

## *Microtus cabreræ* (Rodentia: Cricetidae)

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**Abstract:** *Microtus cabreræ* Thomas, 1906, or Cabrera's vole, is a medium-sized arvicoline, and one of the largest *Microtus* species. *M. cabreræ* is an Iberocitane endemic, which is currently restricted to the Iberian Peninsula, where it presents a highly fragmented distribution. The species is the sole extant representative of the anagenetic *Iberomys* lineage with origin in the early Pleistocene. *M. cabreræ* is primarily restricted to wet habitats dominated by tall grasses, sedges, and rushes. The species has experienced strong population declines mainly during the past 10 years, particularly due to agricultural intensification. *M. cabreræ* is currently classified by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources as "Near Threatened," and is listed in the Habitats Directive and Bern Convention, thus requiring appropriate conservation measures.

**Key words:** arvicoline, Cabrera vole, Cabrera's vole, Iberian Peninsula, Iberocitane endemic, *Iberomys*, Near Threatened species

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### *Microtus cabreræ* Thomas, 1906 Cabrera's Vole

*Microtus cabreræ* Thomas, 1906:576. Type locality "Sierra Guadarrama, near Rascafría, N. of Madrid, Altitude about 1000–1300 m."

*Microtus asturianus* Miller, 1908:198. Type locality "Pajares, León, Spain" (see "Nomenclatural Notes").

*Microtus dentatus* Miller, 1910:459. Type locality "Molinicos, Sierra da Segura, Abacete, Spain."

*Microtus cabrerai* Trouessart, 1910:181. Incorrect subsequent spelling of *Microtus cabreræ* Thomas, 1906 (see "Nomenclatural Notes").

*Iberomys cabreræ*: Cuenca-Bescós and Laplana, 1995:69. Name combination (see "Nomenclatural Notes").

*Iberomys dentatus*: Cuenca-Bescós and Laplana, 1995:69. Name combination (see "Nomenclatural Notes").

**CONTEXT AND CONTENT.** Order Rodentia, suborder Myomorpha, superfamily Muroidea, family Cricetidae, subfamily Arvicolinae, tribe Arvicolini, subgenus *Iberomys*. The subgenus is monotypic, containing a single extant species and *M. cabreræ* is currently considered monotypic (see "Nomenclatural Notes").

**NOMENCLATURE NOTES.** The species name *cabreræ* honors Angel Cabrera Latorre (1879–1960), a well-respected

mammalogist of the Museu Nacional de Ciencias Naturales in Madrid, who was mentored by Oldfield Thomas from the Natural History Museum in London (Tellado and Molina 2010). Thomas (1906) described the species from a single specimen collected in the same year by Manuel Martínez de la Escalera in Sierra Guadarrama, Spain. In addition to this type specimen, an additional specimen purchased from Émile Parzudaki, who was a natural history dealer, traveller,



**Fig. 1.**—Wild-ranging adult *Microtus cabreræ* (sex not determined) near Bicos, Odemira, southwestern Portugal (37°48'N, 8°30'W), May 2004. Photograph by Joaquim Pedro Ferreira used with permission.