

**Survey of Rodents Found in Mt. Palay-palay**

**Ternate, Cavite**

**An Undergraduate Thesis**

**Presented to**

**the Faculty of College of Arts and Sciences**

**De La Salle University-Dasmariñas**

**Dasmariñas, Cavite**

**In Partial Fulfillment**

**of the Requirements for the Degree**

**Bachelor of Science in Biology**

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**ABSTRACT**

**NAME OF INSTITUTION:** De La Salle University-Dasmariñas

**ADDRESS:** Bagong Bayan, Dasmariñas, Cavite

**TITLE:** Survey of Rodents Found in Mt. Palay-palay Ternate, Cavite

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**COST:** P 5,000

**DATE STARTED:** October, 1996

**DATE COMPLETED:** February, 1998

**OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY:**

This study aimed to know the different species of rodents found in Mt. Palay-palay Ternate, Cavite, also their distribution or relative abundance.

**SCOPE AND COVERAGE:**

This study was conducted at Ternate, Cavite. The researchers used baits, live traps and snap traps, which helped them in trapping the rats.

**METHODOLOGY:**

**Research Design**

This is a descriptive study that used the survey method in the collection and identification of rodents found in Mt. Palay-palay/Mataas na Gulod National Park, Ternate, Cavite.

**Research Setting:**

The survey of rodents was conducted at Mt. Palay-palay/Mataas na Gulod National Park, Ternate, Cavite. The slope of the area is generally characterized as rolling to moderately sloping and in some portions, steep to generally steep. The slope gradient ranges from 400-648 m above sea level.

**Research Procedure:**

Traps used for rodents were snap traps and live traps. They were set in lines of 20-50 m, with traps in each line set singly and spaced at 5-15 m interval at the height of 500 m above sea level. Traps were set in places where there is some evidence of mammal activity such as near holes along runways, beside logs or in openings of the tree root systems. Most traps were tied by a rope at a particular tree. A thick ribbon was used to tie around the tree and served as a mark for us to locate our traps retrieving on the following morning. Two kinds of baits were used, one is the fresh-fried coconut meat coated with peanut butter and the other one is dried fish. For preserving the rats that had been collected, the researchers washed them first with water and soap and soaked them inside a large container containing solutions of 10% ethyl alcohol and 10% formalin. Identification of collected rats was facilitated by Mr. Arvin Diesmus.

**MAJOR FINDINGS:**

One hundred eighty five trap nights yielded four rats all belonging to species Rattus tanezumi.

**CONCLUSION:**

With the 185 trap nights conducted at Mt. Palay-palay to survey the species of rats inhabiting the area, it was found out that the only present was Rattus tanezumi. Failure to collect other rats could be attributed to the unpredictable weather condition and the altitude from where traps were set.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Results of the study revealed that only one species of rate inhabit Mt. Palay-palay. It is recommended that future studies should consider additional trap nights. Collection should also be done at different seasons and altitudes.