

## THE WHITE-LIPPED PECCARY IN THE STATE OF VERACRUZ, MEXICO

By WALTER W. DALQUEST.  
Museum of Natural History,  
University of Kansas. Lawrence,  
Kansas, U. S. A.

In the spring of 1947, while I was collecting mammals in southern Veracruz, Mexico, residents reported a large mammal, Marina, which, from the description, seemed to be the White-lipped Peccary. I first heard of it when I was near the mouth of the Río Coatzacoalcos; there it was said to be rare. Later, at the village of Jimba, my headquarters near the uninhabited "Rincón" area, a larger peninsula-like area of Veracruz that projects southeastward into the state of Oaxaca, I was told that the Marina was fairly common, but I failed to obtain a specimen. At Jimba two chairs, said to be of the hides of Marinas, were examined in a native house. The skins were of the Collared Peccary, *Tayassu tajaca* (Linnaeus), and I wondered if Marina was anything more than an exceptionally large Collared Peccary.

In January, 1948, I heard vague reports of Marinas in the Tuxtla mountains, but no person questioned admitted to having actually seen one.

In February, 1948, Marinas were reported as locally abundant on the upper reaches of the Río Coatzacoalcos. One place, in particular, was often visited by bands of hunters, and I was invited to join them in a hunt on February 11. Because I had previously planned a trip to one of the tributaries of the Río Coatzacoalcos for that date, I could not go with the hunters. They were requested to bring in the skulls of any Marinas which they might kill. I returned to the Río Coatzacoalcos on February 20, to find that seven Marinas had been killed but that no skulls had been saved.

I offered a reward of twenty-five pesos for the skin and skull of a Marina. On April 15 the skull and the corresponding fresh skin, without the lower legs, of a Marina were brought in by a hunter. The skull was in good condition except that it had been dried over a fire and the occipital crest had been charred by the flames. It was the White-lipped Peccary, **Tayassu pecari ringens** Merriam.

The only published record of the White-lipped Peccary in Mexico seems to be Merriam's (Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, vol. 14, p. 12, 1901) description of **Tayassu albirostris ringens** based on a single specimen from Apazote, Campeche. Our specimen (K. U. number 24562) from 20 kilometers east of Jesús Carranza, Veracruz, marks an extension of known geographic range of approximately 570 kilometers to the west-southwest.

Transmitted June 8, 1949.

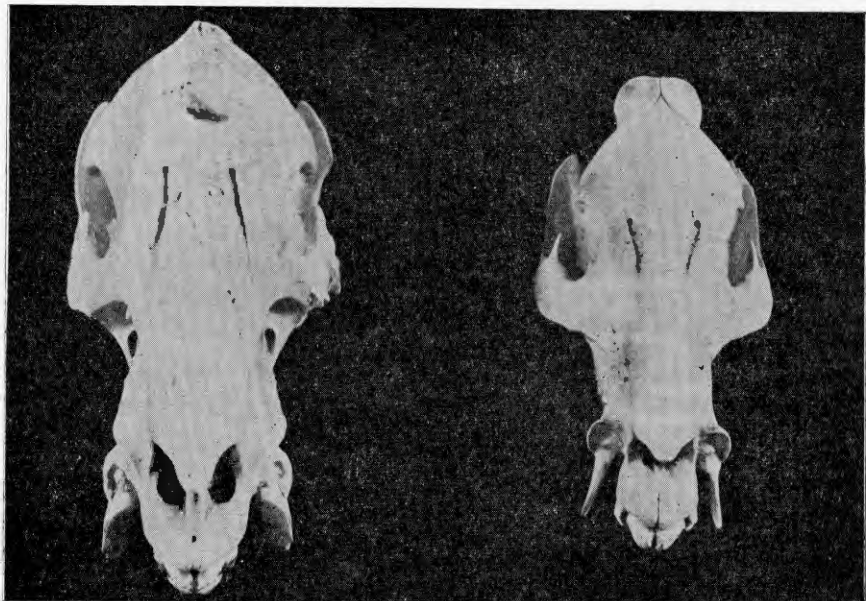


Fig. 1.—Skull of White-lipped Peccary (K. U. 24562, left) from 20 kilometers east of Jesús Carranza, 300 feet elevation and Collared Peccary (K. U. 24561, right) from 32 kilometers east-southeast of Jesús Carranza, 350 feet elevation. Note powerful rostrai area, thick tusks and poorly developed flange at lateral base of the canine teeth in the White-lipped Peccary

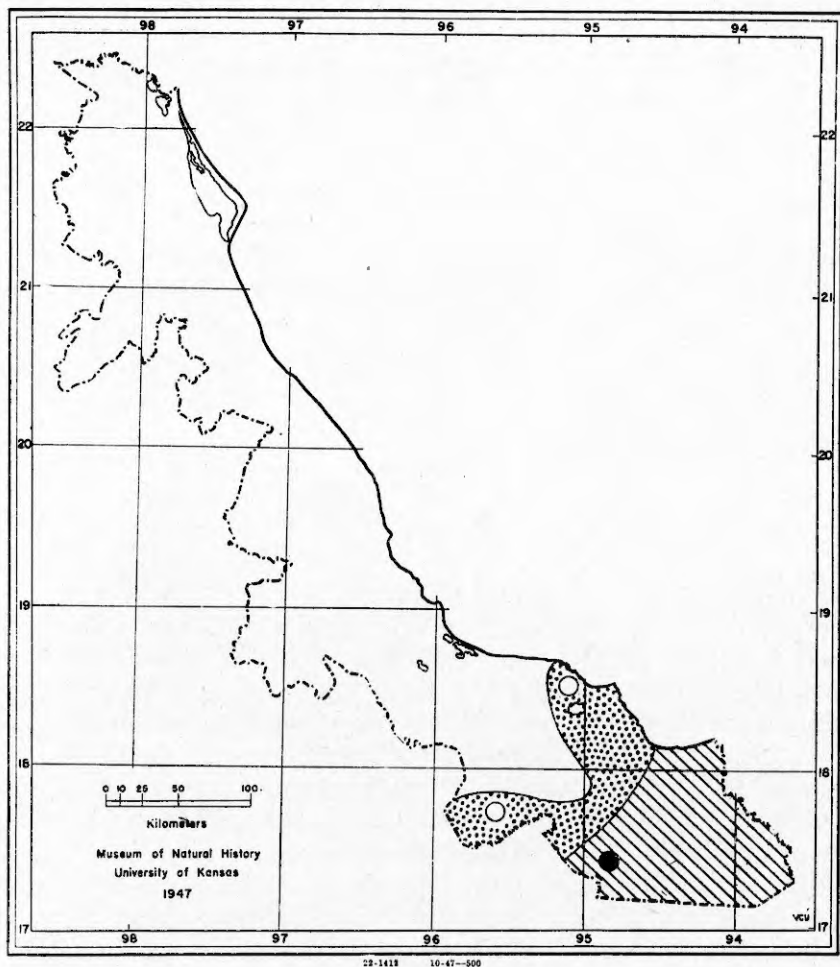


Fig. 2.—Distribution of the White-lipped Peccary in Veracruz. Solid circle indicates specimen examined. Hollow circles indicate northernmost reports of occurrence. Diagonal lines indicate probable geographic range in the state. Stippled area indicates suitable habitat and possible range