A New Species of Dwarf Deer
(Previously as Genus Pudu Gray 1852)

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Overview

- Deer from South America have a complex and confusing taxonomy, caused by having been based only on morphology.
- In last years, genetics were used to clarify the phylogeny, and the resulting trees became scrambled. Several species resulted paraphyletic.
- Some problems were resolved and more questions were added. However, we haven’t found all species yet, and we surely also have several cryptic ones.
- The lack of resolution was caused mainly by large number of species analyzed, but few samples each.
Last Papers on the Subject


Phylogeny

Split was highly supported in the ML analysis, but in a different position.

Split was not present in the ML analysis.
Phylogeny
“Pudu” species

*Pudu pada*
Nominate species
Distributed at the south of the Andes, including the western lowland *Nothofagus* forests
Only species that should be allocated in this genus

*Pudu mephistophiles*
Should be assigned to the genus *Pudella*, described by Thomas in 1913 for the species *mephistophiles*
Very small deer distribution along the Andes

- Depicted in colors:
  - Light blue: *rufina*
  - Blue lines: *mephistophiles*
  - Dark pink: *chunyi*
  - Red-orange: *puda*

- Orange small distributions: currently as “Mazama”... different species?
Habitats: *mephistophiles* at paramo
Habitat: *species nova* at cloud forest
Lasts phylogenetic analyses

* 6-7% divergence between new species and *mephistophiles*
Very small deer distribution along the Andes

- **Depicted in colors:**
  - Light blue: *rufina*
  - Blue lines: *mephistophiles*
  - Green: **new species** (*sp. nov.*)
  - Dark pink: *chunyi*
  - Red-orange: *puda*

- **Orange small distributions:** currently as “Mazama”... different species?
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