
Panthera pardus
Leopard



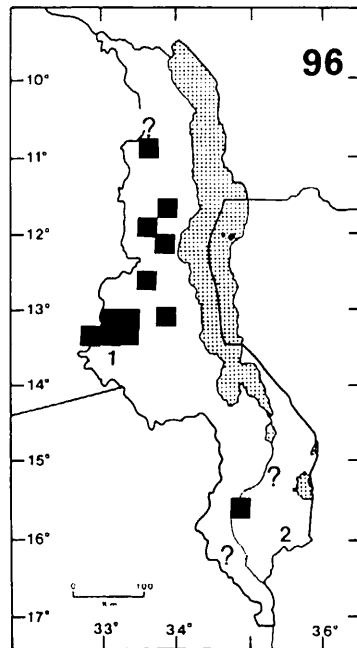
Felis serval
Serval



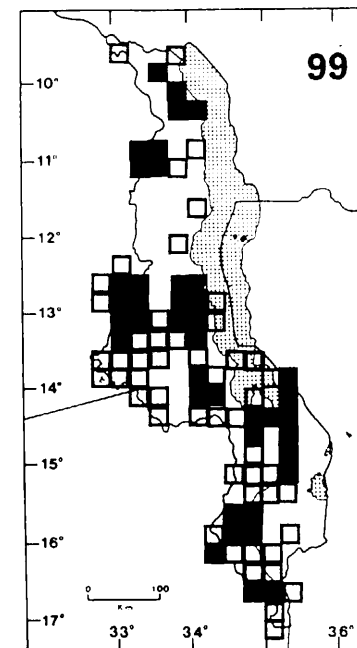
Felis lybica
Wild cat



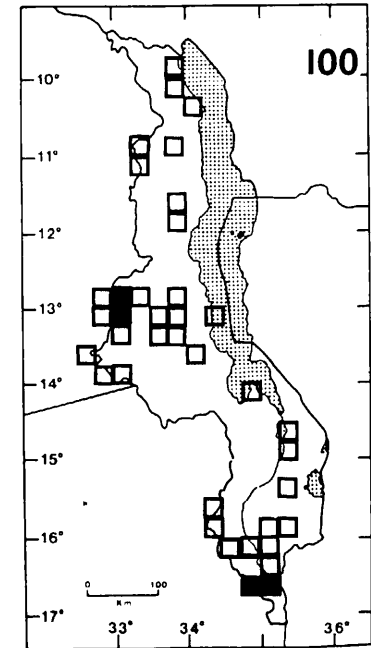
Panthera leo
Lion



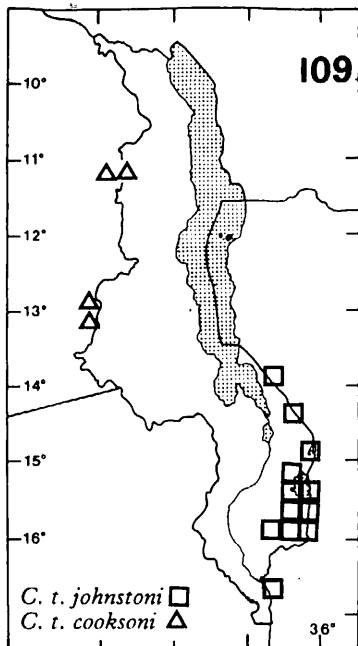
Felis caracal
Caracal



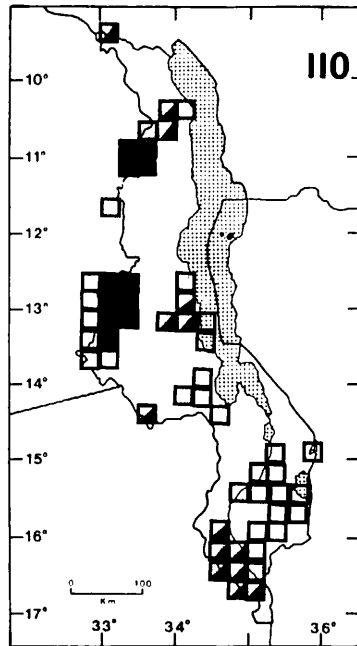
Loxodonta africana
Elephant



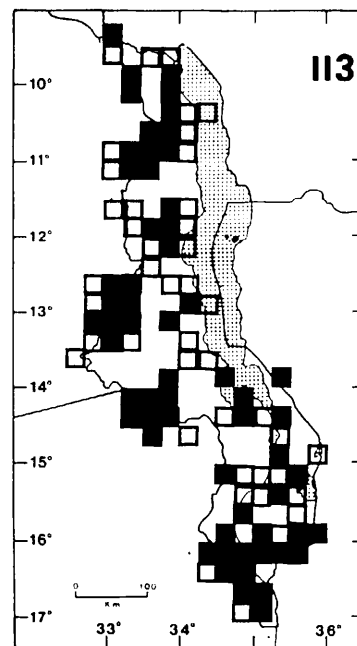
Diceros bicornis
Black rhinoceros



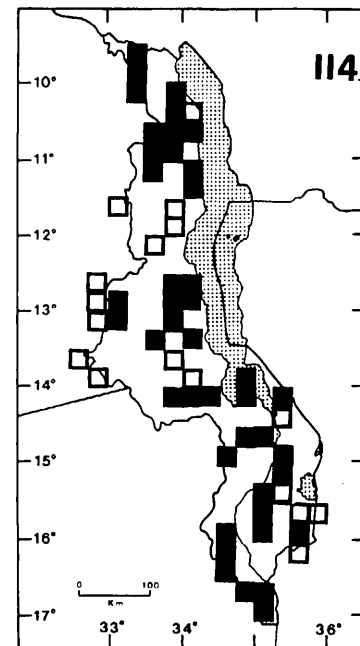
Connochaetes taurinus
Wildebeest



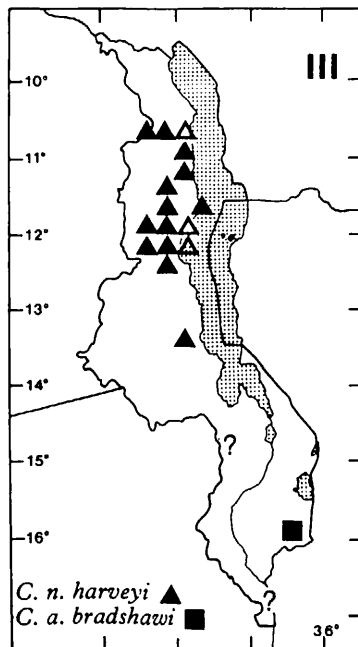
Sigmodoros lichtensteinii
Lichtenstein's hartebeest



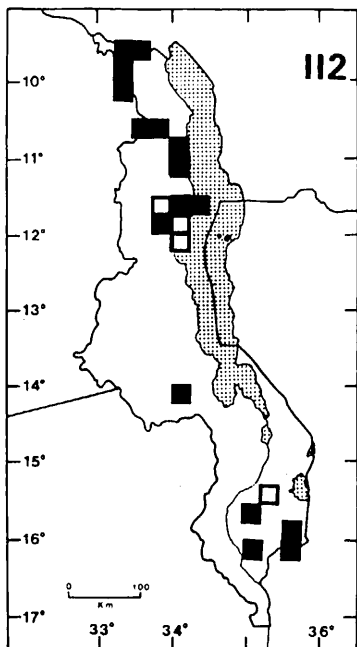
Sylvicapra grimmia
Common duiker



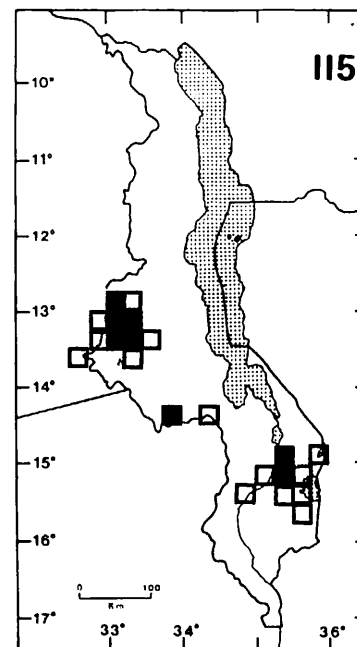
Oreotragus oreotragus
Klipspringer



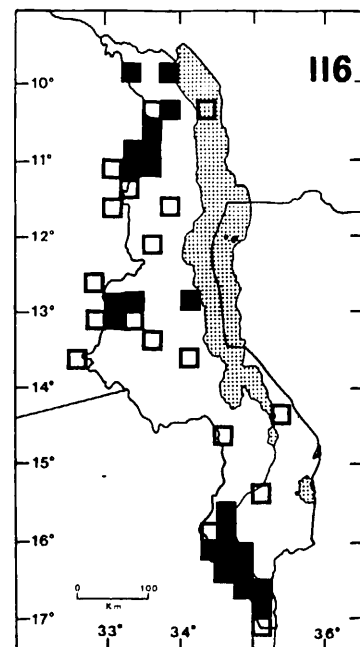
Cephalophus natalensis
Red forest duiker



Cephalophus monticola
Blue duiker



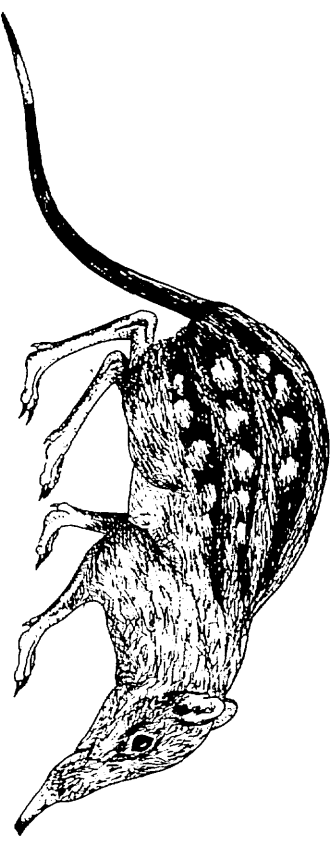
Ourebia ourebi
Reedbuck



Raphicerus sharpei
Kudu

MAMMALS OF MALAWI

An annotated check list and atlas



W.F.H. Ansell & R.J. Dowsett

1988

Stevens, The Treadmills Press



pp. [1-3], 1-170, [1-53]