

The Etymology of Scientific Names for Korean Mammals

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ABSTRACT

Etymologies are explanations of what our words meant and how they sounded 600 to 2,000 years ago. When Linnaeus in the mid-1700s began naming animals with a binomial nomenclature, he based names on the Latin Grammatical Form. Since many names have Latin or Greek roots, the name for an animal is the same throughout the world because Latin is no longer a spoken language and meanings of names will not evolve or change. In his use of Latin or a Latinized word for the genus and species, Linnaeus used descriptive words that will always be the same. Notwithstanding the importance of etymologies for scientific names, no study has addressed the etymology of scientific names for Korean mammals. Here, we list etymologies for scientific names of 127 mammal species, 84 genera, 32 families, and 8 orders from Korea. The origins of etymologies are mostly based on morphology, color of pelage, behavior, distribution, locality, country name, or a person's name. This paper will be useful for new students and trained scholars studying Korean mammals.

Keywords: etymology, Greek, Korea, Latin, mammals, scientific name

INTRODUCTION

Currently, 127 species of mammals are reported from Korea (Jo et al., 2018a, 2018b). Unfortunately, most large mammals in the country became extirpated, and the remaining large and meso-sized mammals have declined since the 20th century (Jo and Baccus, 2015, 2016). Since mammals are charismatic, the public has a great interest in mammals. Also, mammals have a significant role in biological conservation and restoration (Jo et al., 2018b). Despite this interest in mammals, few biologists have published taxonomic studies on the mammals of Korea (Jo et al., 2018a). Although the mammalian fauna in Korea was studied with Japan and Manchuria during the Japanese invasion until 1945, the first comprehensive study of the mammals of Korea was published in the late 1960s by Won (1967) and Won (1968) in South Korea and North Korea, respectively. Since the publication of these two books on the mammals of Korea, revision of the taxonomy of Korean mammals had rarely occurred until the National Institute of Biological Resources

published *The Mammals of Korea* in 2018 (Jo et al., 2018b). However, even the most recent publication on Korean mammals was deficient in an extensive disclosure of the etymology of scientific names for the mammals of Korea.

A name can be a source for identification of an established item including living organisms (Srinivasulu, 2018). Since Linnaeus (1759), the Latinized binomial nomenclature shaped the essence of scientific names and taxonomic studies. The definition of Latin words is one of the most crucial factors to study (Simpson, 1961). Nevertheless, Greek- and Latin-based names are difficult for not only new students in this field of study but also trained scholars (Stangl et al., 1993). Furthermore, the meaning of scientific names supplies information about the taxon, such as morphology, color of pelage, behavior, distribution, locality, country name, or a person's name (Simpson, 1961). Since implementation of the first mammalian study in Korea in the late 19th century (Giglioli and Salvadori, 1887), the etymologies of the scientific names for Korean mammals remained unpublished.

We had three aims for our paper: (1) to publish the etymo-

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logies of the scientific names for the mammals of Korea for science, (2) to provide students a tool for learning the scientific names of the mammals of Korea, and (3) to produce a research resources for professional mammalian taxonomists.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

For species accounts, we followed the most recent list of Korean mammals (Jo et al., 2018a). We used online dictionaries for Greek and Latin such as ‘Wiktionary (<http://en.wiktionary.org>)’ (Wikimedia Foundation, 2019) or ‘the online etymology dictionary (<http://www.etymonline.com>)’ (The Sociologist, 2017). We used sites for elusive terms, ‘Latin-Greek Derivatives’ (<http://www.angelfire.com/de/nestsite/modbiogreek.html>) (Emmeluth, 2014), and ‘list of Latin and Greek words used in systematics’. ‘ (http://www.wikiwand.com/en/List_of_Latin_and_Greek_words_commonly_used_in_systematic_names)’ (Wikiwand, 2016), ‘Aquatinal Latin (<http://aquaticallatin.info/>)’ (Hayes, 2021) and ‘A Mammalian Lexicon (http://msu.edu/~mcelhinny/zoology/mammal_words.htm)’ (Mcelhinny, 2014)’

We followed Beolens et al. (2009) for eponyms. Place names are made specific with the current name in parenthesis. We abbreviated Greek and Latin as ‘Gr.’ and ‘L.’, respectively. We checked the first descriptive paper for each species to verify the accuracy of etymologies listed in this paper, and used ‘Google Translate (<http://translate.google.com>)’, for languages foreign to us.

The taxonomy follows *Mammal of Korea* (Jo et al., 2018a). Above genus level, we follow the third edition of *Mammal species of the world* (Wilson and Reeder, 2005). For the order species, we organized it alphabetically.

RESULTS

Order Lagomorpha Brandt, 1855

[Lagos (Gr.) = hare + Morphe (Gr.) = form]

The order name comes from the Greek word, ‘lagos’ which means hare. The suffix for order name, ‘-morpha’ also comes from the Greek word, morphe, which means ‘form’.

Family Ochotonidae Thomas, 1897

[Ogdoj (Mongolian)=pika or Ogotno (Mongolian)=field mouse]

The family name comes from the type genus *Ochotona*. The genus name for pika, *Ochotona*, might be derived from the Mongolian word, ‘Ogdoj’, which refers to pika or another Mongolian word, ‘Ogotno’, meaning field mouse.

However, Jaeger (1960) purported the name came from the Tartar name of pika or little chief-hare.

Genus *Ochotona* Link, 1795

Ochotona is the type genus of Ochotonidae (see the family section).

Ochotona coreana Allen and Andrews, 1913 - Korean Pika [coreana = Coreia (Korea)]

The specific epithet, *coreana* comes from Coreia (Korea).

Family Leporidae Fischer, 1817

[Lepus (L.) = hare]

The family name comes from the type genus *Lepus*, which is Latin word for hare.

Genus *Lepus* Linnaeus, 1758

The generic name *Lepus* stands for the Latin name for hare.

Lepus coreanus Thomas, 1892 - Korean Hare

[coreanus = Coreia]

The specific epithet *coreanus* equals a Latinized name for the main distribution of the species, Coreia (Korea).

Lepus mandshuricus Radde, 1861 - Manchurian Hare

[mandshuricus = Manchuria]

Like *L. coreanus*, the specific name, *mandshuricus*, came from the primary distribution, Manchuria

Order Erinaceomorpha Gregory, 1910

[Ericius (L.) = hedgehog or spiked barrier + Morphe (Gr.) = form]

The Latin word, ‘Ericius’ means a spike barrier, which represents a hedgehog. The Greek suffix for order name, ‘-morpha’ means ‘form’.

Family Erinaceidae G. Fischer, 1814

Since the family and Order name come from the type genus *Erinaceus*, Erinaceidae and Erinaceomorpha have the same etymology.

Genus *Erinaceus* Linnaeus, 1758

The Latin generic name stands for hedgehog.

Erinaceus amurensis Schrenk, 1858 - Amur Hedgehog

[amurensis = Amur]

The specific epithet, *amurensis* comes from Amur Region, a constituent entity of the Russian Federation and the Far Eastern Federal District, the main distribution of this species.

Order Soricomorpha Gregory, 1910

[Sorex (L.) from hurax (Gr.) = Shrew + Morphe (Gr.) = form]

This order name derives from a combination of 'Sorex' and 'morpha'. Sorex is the type genus name, which follows the Latin word for shrew. The Latin word, Sorex comes from the Greek word, 'huarx'. '-morpha' means 'form' in Greek.

Family Soricidae G. Fischer, 1814

Like the order, the family name comes from the type genus *Sorex*.

Genus *Crocidura* Wagler, 1832

[Crocid = Krokos (Gr.) = yellow or wool + oura (Gr.) = tail]

Crocidura derives from two Greek words, 'Krokos (crocid)' and 'oura'. 'Krokos' means yellow or wool and 'oura' means a tail. This generic name means woolen-like tail (Palmer and Merriam, 1904).

Crocidura lasiura Dobson, 1890 - Ussuri White-toothed Shrew

[las (Gr.) = hairy + oura]

The specific epithet, *lasiura* also comes from two Greek words, 'las (hair)' and 'oura (tail)'.

Crocidura shantungensis Miller, 1901 - Asian Lesser White-toothed Shrew

[shantungensis = Shandong, China]

The specific epithet, *shantungensis* comes from its type locality Shandong, China.

Genus *Neomys* Kaup, 1829

[Neo (Gr.) = New + mys (Gr.) = mouse]

A combination of two Greek words, 'neo (new)' and 'mys (mouse)' form the generic name *Neomys*.

Neomys fodiens Pennant, 1771 - Eurasian Water Shrew

[fodiens (L.) = digging]

The specific epithet *fodiens* originated from Latin and means digging.

Genus *Sorex* G. Fischer, 1814

[Sorex (L.) from hurax (Gr.)]

The Latin genus name, *Sorex* means shrew (see the order section).

Sorex mirabilis Ognev, 1937 - Ussuri Shrew

[mirabilis (L.) = wonderful]

The specific epithet *mirabilis* means 'wonderful' in Latin.

Sorex daphaenodon Thomas, 1907 - Siberian Large-toothed

Shrew

[daphaeno = predaceous (Gr.) + don (Gr.) = tooth]

The specific epithet *daphaenodon* comes from Greek words. 'Daphaeno' means 'predaceous' and 'odon (odontis)' means 'tooth' (Colbert, 1935).

Sorex gracillimus Thomas, 1907 - Slender Shrew

[gracilli (L.) = slender + mus (L.) = mouse]

The specific epithet comes from its morphology. *gracillimus* means slender mouse in Latin. 'gracillis' is the Latin word for slender and 'mus' is 'mouse' in Latin.

Sorex minutissimus Zimmermann, 1780 - Eurasian Least Shrew

[minut (L.) = tiny + mus (L.) = mouse]

The specific epithet *minutissimus* means a tiny mouse in Latin.

Sorex isodon Turov, 1924 - Taiga Shrew

[iso = equal (Gr.) + odon (Gr.) = teeth]

The Greek word 'iso' denotes 'equal' and 'odon' connotes 'teeth' in Greek. The specific epithet represents its even dentition.

Sorex caecutiens Laxmann, 1788 - Laxmann's Shrew

[caecus (L.) = blind; caecutiens = seeing badly]

The Latin word, 'caecus' means blind and 'caecutiens' indicates 'seeing badly'.

Family Talpidae G. Fischer, 1814

[Talp (L.) = mole]

The family name comes from the type genus *Talpa*, which is the Latin name for mole, 'Talp' (Borrer, 1960).

Genus *Mogera* Pomel, 1848

[mogura (Japanese) = mole]

The genus name *Mogera* comes from Japanese, 'mogura (モグラ)', which means 'mole'.

Mogera robusta Nehring, 1891 - Ussuri Mole

[robusta (L.) = strong]

The specific epithet, *robusta* from Latin implying 'strong'.

Order Chiroptera Blumenbach, 1779

[chiro (L.) = digit + ptera (L.) = wing]

The order name comes from Latin. The Latin prefix 'Chiro-' indicates 'hand' or 'digit', which is from the Greek word for hand, 'Kheir'. The Latin suffix '-ptera' denotes wing, which comes from the Greek word for wing, 'pteron'.

Family Rhinolophidae Gray, 1825

[Rhino (Gr.) = nose + lophos (Gr.) = crest]

The family name comes from the type genus *Rhinolophus*, which depicts the morphology of this taxon. ‘Rhino’ is the Greek word for nose and ‘lophos’, Greek for crest. Bats in this family have a crested nose.

Genus *Rhinolophus* Lacepede, 1799

[Rhino (Gr.) = nose + lophos (Gr.) = crest]

Rhinolophus is the only extant genus in the family. The generic name *Rhinolophus* has the Greek etymology (see the family name).

Rhinolophus ferrumequinum (Schreber, 1774) - Greater Horseshoe Bat

[ferrum (L.) = iron + equinus (L.) = of horse]

A combination of two Latin words, ‘ferrum (iron)’ and ‘equinus (of horse)’ form the specific epithet. Therefore, the Latin name suggests horseshoe.

Family Molossidae Gervais, 1856

[Moloss (Gr.) = wolf or dog (Dog-faced or mastiff type dog)]

The family name comes from the type genus *Molossus*, which has a New World distribution. Molossus stands for a king in Greek mythology. The name represents a Mastiff-type dog breed. The name depicts the dog-like face of these bats.

Genus *Tadarida* Rafinesque, 1814

[Tadarida = withered toad (L.) but it’s dubious and no consensus]

Although the genus name *Tadarida* connotes a ‘withered toad’ in Latin (Schwartz and Schwartz, 2001), Riccucci (2015) assumed that Rafinesque named the genus using the Calabrian and Sicilian dialect for a bat. There is no consensus for the genus name.

Tadarida insignis (Blyth, 1862) - East Asian Free-tailed Bat

[insignis (L.) = remarkable]

The specific epithet *insignis* comes from Latin meaning ‘remarkable’ due to its rapid growth.

Family Vespertilionidae Gray, 1821

[Vesper (L.) = evening]

Vespertilionidae comes from the type genus *Vespertilio*. The family name explains the flight behavior of these bats. The Latin word, ‘vesper’ means evening.

Genus *Murina* Gray, 1842

[Mur (L.) = mouse]

The genus name *Murina* comes from the Latin word ‘Mur (mouse)’. It also means mouse-colored or gray-colored in

Latin.

Murina hilgendorfi Peters, 1880 - Hilgendorf’s Tube-nosed Bat

[hilgendorfi = Hilgendorf (name of person)]

The specific name honors Franz Martin Hilgendorf (1839–1904), a German zoologist (Beolens et al., 2009).

Murina ussuriensis Ognev, 1913 - Ussurian Tube-nosed Bat

[ussuriensis = Ussuri]

The specific epithet, *ussuriensis* comes from its type locality, Ussuri, a river in east Asia, forming part of the boundary between eastern Manchuria and the southeastern Russian Federation in Asia.

Genus *Plecotus* E. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, 1818

[Pleko (Gr.) = twist or fold + otus/ous/otos (Gr.) = ear]

Plecotus depicts the ear morphology of these bats. In Greek, ‘Pleko’ means twist or fold and ‘otus’, ear.

Plecotus ognevi Kishida, 1927 - Ognev’s Long-eared Bat

[ognevi = Ognev (name of person)]

The specific epithet, *ognevi* honors a Russian mammalogist, Sergei Ivanovich Ognev (1886–1951; Beolens et al., 2009).

Genus *Myotis* Kaup, 1829

[Mys (Gr.) = mouse + Otos (Gr.) = ear]

The genus name, *Myotis* has a combination of two Greek words, ‘Mys (mouse)’ and ‘Otos (ear)’.

Myotis rufoniger (Tomes, 1858) - Red and Black Myotis

[rufus (L.) = red + niger (L.) = black]

The specific epithet, *rufoniger* means red (rufus) and black (niger) in Latin.

Myotis bombinus Thomas, 1906 - Far Eastern Myotis

[bombinus = bombos (Gr.) = booming sound]

The specific epithet *bombinus* is derived from a Greek word, ‘bombos’, which means a buzzing sound.

Myotis macrodactylus (Temminck, 1838) - Big-footed Myotis

[macro (Gr.) = big + dactyl (Gr.) = toe]

The specific epithet, *macrodactylus* means big foot in Greek. ‘Macro-’ is a prefix for large and ‘dactyl’ is a foot.

Myotis petax Hollister, 1912 - Eastern Water Bat

[petax (L.) = catching at]

The specific epithet, *petax* remains uncertain. In Latin, ‘petax’ forms an adjective meaning ‘catching at’.

Myotis longicaudatus Ognev, 1927 - Long-tailed Myotis

[longi (L.) = long + cauda (L.) = tail + atus (L.) = adjective suffix]

The word, *longicaudatus* means long tailed in Latin. 'Longi-' is a Latin prefix for long, 'cauda' is a tail, and '-atus' is a suffix for forming adjectives from nouns.

Myotis ikonnikovi Ognev, 1912 - Ikonnikov's Myotis
[ikonnikovi = Ikonnikov (name of person)]

The specific epithet, *ikonnikovi* was named after a Russian entomologist, Nikolaus F. Ikonnikov (dates not found), who collected bats in Siberia and sent them to Ognev (Beolens et al., 2009).

Myotis sibiricus (Kastshenko, 1905) - Siberian Myotis
[sibiricus = Siberia]

This species mostly inhabits Siberia and the specific epithet, *sibiricus* recognizes the Siberian location.

Myotis davidii (Peters, 1869) - David's Myotis
[davidii = David (name of person)]

According to Peters (1869), the type specimen was collected by Armand David (1826–1900) in Beijing and sent to Paris. Therefore, the specific name was after David.

Genus *Nyctalus* Bowditch, 1825
[Nyx, Nyctos (Gr.) = night + ala (L.) = wing]

A combination of a Greek word, 'Nyctos (night)' and Latin word, 'ala (wing)' forms the genus name.

Nyctalus aviator Thomas, 1911 - Bird-like Noctule
[aviator (French) = flyer]

The specific epithet, *aviator* comes from the French word 'aviateur' meaning flyer. The French word derived from Latin 'avis (bird)'.

Nyctalus fuscus Imaizumi and Yoshiyuki, 1968 - Japanese Noctule

[fuscus = dark, brown, black, dusky]

The Latin word, *fuscus* means dark or black colored. The Korean population was classified as *N. noctula*. The specific name *noctula* comes from Latin, 'noctis (night)'.

[noctula (noctis, L.) = night]

Genus *Vespertilio* Linnaeus, 1758
[Vesper (L.) = evening]

Vespertilio is the type genus for the family Vespertilionidae. The genus name derived from the Latin word evening (see the family section).

Vespertilio murinus Linnaeus, 1758 - Particolored Bat
[mus (L.) = mouse]

The specific name also comes from the Latin word, 'mus (mouse)'.

Vespertilio sinensis (Peters, 1880) - Asian Particolored Bat
[sinensis = Chinese]

The specific epithet, *sinensis* stands for its main distribution. 'Sinensis' is 'Chinese' in Latin.

Genus *Eptesicus* Rafinesque, 1820

Eptesicus nilssonii (Keyserling et Blasius, 1839) - Northern Bat

[Epten (Gr.) = fly + esicus (oikos, Gr.) = house]

The generic name *Eptesicus* comes from its nesting behavior. *Eptesicus* bats frequently roost in a house or building. The name is a combination of Greek words, Epten (fly) and esicus (= oikos, house).

[nilssonii = Nilsson (name of person)]

nilssonii honors a Swedish zoologist, Sven Nilsson (1787–1883; Beolens et al., 2009).

Eptesicus serotinus (Schreber, 1774) - Common Serotine
[sero (L.) = late + -tinus (L.) = time (adj)]

The specific epithet means 'late' in Latin. The name explains the late daily time of occurrence of this bat.

Genus *Pipistrellus* Kaup, 1829

[Pipio (L.) = I squeak]

Pipistrellus comes from Italian, 'pipistrello (bat)'. 'Pipio' means 'I squeak or chirp' in Latin. *Pipistrellus* bats use audible squeaking.

Pipistrellus abramus (Temminck, 1838) - Japanese Pipistrelle
[abramus = abram, Abraham (name of person)]

Although *abramus* comes from name Abram or Abraham, Temminck (1838) did not provide information about the name.

Pipistrellus endoi Imaizumi, 1959 - Endo's Pipistrelle
[endoi = Endo (name of person)]

The specific epithet, *endoi* comes from Mr. Kimio Endo (1933–), who collected the type specimen of this species and Imaizumi named it in honor of him (Beolens et al., 2009).

Genus *Hypsugo* Kolenati, 1856

[Hyps (Gr.) = on high aloft]

The genus name derived from the Greek word, 'hyps' means 'height', 'aloft', or 'high'.

Hypsugo alaschanicus (Bobrinskoj, 1926) - Alashanian Pipistrelle

[*alaschanicus* = Alashan (Mt. Haran)]

The specific epithet comes from the type locality, Alashan (Mt. Haran).

Family *Miniopteridae* Dobson, 1875

[*Minio* = *minum* (L.) = bright red + *pteron* (Gr.) = wing]

The family name comes from the type genus *Miniopterus*. 'Minus' from Latin means 'less' and 'pteron', a Greek word for wing. Therefore, the name means narrow-winged.

Genus *Miniopterus* Bonaparte, 1837

[*Minio* = *minum* (L.) = bright red + *pteron* (Gr.) = wing]

The generic name has a combination of Latin and Greek (see the family section).

Miniopterus fuliginosus (Hodgson, 1835) - Eastern Bent-winged Bat

[*fuligo* (L.) = smoke + *osus* (L.) = full of]

The specific epithet, *fuliginosus* comes from the Latin word for smoky.

Miniopterus fuscus Bonhote, 1902 - Southeast Asian Long-fingered Bat

[*fuscus* (L.) = dark, dusky]

The specific epithet, *fuscus* comes from the Latin word for dark or dusky. The morphology of *M. fuscus* resembles *M. fuliginosus*, but smaller.

Order Carnivora Bowdich, 1821

[*Carnis* (L.) = flesh + *voro* (L.) = devour]

The order name Carnivora means a flesh devourer in Latin. 'Carnis' is flesh and 'voro' means I devour.

Family *Ursidae* Fischer, 1817

[*Ursus* (L.) = bear]

The family name comes from the type genus *Ursus*, Latin word for bear, 'ursus'.

Genus *Ursus* Linnaeus, 1758

[*Ursus* (L.) = bear]

The genus *Ursus*, comes from Latin word for bear, 'ursus'.

Ursus arctos Linnaeus, 1758 - Brown Bear

[*arctos* (Gr.) = bear]

Like the genus name *Ursus* comes from the Latin word for bear, the specific epithet, *arctos* comes from the Greek word for bear.

Ursus thibetanus G. [Baron] Cuvier, 1823 - Asian Black

Bear

[*thibet* = Tibet]

With the type locality of Assam, India, the primary distribution of this bear was regarded as around Tibet. Therefore, the specific epithet, *thibetanus* came from Tibet.

Family *Mustelidae* Fischer, 1817

[*Mustela* (L.) = weasel]

The family name came from the type genus *Mustela*, Latin word for weasel, 'mustela'.

Genus *Lutra* Brisson, 1762

[*Lutra* (L.) = otter from *udrah* (Sanskrit) or *enydris* (Gr.)]

Lutra is the Latin name for otter, which comes from the Sanskrit word for otter, *udrah*, or from the Greek word, *enydris*.

Lutra lutra (Linnaeus, 1758) - Eurasian Otter

[*Lutra* (L.) = otter from *udrah* (Sanskrit) or *enydris* (Gr.)]

The genus name and specific epithet are same.

Genus *Martes* Pinel, 1792

[*Martes* (L.) = Marten]

The generic name *Martes* is from the Latin name for marten.

Martes flavigula (Boddaert, 1785) - Yellow-throated Marten

[*flavi* (L.) = golden or yellow + *gula* (L.) = throat]

The specific epithet, *flavigula* means yellow throat in Latin. The Latin word, 'flavus' is yellow, blond, or golden. 'Gula' is neck or throat.

Martes melampus (Wagner, 1841) - Japanese Marten

[*melam* (Gr.) = black + *pus* (Gr.) = foot]

The specific epithet, *melampus* means 'black foot'. In Greek, 'melam' means black and 'pus' means a foot.

Martes zibellina (Linnaeus, 1758) - Sable

[*zibellina* (Italian) = *zohel*, *zibeline*, *sable*]

The Latin specific epithet, *zibellina* was derived from the Italian name 'zibzellino'. Other European names for sable are 'zobel', 'sabel', 'zibeline', and 'cilbelina' come from the Russian and Polish name 'sobol'. English common name sable also has the same origin.

Genus *Meles* Brisson, 1762

[*Meles* (L.) = badger]

The Latin name *Meles* stands for badger.

Meles leucurus (Hodgson, 1847) - Asian Badger

[*leukos* (Gr.) = white + *urus* (Gr.) = tail]

The specific epithet, *leucurus* represents a white-tailed animal. 'leukos' means white and 'urus' means a tail in Greek.

Genus *Mustela* Linnaeus, 1758

[Mus (L.) = mouse + telum (L.) = spear]

The generic name *Mustela* means a weasel in Latin. The Latin name comes from 'mus (mouse)' and 'telum (spear)'. Therefore, weasel could be translated to 'mouse- (piercing) spear' or 'spear-like mouse'.

Mustela nivalis Linnaeus, 1766 - Least Weasel

[nivus (L.) = snow/nivalis = of snow]

The Latin name for specific epithet means 'of snow', which derived from the Latin word, 'nivus (snow)'.

Mustela eversmanii Lesson, 1827 - Steppe Polecat

[eversmanii = Eversmann (name of person)]

The specific name, *eversmanii* honored a Russian physician and entomologist, Alexander Eduard Friedrich Eversmann (1794–1860), who collected this species (Beolens et al., 2009).

Mustela sibirica Pallas, 1773 - Siberian Weasel

[sibirica = Siberia]

The specific epithet, *sibirica* comes from the main distribution, Siberia.

Mustela altaica Pallas, 1811 - Mountain Weasel

[altaica = Altai mountain]

The type specimen of *M. altaica* was collected in the Altai Mountain. The specific epithet, *altaica* derived from the type locality.

Family Felidae Fischer, 1817

[Felis (L.) = cat]

The family name Felidae comes from the type genus *Felis*, Latin word for cat.

Genus *Panthera* Oken, 1816

[Pan (Gr.) = all + thera (Gr.) = predator]

The genus name, *Panthera* means 'predator of all'. In ancient Greek, 'pan' meant 'all' and 'ther' means 'beast', especially beast of prey.

Panthera pardus (Linnaeus, 1758) - Leopard

[pardus (L.) = leopard]

The Latin name *pardus* stands for a leopard, which came from the Greek word, 'pard (leopard)' and 'pardos (male leopard)'.

Panthera tigris (Linnaeus, 1758) - Tiger

[tigris (Gr. or L.) = tiger]

Both in Latin and Greek, 'tigris' means a tiger.

Genus *Lynx* Kerr, 1792

[Lynx = lunx (Gr.) = light or brightness]

Lynx is Latin for lynx, which derived from Greek 'Lunx'. It could be derived from Proto-Indo-European word, 'lewkw', which means light or brightness, because of light comes from cat's reflective eyes.

Lynx lynx (Linnaeus, 1758) - Eurasian Lynx

[Lynx = lunx (Gr.) = light or brightness]

The generic name and specific epithet are same.

Genus *Prionailurus* Severtzov, 1858

[Prion (Gr.) = saw (tool) + ailurus (Gr.) = cat]

A combination of Greek words forms the genus name *Prionailurus*, 'prion (a saw that slices wood)' and 'ailurus (cat)'.

Prionailurus bengalensis (Kerr, 1792) - Leopard Cat

[bengalensis = Bengal]

The specific epithet comes from its type locality, Bengal.

Family Canidae Fischer, 1817

[Canis = dog]

The family name comes from the type genus *Canis*, Latin word for dog.

Genus *Nyctereutes* Temminck, 1838

[Nyctos (Gr.) = night + ereutes (Gr.) = wanderer]

The genus name *Nyctereutes* means a night wanderer. 'Nyct', a Latinized form of the Greek word, 'nukt (night)' and 'ereutes' specifies a wanderer.

Nyctereutes procyonoides (Gray, 1834) - Raccoon Dog

[Pro (Gr.) = before + cyon (Gr.) = dog; procyon (L.) = raccoon + oides (Gr.) = looking]

Although 'pro' and 'kuon (cyon)' mean respectively 'before' and 'dog' in Greek, 'procyon' means a raccoon in Latin. Therefore, the specific epithet, *procyonoides* means 'raccoon like' because 'oides' means 'similar to' or 'looking' in Greek.

Genus *Vulpes* Frisch, 1775

[Vulpes (L.) = fox]

The generic name comes from Latin word for fox.

Vulpes vulpes (Linnaeus, 1758) - Red Fox

[Vulpes (L.) = fox]

Both the genus name and specific epithet, *Vulpes* means a fox in Latin.

Genus *Cuon* Hodgson, 1838

[*Cuon* (Gr.) = dog]

The generic name *Cuon* (kuon) means dog in Greek. Both *Canis* and *Cuon* have the same etymology.

Cuon alpinus (Pallas, 1811) - Dhole

[alpine (L.) = mountain]

The specific epithet, *alpinus* comes from the Latin word for a high mountain such as the Alps.

Genus *Canis* Linnaeus, 1758

[*Canis* (L.) = dog]

The generic name means a dog in Latin.

Canis lupus Linnaeus, 1758 - Eurasian Wolf

[*lupus* (L.) = wolf]

The specific epithet, *lupus* means a wolf in Latin.

Family Otariidae Gray, 1825

[*Otarion* (Gr.) = little ear]

The family name comes from the type genus *Otaria*. The Greek word 'otarin' means 'small ear' (Chilvers, 2018).

Genus *Callorhinus* J. E. Gray, 1859

[*Callo* (Gr.) = Beautiful + *rhinus* (Gr.) = nose]

The genus name means 'beautiful nose' in Greek. 'Callo' comes from 'kallos (beauty)' and 'rhinus' comes from 'rhis (nose)'.

Callorhinus ursinus (Linnaeus, 1758) - Northern Fur Seal

[*urs* (Gr.) = bear]

The specific epithet represents its 'bear-like' appearance. The Latin word, 'urusinus' means 'from Ursus', in other words, 'bear-like' or 'resembling a bear'.

Genus *Eumetopias* Gill, 1866

[*Eu* (Gr.) = well + *metopias* (Gr.) = broad forehead]

The generic name has a combination of Greek words, 'eu-' and 'metopias'. The former means 'well' and later means 'having a broad or high forehead'. The name explains the broad forehead of a sea lion.

Eumetopias jubatus (Schreber, 1776) - Steller Sea Lion, northern sea lion

[*jubatus* (L.) = having a mane]

The specific epithet, *jubatus* means 'maned' or 'having a mane' in Latin.

Genus *Zalophus* Gill, 1866

[*Za* (Gr.) = intensive + *lophus* (Gr.) = crest]

The generic name means 'intensive crest', which comes from two Greek words, 'za (intensive)' and 'lopus (crest)'.

Zalophus japonicus (Peters, 1866) - Japanese Sea Lion

[*japonicus* = Japan]

The specific epithet comes from the type locality, Japan.

Family Phocidae Gray, 1821

[*Phoc* (Gr.) = Seal]

The family name comes from the type genus *Phoca*, which is a Latin word for seal.

Genus *Histriophoca* Gill, 1873

[*Histrio* = actor, stage player + *phoca* = seal]

Histriophoca has a combination of two Latin words, 'histrio (actor or player)' and 'phoca (seal)'.

Histriophoca fasciata (Zimmerman, 1783) - Ribbon Seal

[*fasciata* (L.) = bandaged]

The specific epithet, *fasciata* means 'bandaged' in Latin, which depicts the banded patterns.

Genus *Phoca* Linnaeus, 1758

[*Phoca* (Gr. and L.) = seal]

The generic name derives from the Latin word for seal, 'phoce', which came from the Greek word, 'phoke'.

Phoca largha Pallas, 1811 - Spotted Seal, largha seal

[*largha* (Tungus language) = seal]

The specific epithet, *largha* comes from the Tungus language for this species.

Genus *Pusa* Scopoli, 1771

[*Pusa* (L.) = girl]

In Latin, *Pusa* means 'girl'.

Pusa hispida (Schreber, 1775) - Ringed Seal

[*hispida* (L.) = rough or bristly]

hispida means 'rough' or 'bristly', which comes from its stiff hair on the pelage (Ronald and Gots, 2003).

Order Artiodactyla Owen, 1848

[*Artio* (Gr.) = even + *Dactyl* (Gr.) = digit]

The order name comes from the main character of this order, even-toed. In Greek, 'artios' means even and 'dactulos' means digit.

Family Suidae Gray, 1821

[*Sus* (L.) from *hus* (Gr.) = swine, pig]

The family name comes from the type genus *Sus*, Latin word for swine.

Genus *Sus* Linnaeus, 1758

[*Sus* (L.) from *hus* (Gr.) = swine, pig]

Generic name come from Latin. *Sus* is 'pig' and derived from the Greek word, 'husb (hog)'.

Sus scrofa Linnaeus, 1758 - Wild Boar

[*scrofa* (L.) = sow, swine]

Specific epithet of the wild boar come from Latin. *scrofa* is 'sow'.

Family Moschidae Gray, 1821

[*Moschus* (Gr.) = musk]

The family name comes from the type genus *Moschus*, which is the only extant genus of Moschidae.

Genus *Moschus* Linnaeus, 1758

[*Moschus* (Gr.) = musk]

Moschus comes from the Greek word, 'moskhos', which means musk.

Moschus moschiferus Linnaeus, 1758 - Siberian Musk Deer

[*moschi* (L.) = musk + *fero* (L.) = bear or carry]

The specific epithet means 'I carry musk', because 'moschi (= moschus)' is musk and 'ferus (= fero)' is 'I bear (carry)' in Latin.

Family Cervidae Goldfuss, 1820

[*Cervus* (L.) = horned]

The family name comes from the type genus *Cervus*.

Genus *Hydropotes* Swinhoe, 1870

[*Hydro* (Gr.) = water + *potes* (L.) = drinker]

The generic name comes from a combination of Greek and Latin. 'Hydro' stands for 'water' in Greek and 'potes' means 'drinker' in Latin.

Hydropotes inermis Swinhoe, 1870 - Chinese Water Deer

[*inermis* (L.) = unarmed]

Since this deer has no antlers, the name *inermis* was assigned. The specific epithet comes from the Latin prefix 'in- (not)', the word for weapon, 'arma', and the suffix '-is (-less)'.

Genus *Capreolus* Gray, 1821

[*Capra* (L.) = goat + *olus* (L.) = diminutive]

The Latin name for the genus *Capreolus* means small goat. 'Capra' in Latin means 'goat' and 'olus' is a diminutive Latin suffix.

Capreolus pygargus (Pallas, 1771) - Siberian Roe Deer

[*pyge* (Gr.) = rump + *argos* (Gr.) = shining white]

The specific epithet, *pygargus* derived from the Greek words, 'pyge (rump)' and 'argos (shining white)'.

Genus *Cervus* Linnaeus, 1758

[*cervus* (L.) = deer]

The generic name came from the Latin word 'cornu (horn)' and Latin suffix '-vus'. The Latin word derived from the Greek word, 'keraos (horned)'. Therefore, *Cervus* means 'horned'.

Cervus elaphus Linnaeus, 1758 - Red deer

[*elaphos* (Gr.) = deer]

The specific epithet comes from the Greek word 'elaphos', which means deer.

Cervus nippon Temminck, 1838 - Sika Deer

[*nippon* (Japanese) = Japan]

The type locality of this species is Nagasaki, Japan. The specific epithet, *nippon* comes from Japan (= Nippon).

Family Bovidae Gray, 1821

[*Bos* = ox = head of cattle]

The family name comes from the type genus *Bos*, Latin for ox. The prefix form of bos is 'bov-'.

Genus *Naemorhedus* C. H. Smith, 1827

[*Nemoris* (L.) = forest + *haedus* (L.) = young goat]

The generic name means forest goat. 'Nemus' means 'grove' or 'forest' in Latin and 'haedus' means 'young goat'.

Naemorhedus caudatus (Milne-Edwards, 1867) - Long-tailed Goral

[*caudatus* (L.) = having a tail]

The specific epithet means having a tail. In Latin, 'cauda' means a tail, and '-atus' is a suffix for forming adjectives from nouns indicating the possession of a thing or quality.

Order Cetacea Brisson, 1762

[*Cetus* (L.) from *Ketos* (Gr.) = Whale]

The order name comes from the Latin word 'cetus' for whale. 'Cetus' derived from the Greek word, 'ketos', huge fish. *Ketos* functioned as a sea monster in Greek mythology.

Artiodactyla and Cetacea are often considered a single Order Cetartiodactyla (O'Leary and Gatesy, 2008; O'Leary, 2009).

Suborder Mysticeti Flower, 1864

[*mysti* (Gr.) = moustache + *cetus* (Gr.) = whale]

The suborder name might be derived from a translation

error from ‘ho mus to ketos (the mouse, i.e. the whale so called)’ to ‘mustiketos’ in Greek. Another etymology has a combination of two Greek words, ‘mysti- (moustache or upper lip)’ and ‘-cetus (whale)’.

Family Balaenidae Gray, 1821

[Balaen (L.) = whale]

The family name comes from the type genus *Balaena*. *Balaena* means whale in Latin.

Genus *Eubalaena* Gray, 1864

[Eu (Gr.) true or genuine + balaena (L.) = whale]

The generic name *Eubalaena* means a true or right whale. The Greek prefix ‘Eu-’ means true or genuine. The Latin word ‘balaena’ comes from Greek, ‘phalaina’ for whale.

Eubalaena japonica (Lacépède, 1818) - North Pacific Right Whale

[japonica = Japan]

The specific epithet was assigned after the type locality, Japan.

Family Balaenopteridae Gray, 1864

[Balaena (L.) from phallaena (Gr.) = whale + pteron (Gr.) = wing]

The family name comes from the type genus *Balaenoptera*.

Genus *Balaenoptera* Lacepede, 1804

[Balaena (L.) = whale + pteron (Gr.) = wing]

A combination of the Latin word ‘balaena (whale)’ and the Greek word ‘ptera (wing)’ form the generic name (Davis et al., 1997). The Latin word for whale, ‘balaen’ comes from the Greek word, ‘phalaina’ or ‘phallaena’.

Balaenoptera acutorostrata Lacépède, 1804 - Common Minke Whale

[acutus (L.) = acute, sharp + rostrum (L.) = beaked]

The specific epithet means ‘sharp beaked’. Two Latin words, ‘acutus (acute or sharp)’ and ‘rostrum (beaked)’ combine to form the specific name (Davis et al., 1997).

Balaenoptera borealis Lesson, 1828 - Sei Whale

[bore (L.) = north-wind + alis (L.) = pertaining to]

The specific epithet has the same etymology of ‘borea’ from the scientific name of Northern Pike *Ochotona hyperborea*. Two Latin words, ‘bore (northwind)’ and ‘alis (pertaining to)’, means ‘belong to North’.

Balaenoptera edeni Anderson, 1879 - Bryde’s Whale

[edeni = Eden (name of person)]

The specific epithet, *edeni* honored Ashley Eden (1831–

1887), a governor of Burma and Bengal (Beolens et al., 2009). The type specimen stranded on the Burma Coast and Sir Eden made the specimen available for description.

Balaenoptera musculus (Linnaeus, 1758) - Blue Whale

[mus (L.) = mouse + culus (L.) = diminutive]

This whale has an ironic specific epithet. Although this whale is the largest mammal in the world, *musculus* means a small mouse. In Latin, ‘mus’ means a mouse and ‘culus’ makes diminutive (Davis et al., 1997).

Balaenoptera physalus (Linnaeus, 1758) - Fin Whale

[physalus (Gr.) = puffed up toad; or physis (Gr.) = nature + alos (Gr.) = sea; or physa (Gr.) = bellow or blow]

In Greek, ‘physa’ means ‘bellow’ or ‘blow’ (Davis et al., 1997). It also means ‘sea’.

Genus *Megaptera* Gray, 1846

[Mega (Gr.) = great + pteron (Gr.) = wing]

The generic name *Megaptera* means ‘great wing’ in Greek (Davis et al., 1997). ‘Mega’ means ‘great’ and ‘pteron’ stands for ‘wing’.

Megaptera novaeangliae (Borowski, 1781) - Humpback Whale

[nova (L.) = new + eangliae (L.) = England]

The specific epithet means New (nova) England (eangliae) in Latin. The type locality for this whale centered on the New England coast.

Family Eschrichtiidae Ellerman and Morrison-Scott, 1951

The family name comes from the type genus *Eschrichtius*.

Genus *Eschrichtius* Gray, 1864

[Eschrichtius = Eschricht (name of person)]

Gray (1864) named the genus *Eschrichtius* as a memorial to Danish zoologist D. F. Eschricht. Professor Daniel Frederik Eschricht (1798–1863) was a Danish naturalist, especially interested in whales (Beolens et al., 2009). Gray (1864) named the genus *Eschrichtius* as a memorial to Eschricht.

Eschrichtius robustus (Lilljeborg, 1861) - Gray Whale

[robust (L.) = strong]

The specific epithet, *robustus* means strong in Latin (Davis et al., 1997).

Suborder Odontoceti Flower, 1867

[Odontos (Gr.) = tooth + ketos (Gr.) = whale]

The name of this suborder comes from Greek words, ‘odontos (tooth)’ and ‘Ketos (whale)’.

Family Physeteridae Gray, 1821

[Physeter (Gr. and L.) = blower, blow-pipe]

The family name comes from the type genus *Physeter*. In Greek, 'physhthr' means blow-pipe or blow-tube.

Genus *Kogia* Gray, 1846

[Codger (English) = old fellow]

The etymology of *Kogia* is uncertain. It might come from a Turkish naturalist, Cogia Effendi (dates not found), who observed whales in the 1800s. Another possibility is the generic name came from the English word, 'codger' (Simpson, 1961).

Kogia breviceps (Blainville, 1838) - Pygmy Sperm Whale

[brevis (L.) = short + ceps (L.) = head]

The specific epithet means short head. In Latin, 'brevis' connotes short and 'cept' means head.

Kogia sima (Owen, 1866) - Dwarf Sperm Whale

[sima (Gr., L.) = snub or nose]

In Latin, 'sima' and 'simus' mean flat-nosed or snub-nosed (Davis et al., 1997).

Genus *Physeter* Linnaeus, 1758

[Physeter (Gr. and L.) = blower]

The generic name, *Physeter* means a blower or blow pipe in both Greek and Latin.

Physeter catodon Linnaeus, 1758 - Sperm Whale, cachalot

[kat (Gr.) = down or below + odontos (Gr.) = tooth]

Because visible teeth occur on the lower jaw, the specific epithet, *catodon* comes from Greek words, 'kat (down or below)' and 'odontos (tooth)'.

Family Ziphiidae Gray, 1865

[Ziph (L.) = sword fish]

This family name comes from the type genus *Ziphius*. It derived from the Greek word, 'xiphos', which means 'sword'. The Latin name indicates the slender beak of this family.

Genus *Ziphius* G. Cuvier, 1823

[Ziph (L.) = sword fish]

The generic Latin name *Ziphius* comes from the Greek word 'xiphos (sword)' (Davis et al., 1997).

Ziphius cavirostris G. Cuvier, 1823 - Cuvier's Beaked Whale, goose-beaked whale

[cavi (L.) = hollow + rostris (L.) = rostrum]

The specific epithet means hollow rostrum in Latin. In Latin, 'cavis' means 'hollow' and 'rostris' indicates 'beak'

or 'rostrum'.

Genus *Berardius* Duvernoy, 1851

[Berardius = Berard (name of person)]

The genus name *Berardius* was named as a memorial to Admiral Auguste Berard (1796–1852), the French captain, who helped collect *Berardius arnuxii* (Beolens et al., 2009).

Berardius bairdii Stejneger, 1883 - Baird's Beaked Whale

[bairdii = Baird (name of person)]

Like the generic name, the specific epithet, *bairdii* honored Spencer Fullerton Baird (1823–1887). He was an American zoologist, who supported numerous expeditions to collect specimens as secretary of the U.S. National Museum and the Smithsonian Institution (Davis et al., 1997; Beolens et al., 2009).

Genus *Mesoplodon* Gervais, 1850

[Meso (Gr.) = middle + hoplon (Gr.) = weapon + odontos (Gr.) = tooth]

The generic name has a combination of three Greek words, 'meso (middle)', 'hoplon (tool or weapon)', and 'odontos (tooth)'. Therefore, the name means 'armed with a tooth in the middle of the jaw'. Another etymology of the generic name is a combination of 'meso (middle)', 'ploë (floating)', and 'odontos (tooth)', which means 'a tooth floating in the jaw' (Davis et al., 1997).

Mesoplodon stejnegeri True, 1885 - Stejneger's Beaked Whale

[stejnegeri = Stejneger (name of person)]

Dr. Leonard Hess Stejneger (1851–1943) was a Norwegian zoologist. Various taxa have been named after him including *M. stejnegeri* (Beolens et al., 2009).

Mesoplodon densirostris (Blainville, 1817) - Blainville's Beaked Whale

[densi (L.) = thick + rostris (L.) = rostrum]

The specific epithet means 'dense rostrum' in Latin. 'Densi' connotes 'dense' and 'rostris' is 'rostrum'.

Mesoplodon ginkgodens Nishiwaki and Kamiya, 1958 - Ginkgo-toothed Beaked Whale

[ginko (L.) = ginkgo + dens (L.) = tooth]

The shape of the teeth looks like the leaf of the ginkgo tree. The specific epithet has a combination of 'ginko (ginkgo)' and 'dens (tooth)' (Davis et al., 1997).

Family Monodontidae Gray, 1821

[Monos (Gr.) = one + odontos (Gr.) = tooth]

The family name comes from the type genus *Monodon*. It

is a combination of two Greek words, ‘monos (single)’ and ‘odontos (tooth)’ (Davis et al., 1997).

Genus *Delphinapterus* Lacepede, 1804

[Delphis (Gr.) = dolphin + a (Gr.) = without + pteron (Gr.) = wing]

The generic name means ‘without dorsal fin’ in Greek and therefore it represents a finless dolphin. A combination of ‘dolphin (dolphin)’, ‘a (without)’, and ‘pteron (wing)’ form the generic name (Davis et al., 1997).

Delphinapterus leucas (Pallas, 1776) - Beluga, white whale
[leucas (= leucos, Gr.) = white]

The specific epithet denotes ‘white’ in Greek.

Family Delphinidae Gray, 1821

[delpin (Gr.) = dolphin]

The family name comes from the type genus *Delphis*. The generic name derived from Greek for dolphin, ‘dolphin’ (Davis et al., 1997).

Genus *Lissodelphis* Gloger, 1841

[Lisso (Gr.) = smooth + delphis (Gr.) = dolphin]

The genus name comes from the Greek words, ‘Lisso (smooth)’ and ‘delphis (dolphin)’. The name depicts this dolphin’s sleek appearance.

Lissodelphis borealis (Peale, 1848) - Northern Right-whale Dolphin

[borea (L.) = north wind + alis (L.) = pertaining to]

The specific epithet is cognate with *Balaenoptera borealis*. It means ‘belong to the North’. The range of this species includes the North Pacific Ocean.

Genus *Grampus* Gray, 1828

[Grampus (L.) = fat fish]

The generic name comes from the Latin word, ‘craspicus (fat fish)’.

Grampus griseus (G. Cuvier, 1812) - Risso’s Dolphin, gray grampus

[gris (French) = gray]

The specific epithet comes from a French word, ‘gris’ meaning ‘gray’.

Genus *Orcinus* Fitzinger, 1860

[Orca (L.) = ‘killer whale’ from Oryx or Orygos (Gr.) = pickaxe + inus = belong to]

The generic Latin name *Orcinus* is a combination of ‘Orca (killer whale)’ and ‘-inus (suffix for belong to)’. Therefore, it means ‘of Orca’ or ‘belongs to Orca’. The etymology of

‘orca’ is not certain but possibly from the Greek word, ‘oryx (narwhale)’ or ‘orux (pickaxe)’.

Orcinus orca (Linnaeus, 1758) - Killer Whale, orca

[orca (L.) = killer whale]

The specific epithet, ‘orca’ possibly comes from the Greek word, ‘oryx (narwhale)’ or ‘orux (pickaxe)’.

Genus *Globicephala* Lesson, 1828

[Globus (L.) = sphere + cephalus (Gr.) = head]

The generic name derives from its appearance. *Globicephala* has a combination of Latin ‘globus (sphere)’ and Greek ‘cephalus (head)’.

Globicephala macrorhynchus Gray, 1846 - Short-finned Pilot Whale

[macro (Gr.) = big, long + rhynchus (Gr.) = snout]

The specific epithet comes from two Greek words, ‘macro (big)’ and ‘rhynchus (snout)’.

Genus *Pseudorca* Reinhardt, 1862

[Pseudo (Gr.) = false + orca (L.) = killer whale]

‘Pseudo-’, the prefix for ‘false’ comes from Greek, ‘pseudes’. The generic name means false killer whale.

Pseudorca crassidens (Owen, 1846) - False Killer Whale

[crassus (L.) = thick or dense + dens (L.) = tooth]

The specific epithet forms from two Latin words, ‘crassus (dense or thick)’ and ‘dens (tooth)’.

Genus *Feresa* Gray, 1870

[Feresa (French) = dolphin]

The generic name *Feresa* comes from a French dialect for dolphin (Ranneft et al. 2001).

Feresa attenuata Gray, 1874 - Pygmy Killer Whale

[attenuata (L.) = reduced]

The specific epithet, *attenuata* means ‘reduced’ in Latin.

Genus *Peponocephala* Nishiwaki and Norris, 1966

[Pepono (L.) = melon + cephalo (Gr.) = head]

The generic name means its English common name, ‘melon-headed’. The Latin word, ‘pepono’ means ‘melon’ and ‘cephala’ comes from the Greek word, ‘kephale’, which means head.

Peponocephala electra (Gray, 1846) - Melon-headed Whale. Electra Dolphin

[electra (Gr.) = sea nymph]

The specific epithet, *electra* derived from Greek, ‘Elektra’ (Ranneft et al., 2001). In Greek mythology, Electra denoted

the name of a sea nymph or the daughter of Agamemnon (Ranneft et al., 2001).

Genus *Steno* Gray, 1846

[*Steno* (Gr.) = narrow]

The generic name might honor a Danish anatomist, Dr. Nikolaus Steno. Another suggested etymology is the Greek word, 'stenos (narrow)' (Ranneft et al., 2001).

Steno bredanensis (G. Cuvier in Lesson, 1828) - Rough-toothed Dolphin

[*Breda* (name of person) + *ensis* (L.) = belongs to]

The specific epithet, *bredanensis* was named after Van Brenda of Ghent, who made the original sketch of the rough-toothed dolphin (Ranneft et al., 2001). '-ensis' is the Latin suffix means 'belongs to'.

Genus *Lagenodelphis* Fraser, 1956

[*Lagena* (L.) = flask or bottle + *delphis* (Gr.) = dolphin]

The genus name combines Latin and Greek. 'Lagena' means flask or bottle in Latin and 'delphis' is a dolphin in Greek (Ranneft et al., 2001).

Lagenodelphis hosei Fraser, 1956 - Fraser's Dolphin

[*hosei* = Hose (name of person)]

Two naturalist brothers lived in Sarawak, Charles (1863–1929) and Ernest Hose (1871–1946), had several taxa named for them (Beolens et al., 2009). The specific epithet, *hosei* was named after Ernest Hose.

Genus *Lagenorhynchus* Gray, 1846

[*Lagena* (L.) = large flask + *rhynchus* (Gr.) = snout]

The generic name *Lagenorhynchus* combined Latin and Greek words. Like *Lagenodelphis*, *Lagena* connotes a flask in Latin and 'rhynchus' denotes the Greek word for snout (Ranneft et al., 2001).

Lagenorhynchus obliquidens Gill, 1865 - Pacific White-sided Dolphin

[*obliqui* (L.) = slanting + *dens* (L.) = tooth]

The specific epithet means 'slanting tooth'. The Latin word, 'obliqui' means 'slanting', 'sloping', or 'angled'. 'Dens' also in Latin means tooth (Ranneft et al., 2001).

Genus *Tursiops* Gervais, 1855

[*Tursio* (L.) = porpoise or dolphin + *ops* (Gr.) = eye or face]

The generic name combines Latin and Greek words. 'Tursio' means 'dolphin' or 'porpoise' in Latin. 'Ops', a Greek word indicates 'eye' or 'face' (Ranneft et al., 2001).

Tursiops aduncus (Ehrenberg, 1833) - Indo-Pacific Bottlenose

Dolphin

[*aduncus* (L.) = hooked]

The specific epithet represents the hooked dorsal fin. The Latin word, *aduncus* means hooked.

Tursiops truncatus (Montagu, 1821) - Common Bottlenose Dolphin

[*truncatus* (L.) = truncated or fore-shortened = bottle-nose]

The specific epithet, *truncatus* means 'truncated' or 'cut off' (Ranneft et al., 2001). It refers to the fore-shortened beak (bottle-nose) of this species.

Genus *Delphinus* Linnaeus, 1758

[*Delphinus* (L.) = dolphin]

The Latin word '*Delphinus*' indicates a dolphin. The Latin word derived from the Greek word, 'delphis'.

Delphinus capensis Gray, 1828 - Long-beaked Common Dolphin

[*cape* = cape + *ensis* (L.) = belongs to]

The specific epithet, *capensis* means 'from the cape' because 'ensis' is the Latin suffix for 'belongs to'.

Delphinus delphis Linnaeus, 1758 - Short-beaked Common Dolphin, saddleback dolphin

[*delphis* (Gr.) = dolphin]

The specific epithet, *delphis* is Greek for dolphin.

Genus *Stenella* Gray, 1866

[*Stene* (Gr.) = narrow + *ella* (L.) = little]

The genus name has a combination of Greek and Latin. 'Stenos' means 'narrow' in Greek and 'ella' is the Latin suffix for 'little'.

Stenella attenuata (Gray, 1846) - Pantropical Spotted Dolphin

[*attenuate* (L.) = reduced]

The specific epithet, *attenuata* means 'reduced' in Latin.

Stenella coeruleoalba (Meyen, 1833) - Striped Dolphin

[*coeruleus* (L.) = dark blue + *alba* (L.) = white]

The specific epithet comes from two Latin words for color. 'coeruleus' comes from 'caeruleus' or 'caerulea', which means 'dark blue'. 'Alba' means 'white' (Ranneft et al., 2001).

Stenella longirostris (Gray, 1828) - Spinner Dolphin

[*longus* (L.) = long + *rostris* (L.) = rostrum]

'longi' comes from the Latin word, 'longus', which means 'long'. 'rostris' stands for 'rostrum' or 'beak' in Latin.

Family Phocoenidae Gray, 1825

[Phocoen (Gr.) = porpoise]

The family name comes from the type genus *Phocoena*, which derives from the Greek word, 'phokaina' for porpoise (Ranneft et al., 2001).

Genus *Neophocaena* Palmer, 1899

[Neo (Gr.) = new + phocaena (Gr.) = porpoise]

The generic name means 'new porpoise'. 'Neo' means 'new' and 'phocaena' is 'porpoise' in Greek.

Neophocaena asiaorientalis (Pilleri and Gühr, 1972) - Narrow-ridged Finless Porpoise

[asiae = Asia + orientalis (L.) = East]

The specific epithet comes from its distribution, East Asia. 'Orientalis' means 'east' in Latin.

Genus *Phocoena* G. Cuvier, 1816

[phokaina (Gr.) = porpoise]

The generic name, *Phocoena* is originated from the Greek word, 'phokaina' for porpoise.

Phocoena phocoena (Linnaeus, 1758) - Harbor Porpoise, common porpoise

[phokaina (Gr.) = porpoise]

Both the generic name and specific epithet, *Phocoena* is originated from the Greek word, 'phokaina' for porpoise.

Genus *Phocoenoides* Andrews, 1911

[Phocoen (Gr.) = porpoise + oides (Gr.) = like]

The genus name means 'porpoise like'. *Phocoenoides* comes from '*Phocoena*' and the Greek suffix 'oid', which means '-like' (Ranneft et al., 2001).

Phocoenoides dalli (True, 1886) - Dall's Porpoise, Dall porpoise

[dalli = Dall (name of person)]

The specific epithet, *dalli* honored American naturalist, William Healey Dall (1845-1927), who worked for Harvard's Museum of Comparative Zoology (Beolens et al., 2009). Dall provided note and drawings of two specimens.

Order Rodentia Bowdich, 1821

[Rodere (L.) = gnawing]

Rodentia comes from the Latin word, 'rodere' which means 'gnawing'.

Family Sminthidae Brandt, 1855

[Sminthos (Gr.) = mouse]

The family name Sminthidae comes from genus *Sminthus*, which is incorrect name for the genus *Sicista*. In Greek mythology, Apollo Smintheus is a god of mice and Sminthos

is a mouse (Yancey, 1945).

Genus *Sicista* Gray, 1827

[Sikistan (the tartar language) = gregarious mouse]

The generic name *Sicista* comes from the Tartar word, 'sikistan', which means 'gregarious mouse' (Srinivasulu, 2018).

Sicista caudata Thomas, 1907 - Long-tailed Birch Mouse

[caudata (L.) = tail]

The specific epithet, *caudata* means 'tail' in Latin.

Family Sciuridae Fischer, 1817

[Sci = skia (Gr.) = shade + oura (Gr.) = tail]

The family name Sciuridae comes from the type genus *Sciurus*. The generic name combines two Greek words, 'sci = skia (shade)' and 'oura (tail)'. Since a squirrel sits under the shade of its own tail, 'shade tail' became the name.

Genus *Pteromys* G. Cuvier, 1800

[Pteron (Gr.) = wing + mys (Gr.) = mouse]

The generic name comes from two Greek words, 'pteron (wing)' and 'mys (mouse)'.

Pteromys volans (Linnaeus, 1758) - Siberian Flying Squirrel

[volans (L.) = flying]

The specific epithet, *volans* means 'flying' in Latin.

Genus *Sciurus* Linnaeus, 1758

[Sci = skia (Gr.) = shade + oura (Gr.) = tail]

The generic name *Sciurus* is cognate with the family name Sciuridae.

Sciurus vulgaris Linnaeus, 1758 - Eurasian Red Squirrel

[vulgaris (L.) = common or ordinary]

The Latin specific epithet, *vulgaris* means common or ordinary, since this species occurs in common places and is widely dispersed.

Genus *Eutamias* Trouessart, 1880

[Eu (Gr.) = true + tamias (Gr.) = steward]

The genus *Eutamias* was a subgenus under the genus *Tamias*. In Greek, 'eu' means 'true' or 'right'. '*Tamias*' is also Greek for 'dispenser' or 'steward', due to the chipmunk's hoarding behavior.

Eutamias sibiricus (Laxmann, 1769) - Siberian Chipmunk

[sibiricus = Siberia]

The specific epithet comes from its main distribution, Siberia.

Family Echimyidae Gray, 1825

[echinos (Gr.) = hedgehog + mys (Gr.) = mouse]

The family name comes from the type genus *Echymys*. The generic name comes from two Greek words, 'echinos (hedgehog)' and 'mys (mouse)'. *Nutria* was classified as a single species in the family Myocastoridae. Currently, Myocastoridae is classified as a subfamily Myocastorinae under Echimyidae (Upham and Patterson, 2012).

Genus *Myocastor* Kerr, 1792

[Mys (Gr.) = mouse + castor (Gr., L.) possibly from kasiuri (Sanskrit) = beaver]

The generic name has a combination of two Greek words, 'Mys (mouse)' and 'kastor (beaver)'. The latter might have derived from the Sanskrit word, 'kasiuri'.

Myocastor coypus (Molina, 1782) - Coypu, Nutria

[coypus (S. American Indian language) = nutria]

The specific epithet, *coypus* comes from the Araucanian (South American people) name for this species.

Family Cricetidae Fischer, 1817

[Cricet = hamster]

The family name comes from the type genus *Cricetus*, which means hamster. Cricet might come from a Czech word, 'krec (hamster)' or Russian word, 'Krysa (rat)'.

Genus *Tscherskia* Ognev, 1914

[Tscherskia = Tscherski, Russia or name of person]

The generic name comes from Tscherski (Chersky) Russia or honored Polish-bone Russian scientist Iwan Dementjéwitsch Tscherski (Jan Czernski, 1845–1892). Ognev (1914) proposed the generic name after mammalogical collections in Russian Far East.

Tscherskia triton (de Winton, 1899) - Greater Long-tailed Hamster

[triton (Gr.) = messenger of sea]

Triton was a Greek god, the messenger of the sea.

Genus *Cricetulus* Milne-Edwards, 1867

[Cricet = hamster + ulus = diminutive suffix]

The generic name is a cognate of the family name but diminutive.

Cricetulus barabensis (Pallas, 1773) - Striped Dwarf Hamster, Chinese striped hamster

[barabe = Baraba steppe in western Siberia]

The specific epithet, *barabensis* comes from its distribution, the Baraba steppe in western Siberia.

Genus *Ondatra* Link, 1795

[Ondatra (Indian language) = muskrat]

The generic name comes from the Huron (a North American native tribe around Lake Ontario) word, 'ondathra' for muskrat (Bomare, 1791).

Ondatra zibethicus (Linnaeus, 1766) - Common Muskrat

[zibethicus (L.) = musk, civet odor]

The specific epithet, *zibethicus* comes from the Latin word, 'zibethus', which means civet or civet-musk.

Genus *Lasiopodomys* Lataste, 1887

[Lasio (Gr.) = hairy + pod (Gr.) = foot + mys (Gr.) = mouse]

The genus name is a combination of three Greek words, 'Lasio (hairy)', 'pod (foot)', and 'mys (mouse)'.

Lasiopodomys mandarinus (Milne-Edwards, 1871) - Mandarin Vole

[mandarin = China]

The specific epithet, *mandarinus* comes from its distribution, China.

Genus *Microtus* Schrank, 1798

[Micro (Gr.) = small + otus (Gr.) = ear]

Voles in this genus have tiny ears. Therefore, the generic name refers to the tiny ears. In Greek, 'micro' means 'small' and 'otus' means 'ear'.

Microtus fortis Büchner, 1889 - Reed Vole

[fortis (L.) = strong, push, press]

The specific epithet, *fortis* means 'strong', 'brave', push', and 'press' in Latin.

Genus *Myodes* Pallas, 1811

[Myodes (Gr.) = mouse like]

The genus name, *Myodes* comes from Greek for either 'keyhole mouse' (Simpson and Simpson, 2016) or 'mouse-like' (Quattrocchi, 2000).

Myodes rutilus (Pallas, 1778) - Northern Red-backed Vole

[rutilus (L.) = red]

The specific epithet is Latin for 'red'.

Genus *Craseomys* Miller, 1900

[kraseos (Gr.) = mixing + mys (Gr.) = mouse]

Since the genus *Craseomys* seems to have mixed characters from two genera, *Evotomys* and *Microtus*, the generic name means 'mixing mouse' in Greek (Palmer and Merriam, 1904). The Greek word, 'kraseos' is a genitive of 'krisis' for 'mixing' or 'blending' (Jaeger, 1944).

Craseomys regulus Thomas, 1907 - Korean Red-backed Vole
[regulus (L.) = diminutive of regis or rex (king)]

The specific epithet means 'small king' in Latin. 'Regulus' denotes a diminutive of 'rex' or 'regis'.

Craseomys rufocanus (Sundevall, 1846) - Grey Red-backed Vole

[rufus (L.) = red + canus (L.) = gray]

The specific epithet, *rufocanus* combines words for two colors, 'rufus (red)' and 'canus (gray)' in Latin.

Family Muridae Illiger, 1811

[muris (L.) = a genitive of mouse]

The family name comes from the type genus *Mus*. The Latin word, 'muris' is a genitive of 'mus (mouse)'.

Genus *Rattus* Fischer, 1803

[*Rattus* (L.) = rat]

The generic name *Rattus* is Latin for rat.

Rattus norvegicus (Berkenhout, 1769) - Brown Rat, common rat, Norway rat

[*norvegicus* (L.) = of Norway]

The specific epithet, *norvegicus* also Latin means 'Norwegian'. This, however, represents an incorrect inference of the origin of this rat. Berkenhout (1769) probably gave the name because he believed this species migrated from Norwegian ships to England. The type locality for *R. norvegicus* occurs in the United Kingdom.

Rattus tanezumi (Temminck, 1844) - Oriental House Rat

[*tanezumi* (Japanese) = rice-field rat]

The specific epithet comes from Japanese 'ta (た = 田)' and 'nezumi (ねずみ = 鼠)'. Therefore, it means 'rice-field rat'. This species was classified as a subspecies of *R. rattus*. Currently, East Asian populations are regarded as a distinct species.

Genus *Mus* Linnaeus, 1758

[*Mus* (L.) = mouse]

The Latin generic name means mouse.

Mus musculus Linnaeus, 1758 - House Mouse

[*musculus* (L.) = small mouse]

The specific epithet, '*musculus*' means a diminutive of 'mus' in Latin. Therefore, it means 'small mouse'.

Genus *Micromys* Dehne, 1841

[*Micro* (Gr.) = tiny + *mys* (Gr.) = mouse]

Micromys means 'tiny mouse' in Greek.

Micromys minutus (Pallas, 1771) - Eurasian Harvest Mouse, harvest mouse

[*minutus* (L.) = tiny]

The specific epithet is Latin for 'tiny'.

Genus *Apodemus* Kaup, 1829

[*Apo* (Gr.) = away from + *demus* (Gr.) = country, people, township]

The generic name *Apodemus* is Greek for 'away from people or town' 'Apo' means 'away from' and 'demus' means 'country', 'people', or 'town'.

Apodemus peninsulae (Thomas, 1907) - Korean Field Mouse

[*peninsulae* = peninsula]

The specific epithet comes from the Korean Peninsula. The type locality is Mungyeong, Korea.

Apodemus chejuensis Johnson and Jones, 1955 - Jeju Striped Field Mouse

[*chejuensis* = Jeju]

The specific epithet comes from its type locality, Jeju island.

Apodemus agrarius (Pallas, 1771) - Striped Field Mouse

[*agri* (L.) = field]

The specific epithet derived from the Latin word, 'agri (field)'.

DISCUSSION

Although people use Latin dictionaries online and offline, etymologies of scientific names remain difficult to discern. Since Bomare (1791) published a dictionary for natural history, several researchers listed the roots and etymologies of scientific names. Jaeger (1944, 1960) compiled source terms of biological names. And then, several mammalogists introduced etymologies of scientific names for specific taxa of mammals, such as cetaceans (Ranneft et al., 2001) or regions, such as South Asia (Srinivasulu, 2018). We discovered that no one had studied the etymologies of Korean mammals. Therefore, we provide here the etymologies of scientific names for every Korean mammal species. We anticipate that our article will interest the public, students of natural history and mammalogy, and professional mammalogists and scientists who study mammals in Korea.

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CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No potential conflict of interest relevant to this article was reported.

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