TAXONOMY OF GRAPHIURUS (MAMMALIA: MYOXIDAE) BASED ON CLADISTIC ANALYSIS OF SKULL TRAITS

POTAPOVA, E. G. and PAVLINOV, I. YA.*

Institute of Ecology and Evolution, Russian Acad. of Sciences, Moscow, Russia *Zoological Museum, Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia

The genus *Graphiurus* is usually divided into 3 subgenera. However, no recent revision of the above-species taxonomy is available which is based on modern approaches. We conducted cladistic analysis of phylogenetic relationships among 11 *Graphiurus* species. The genus *Spermophilus* was used as the outgroup. The data matrix contained 27 characters of skull morphology. The results obtained confirm separation of all 3 subgenera recognized, but their contents differ from the traditional pattern. *Aethoglis* and *Claviglis* each appeared to be monotypic. Unlike the traditional allocation of most of *Graphiurus* species to the latter subgenus, the cladogram strongly supports their belonging to the subgenus *Graphiurus* sensu strictu.