

## Short Note

## Enlarging the knowledge on *Graomys griseoflavus* (Rodentia: Sigmodontinae) in Patagonia: distribution and environments

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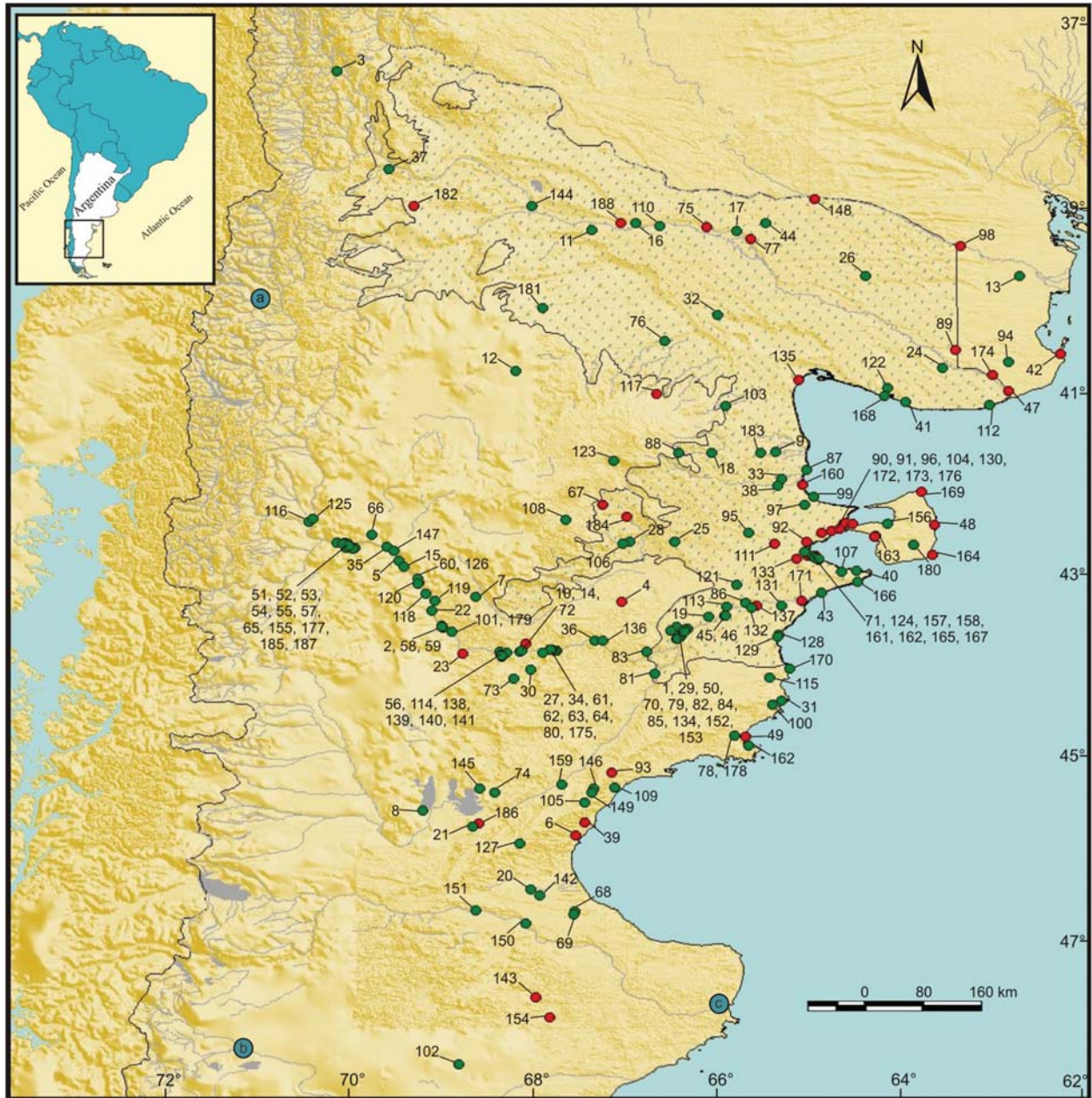
The Leaf-eared mouse *Graomys griseoflavus* (Waterhouse 1837) is a medium-sized sigmodontine rodent of the tribe Phyllotini (Hershkovitz 1962) that occurs throughout a wide area of the Chaco and Andean-Patagonic domains, from southcentral Bolivia through western Argentina to central and eastern Santa Cruz province (Yepes 1935, Cabrera 1961, Hershkovitz 1962, Díaz et al. 2006). The first citation for this species in Patagonia corresponds to the type locality (Hershkovitz 1962: p. 453) cited as “Near mouth of the Río Negro, province of Río Negro, Southern Argentina” by Waterhouse (1837: pp. 28–29) in the original description. Later, Doering (1881) cited some specimens from the provinces of Neuquén and Río Negro. Despite these early references, the southern geographic distribution of *G. griseoflavus* (i.e., south of 39°S) is poorly known, basically restricted to a few records based mainly on owl pellets analyses (Nabte 2003, Pardiñas et al. 2003, 2004, Nabte et al. 2006) and collected specimens (e.g., Daciuk 1974, Monjeau et al. 1997, 1998, Rodríguez and Theiler 2007). The Leaf-eared mouse prefers shrubby or wooded areas in arid to semi-arid environments; it is also found in relatively open shrubby steppes with sandy soils and even in naked rocky outcrops (Hershkovitz 1962, Rosi 1983, Corbalán 2004, Teta et al. 2009). In Patagonia it was frequently caught among shrubs of *Larrea divaricata* and *Prosopis* sp. (Udrizar Sauthier 2009).

Here, we review the geographic distribution of *G. griseoflavus* in Patagonia based on (a) literature records, (b) small mammal trappings carried out during the past ten years, and (c) study of owl pellets. Two localities cited in the literature

[Junín de los Andes (ca. 39°56'S, 71°04'W); see Corley et al. 1995 (p. 320) and Río Chico, see Santillán et al. 2009 (p. 379), Figure 1] were considered as doubtful because of its extralimital condition and the absence of voucher specimens.

Patagonian steppes east of los Andes are characterized by two major floristic units: the Monte Province of the Chacoan Domain (*sensu* Cabrera 1976; Figure 1) and the Patagonian Province of the Andean-Patagonic Domain. The former is represented in the northeastern portion of the area and characterized by shrubby steppes of *Larrea divaricata*, *L. nitida* and *L. cuneifolia* accompanied by species of the genera *Lycium*, *Chuquiraga*, *Prosopis*, *Ephedra*, *Gutierrezia*, *Verbena* and *Baccharis* intermixed with grasses and herbs (León et al. 1998). The Patagonic Province is extended throughout western and southern extra-Andean areas of Patagonia and characterized by herbaceous and shrubby steppes dominated by xerophytic grasses of the genera *Festuca*, *Stipa*, *Poa* and *Deyeuxia* (León et al. 1998).

The recorded localities of *G. griseoflavus* in Patagonia are listed in Table 1 and depicted in Figure 1. We compiled 188 recording localities of which 141 are new. We extend 94 km southward, 176 km northward and 212 km westward the known distribution for this species. We achieved a better understanding of the geographic distribution of *G. griseoflavus* from its record in intermediate localities, especially in Central Patagonia (Chubut province) and northeast of Santa Cruz province. In a broad view, *G. griseoflavus* is almost restricted to the Monte Province. However, its western, northern and southern range extension in Patagonia surpasses the limits of this unit and penetrates into the Patagonic Province along the main watercourses that dissect the region, such as the rivers Negro, Chubut, Chico and Deseado (Figure 1). How these rivers promote the dispersion of this and, probably, other species is actually unknown. We can infer that microclimate mesic conditions, sandy soils and shrub development are significant elements for favoring dispersion. Populations of *G. griseoflavus* also occur over a narrow strip of territory on the Atlantic coastal sector (Figure 1). In turn, *G. griseoflavus* does not penetrate into the highlands of central Patagonia, as Somuncurá plateau or the central plateaus of Santa Cruz province (e.g., Gran Altiplanicie Central), where the climatic conditions are perhaps too hostile for this species. This distribution pattern, with insights into the steppe (Patagónica Province) following the courses of major rivers and along coastal areas, has been observed in other species of small mammals primarily linked to the Monte such as *Calomys musculus* (Thomas 1913), *Akodon iniscatus* (Thomas 1919) and *Thylamys pallidior* (Thomas 1902) (Pardiñas et al. 2003, Pardiñas 2009, Udrizar Sauthier 2009).



**Figure 1** Distribution map of *Graomys griseoflavus* in Patagonia (green dots: new locality records; red dots: previous records; Province of the Monte in Patagonia is highlighted). Circled letters denote localities cited in the main text: (a) Junín de los Andes, (b) río Chico and (c) Puerto Deseado).

For over a century, the southern-most recording locality for *G. griseoflavus* was Puerto Deseado ( $47^{\circ}44'S$ ,  $65^{\circ}53'W$ ) in Santa Cruz province (Burmeister 1879, Hershkovitz 1962). This locality was established on the basis of two specimens collected by H. Durnford during their explorations of the territory of Chubut and deposited in the mammal collection of the Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales “Bernardino Rivadavia” (MACN) (Burmeister 1879). However, as it was previously noted (cf. Heinonen and Haene 1994: p. 2) and verified by us, of the two specimens collected by Durnford only one was found in the museum collections (MACN 41.512), whereby the label only indicates “Chubut,

Patagonia” dated 03-06-1878 [this is the date of entry of material in the museum but not the collection date, since Durnford (1878: p. 391) left Chubut on 20-04-1878]. Although the collection locality is imprecise, it is possible that this specimen had been collected together with those studied by Thomas (1898) from the vicinity of the Welsh colony of Chubut (=Rawson city;  $43^{\circ}17'S$ ,  $65^{\circ}05'W$ ). In fact, Durnford (in Thomas 1898: p. 210) specifies that “This rat [*G. griseoflavus*] is only found close to the Colony in the summer...”. Unfortunately, the loss of the specimen MACN 40.513 left doubts about it and it could have been collected in Puerto Deseado; notwithstanding this, in the book of

**Table 1** Occurrence localities of *Graomys griseoflavus* in Patagonia (arranged in alphabetical order).

No.	Locality	Latitude S	Longitude W	Altitude	Province	Voucher	Main reference	Observations
1	1 km E Dique Ameghino	43°41'49"	66°27'47"	–	Chubut	CNP-E 130	This paper	Owl pellets
2	1 km N conjunction RPN°40 and RPN°12	43°34'26"	69°02'49"	312	Chubut	CNP-E 34	This paper	Owl pellets
3	1 km SE bridge RNN°40 on Neuquén river	37°24'50"	70°13'41"	812	Neuquén	CNP 1713	This paper	Trapped specimen
4	100 km W Dolavon	43°17'24"	67°04'52"	–	Chubut	–	Monjeau et al. 1997	Trapped specimen
5	13.5 km SE Paso del Sapo, on RPN°12	42°50'21"	69°32'01"	370	Chubut	CNP-E 115	This paper	Owl pellets
6	14 km SW Comodoro Rivadavia	45°53'00"	67°35'00"	–	Chubut	–	Rodríguez and Theiler 2007	Trapped specimen
7	16 km NE Los Adobes, on RPN°58	43°13'51"	68°40'54"	591	Chubut	CNP-E 333	This paper	Owl pellets
8	17 km W Sarmiento	43°36'14"	69°16'23"	272	Chubut	CNP-E 506	This paper	Owl pellets
9	2 km S Sierra Grande	41°38'00"	65°22'00"	287	Río Negro	CNP-E 3	This paper	Owl pellets
10	20 km E Los Altares	43°50'47"	68°11'48"	–	Chubut	CNP-E 252	This paper	Owl pellets
11	20 km E Paso Cordova	39°10'54"	67°24'19"	405	Río Negro	CNP-E 394	This paper	Owl pellets
12	20 km NW Los Menucos	40°44'07"	68°14'39"	962	Río Negro	CNP-E 462	This paper	Owl pellets
13	20 km S Pedro Luro	39°41'31"	62°40'25"	–	Buenos Aires	CNP-E 374	This paper	Owl pellets
14	22 km E Los Altares	43°49'55"	68°10'50"	–	Chubut	CNP-E 112	This paper	Owl pellets
15	22.5 km SE Paso del Sapo, on RPN°12	42°54'24"	69°28'52"	332	Chubut	CNP-E 160	This paper	Owl pellets
16	3 km NE Chichinales, on RNN°22	39°06'21"	66°55'08"	232	Río Negro	CNP-E 353	This paper	Owl pellets
17	3 km W Darwin	39°11'11"	65°48'24"	–	Río Negro	CNP-E 403	This paper	Owl pellets
18	3.3 km N A° de la Ventana	41°38'45"	66°04'30"	503	Río Negro	CNP-E 443	This paper	Owl pellets
19	30 km E Las Chapas	43°27'11"	66°06'50"	128	Chubut	CNP-E 37	This paper	Owl pellets
20	31.3 km N RPN°43	46°28'37"	68°04'41"	340	Santa Cruz	CNP-E 503	This paper	Owl pellets
21	36 km E Sarmiento	45°46'51"	68°42'02"	345	Chubut	CNP-E 455	This paper	Owl pellets
22	36 km NW Paso Berwin, on RPN°12	43°23'20"	69°10'13"	340	Chubut	CNP-E 66	This paper	Owl pellets
23	36 km W Los Altares	43°51'41"	68°49'31"	276	Chubut	CNP-E 51	Pardiñas et al. 2003	Owl pellets
24	45 km NW Viedma, on RNN°3	40°42'15"	63°31'22"	–	Río Negro	CNP-E 355	This paper	Owl pellets
25	45 km SE Telsen, on RPN°4	42°37'35"	66°29'25"	270	Chubut	CNP-E 339	This paper	Owl pellets
26	50 km N General Conesa	39°41'29"	64°22'15"	106	Río Negro	CNP-E 407	This paper	Owl pellets
27	50 km W Las Plumas	43°50'15"	67°47'34"	–	Chubut	CNP-E 54	This paper	Owl pellets
28	6 km ENE Ea. Los Nogales	42°37'50"	66°59'23"	166	Chubut	CNP-E 404	This paper	Owl pellets
29	7 km NE Las Chapas	43°34'17"	66°28'05"	195	Chubut	CNP-E 311	This paper	Owl pellets
30	7.3 km N conjunction RPN°27 and RPN°53	44°02'54"	68°04'59"	426	Chubut	CNP-E 321	This paper	Owl pellets
31	7.3 km SW Cabo Raso, on RPN°1	44°23'11"	65°18'19"	21	Chubut	CNP-E 310	This paper	Owl pellets
32	70 km NNE Valcheta	40°07'02"	66°00'57"	145	Río Negro	CNP-E 429	This paper	Owl pellets
33	8 km N Arroyo Verde	41°55'46"	65°18'28"	198	Río Negro	CNP-E 463	This paper	Owl pellets
34	8 km W Cañadón Carbón	43°51'25"	67°56'59"	208	Chubut	CNP-E 53	This paper	Owl pellets
35	8 km W Paso del Sapo	42°40'50"	69°40'27"	402	Chubut	CNP-E 224	This paper	Owl pellets
36	9.5 km W Las Plumas, on RNN°25	43°43'17"	67°22'45"	162	Chubut	CNP-E 300	This paper	Owl pellets

(Table 1 continued)

No.	Locality	Latitude S	Longitude W	Altitude	Province	Voucher	Main reference	Observations
37	Arroyo Covunco	38°30'03"	69°38'52"	545	Neuquén	CNP-E 422	This paper	Owl pellets
38	Arroyo Verde	42°00'30"	65°20'58"	100	Chubut	CNP-E 272	This paper	Owl pellets
39	Astra	45°44'00"	67°29'00"	115	Chubut	CNP-E 84	Nabte et al. 2006	Owl pellets
40	Bahía Cracker	42°57'02"	64°28'45"	16	Chubut	CNP 5	This paper	Trapped specimen
41	Bahía Creek	41°05'01"	63°55'55"	8	Río Negro	CNP-E 432	This paper	Owl pellets
42	Bahía San Blas	40°33'00"	62°13'00"	–	Buenos Aires	–	Pardiñas et al. 2004	–
43	Bajo los Huesos	43°11'42"	64°51'52"	12	Chubut	CNP 2022	This paper	Trapped specimen
44	Benjamín Zorrilla	39°05'48"	65°28'48"	–	Río Negro	CNP-E 408	This paper	Owl pellets
45	Boca Toma 1	43°27'05"	65°56'37"	–	Chubut	CNP-E 238	This paper	Owl pellets
46	Boca Toma 2	43°28'02"	66°01'27"	37	Chubut	CNP 221	This paper	Trapped specimen
47	Cabaña San José	40°57'51"	62°47'58"	–	Buenos Aires	–	Pardiñas et al. 2004	–
48	Caleta Valdés	42°26'07"	63°36'56"	–	Chubut	–	Monjeau et al. 1997	Trapped specimen
49	Camaronés	44°48'00"	65°42'00"	–	Chubut	MACN 16382	Heinonen and Haene 1994	–
50	Campo de Conrad	43°35'40"	66°20'39"	54	Chubut	CNP-E 113	This paper	Owl pellets
51	Campo de Cretón 1	42°41'27"	70°02'12"	446	Chubut	CNP 414	This paper	Trapped specimen
52	Campo de Cretón 2	42°41'46"	70°03'15"	429	Chubut	CNP-E 146	This paper	Owl pellets
53	Campo de Cretón 4	42°41'44"	70°01'33"	411	Chubut	CNP-E 124	This paper	Owl pellets
54	Campo de Cretón 5	42°41'56"	70°04'07"	443	Chubut	CNP-E 207	This paper	Owl pellets
55	Campo de Cretón 6	42°42'14"	70°02'31"	478	Chubut	CNP-E 126	This paper	Owl pellets
56	Campo de Davies	43°51'16"	68°20'27"	220	Chubut	CNP-E 142	This paper	Owl pellets
57	Campo de Moncada	42°38'26"	70°07'47"	451	Chubut	CNP-E 216	This paper	Owl pellets
58	Campo de Pichiñan 1	43°33'19"	69°04'04"	327	Chubut	CNP 1368	This paper	Trapped specimen
59	Campo de Pichiñan 2	43°33'50"	69°04'02"	282	Chubut	CNP-E 210	This paper	Owl pellets
60	Campo de Rueda, Gorro Frigio	43°04'45"	69°18'50"	363	Chubut	CNP 1141	This paper	Trapped specimen
61	Cañadón Carbón 1	43°50'07"	67°49'08"	203	Chubut	CNP 1213	This paper	Trapped specimen
62	Cañadón Carbón 2	43°49'14"	67°51'00"	257	Chubut	CNP-E 169	This paper	Owl pellets
63	Cañadón Carbón 4	43°49'27"	67°51'04"	227	Chubut	CNP-E 92	This paper	Owl pellets
64	Cañadón Carbón 5	43°49'18"	67°52'22"	226	Chubut	CNP-E 136	This paper	Owl pellets
65	Cañadón de la Buitrera	42°38'41"	70°06'07"	–	Chubut	CNP-E 8	This paper	Owl pellets
66	Cañadón del Loro	42°33'57"	69°52'09"	–	Chubut	CNP-E 38	This paper	Owl pellets
67	Cañadon Largo, La Trutruca	42°13'00"	67°17'00"	–	Chubut	–	Pardiñas et al. 2003	–
68	Cañadón Minerales 1	46°43'16"	67°35'27"	243	Santa Cruz	CNP-E 368	This paper	Owl pellets
69	Cañadón Minerales 2	46°44'59"	67°36'25"	223	Santa Cruz	CNP-E 365	This paper	Owl pellets
70	Caolineria Dique Ameghino	43°40'48"	66°25'57"	110	Chubut	CNP 1646	This paper	Trapped specimen
71	Cerro Avanzado, Cañadón próximo	42°49'40"	64°53'26"	–	Chubut	–	Dacik 1974	Trapped specimen
72	Cerro del Viento, 200 km W Dolavon	43°32'55"	68°07'46"	–	Chubut	–	Monjeau et al. 1997	Trapped specimen
73	Cerro El Sombrero	44°08'21"	68°15'48"	611	Chubut	CNP-E 294	This paper	Owl pellets
74	Cerro Guacho, Ea. Cerro Guacho	45°24'17"	68°28'45"	324	Chubut	CNP-E 304	This paper	Owl pellets
75	Chimpay	39°09'00"	66°08'00"	–	Río Negro	–	Hershkovitz 1962	–
76	China Muerta	40°24'04"	66°36'00"	238	Río Negro	CNP-E 400	This paper	Owl pellets
77	Choele Chol	39°17'00"	65°39'00"	–	Río Negro	–	Hershkovitz 1962	–
78	Cueva A° Los Bomberos	44°46'07"	65°49'37"	65	Chubut	CNP-E 275	This paper	Owl pellets
79	Cueva Caolineria Dique Ameghino	43°40'48"	66°25'57"	23	Chubut	CNP-E 155	This paper	Owl pellets
80	Cueva Carbón	43°49'32"	67°51'28"	182	Chubut	CNP-E 254	This paper	Owl pellets

(Table 1 continued)

No.	Locality	Latitude S	Longitude W	Altitude	Province	Voucher	Main reference	Observations
81	Cueva de la Vïborita	44°05'26"	66°42'17"	122	Chubut	CNP-E 341	This paper	Owl pellets
82	Cueva de la Virgen	43°42'10"	66°27'44"	89	Chubut	CNP-E 50	This paper	Owl pellets
83	Cueva Oreja	43°50'20"	67°47'59"	209	Chubut	CNP-E 397	This paper	Owl pellets
84	Cueva Peligro	43°40'18"	66°24'52"	–	Chubut	CNP-E 236	This paper	Owl pellets
85	Dique Ameghino	43°41'42"	66°27'21"	56	Chubut	CNP-E 159	This paper	Owl pellets
86	Dolavon	43°06'00"	65°48'00"	–	Chubut	MLP 2-VI-95-2	This paper	–
87	Ea. Aguada Chica	41°50'02"	65°01'57"	–	Chubut	CNP-E 301	This paper	Owl pellets
88	Ea. Campana Mahuida	41°38'34"	66°26'44"	659	Río Negro	CNP-E 74	This paper	Owl pellets
89	Ea. El Abra	40°30'09"	63°22'46"	–	Buenos Aires	–	Pardiñas et al. 2004	–
90	Ea. El Deseado	42°32'00"	64°51'29"	–	Chubut	–	Nabte 2003	Owl pellets
91	Ea. El Desempeño	42°30'37"	64°44'50"	–	Chubut	–	Nabte 2003	Owl pellets
92	Ea. El Doradillo	42°37'30"	65°01'29"	–	Chubut	–	Nabte 2003	Owl pellets
93	Ea. El Gauchito	45°11'00"	67°11'00"	–	Chubut	–	Pardiñas et al. 2000	Owl pellets
94	Ea. El Lucero	40°38'00"	62°47'55"	12	Buenos Aires	CNP-E 477	This paper	Owl pellets
95	Ea. El Oasis	42°32'00"	65°40'00"	150	Chubut	CNP-E 86	This paper	Owl pellets
96	Ea. El Pampero	42°25'38"	64°36'57"	–	Chubut	–	Nabte 2003	Owl pellets
97	Ea. La Colmena	42°12'58"	65°02'57"	–	Chubut	CNP-E 424	This paper	Owl pellets
98	Ea. La Elida	39°21'32"	63°19'21"	–	Buenos Aires	–	Pardiñas et al. 2004	–
99	Ea. La Esperanza	42°08'00"	64°57'00"	–	Chubut	CNP-E 9	This paper	Owl pellets
100	Ea. La Maciega, puesto El Palenque	44°25'55"	65°24'07"	72	Chubut	CNP-E 316	This paper	Owl pellets
101	Ea. La Madrugada	43°37'40"	68°57'08"	297	Chubut	CNP 301	This paper	Trapped specimen
102	Ea. La María	48°24'36"	68°52'11"	240	Santa Cruz	CNP-E 426	This paper	Owl pellets
103	Ea. La Perseverancia	41°07'34"	65°55'04"	337	Río Negro	CNP-E 423	This paper	Owl pellets
104	Ea. Las Charas	42°29'09"	64°40'01"	–	Chubut	–	Nabte 2003	Owl pellets
105	Ea. Los Manantiales	45°30'41"	67°29'10"	350	Chubut	CNP 27	This paper	Trapped specimen
106	Ea. Los Nogales	42°39'06"	67°03'28"	205	Chubut	CNP-E 402	This paper	Owl pellets
107	Ea. Los Pinos	42°57'19"	64°38'30"	0	Chubut	CNP-E 46	This paper	Owl pellets
108	Ea. Mallín Grande	42°23'08"	67°41'25"	1076	Chubut	CNP-E 309	This paper	Owl pellets
109	Ea. Puerto Visser	45°20'44"	67°08'45"	116	Chubut	CNP-E 319	This paper	Owl pellets
110	Ea. Santa Julia	39°08'03"	66°39'24"	175	Río Negro	CNP-E 396	This paper	Owl pellets
111	Ea. Sarasa	42°39'00"	65°23'00"	–	Chubut	–	Saba et al. 1995, Saba and Toyos 2003	Trapped specimen
112	El Espigón, 29 km S El Cóndor, on RPN°1	41°07'04"	63°00'31"	23	Río Negro	CNP 1670	This paper	Trapped specimen
113	Entrada a 28 de Julio, on RNN°25	43°20'51"	65°54'50"	88	Chubut	CNP-E 330	This paper	Owl pellets
114	Entrada a Los Altares	43°53'31"	68°23'54"	–	Chubut	–	Pardiñas et al. 2003	Owl pellets
115	Entrada Cantera Namuncurá	44°07'51"	65°26'05"	140	Chubut	CNP-E 305	This paper	Owl pellets
116	Escuela N°59, Fofó Cahuel	42°24'30"	70°31'46"	531	Chubut	CNP-E 181	This paper	Owl pellets
117	Est. El Rincón	40°59'29"	66°41'04"	–	Río Negro	–	Pardiñas et al. 2003	–
118	Est. El Torito 2, on RPN°12	43°12'29"	69°14'12"	349	Chubut	CNP-E 239	This paper	Owl pellets
119	Est. El Torito, on RPN°12	43°16'35"	69°08'29"	340	Chubut	CNP-E 134	This paper	Owl pellets
120	Est. Gorro Frigío	43°02'26"	69°19'55"	352	Chubut	CNP 1560	This paper	Trapped specimen
121	Est. La Elvira	43°13'58"	65°55'53"	–	Chubut	CNP-E 184	This paper	Owl pellets

(Table 1 continued)

No.	Locality	Latitude S	Longitude W	Altitude	Province	Voucher	Main reference	Observations
122	Est. Pozo Salado	40°55'24"	64°07'43"	14	Río Negro	CNP-E 475	This paper	Owl pellets
123	Est. San Nicolás	41°43'50"	67°09'49"	884	Río Negro	CNP 1688	This paper	Trapped specimen
124	Estación de Balizamiento	42°47'48"	65°01'36"	–	Chubut	–	De Santis et al. 1997	Owl pellets
125	Fofo Cahuel	42°22'31"	70°29'39"	–	Chubut	CNP-E 165	This paper	Owl pellets
126	Gorro Frigio	43°05'14"	69°19'31"	340	Chubut	CNP-E 40	This paper	Owl pellets
127	Holdich	45°57'58"	66°12'02"	–	Chubut	CNP	This paper	–
128	Isla Escondida 1	43°39'18"	65°20'05"	48	Chubut	CNP-E 273	This paper	Owl pellets
129	Isla Escondida 2	43°40'27"	65°20'49"	–	Chubut	CNP 1305	This paper	Trapped specimen
130	Istmo Carlos Ameghino	42°33'34"	64°15'52"	–	Chubut	–	Monjeau et al. 1997	Trapped specimen
131	Km 1467 RNN°3 S Trelew	43°20'05"	65°18'12"	50	Chubut	CNP-E 332	This paper	Owl pellets
132	La Angostura	43°21'24"	65°37'36"	31	Chubut	CNP-E 106	This paper	Owl pellets
133	Laguna La Blanca	42°49'17"	65°08'08"	65	Chubut	CNP 1360	De Santis and Pagnoni 1989, this paper	Owl pellets
134	Las Chapas	43°36'25"	66°31'53"	227	Chubut	CNP-E 315	This paper	Trapped specimen
135	Las Grutas	40°50'00"	65°07'00"	10	Río Negro	–	Pardiñas et al. 2003, Nabte et al. 2006	Owl pellets
136	Las Plumas	43°43'48"	67°15'48"	167	Chubut	CNP 1215	This paper	Trapped specimen
137	Lle Cul	43°20'00"	65°35'00"	–	Chubut	–	García Esponda et al. 1998	Owl pellets
138	Los Altares 1	43°50'40"	68°25'20"	255	Chubut	CNP-E 94	This paper	Owl pellets
139	Los Altares 3	43°53'49"	68°24'17"	254	Chubut	CNP-E 232	Pardiñas et al. 2003	Owl pellets
140	Los Altares 4	43°52'34"	68°24'53"	239	Chubut	CNP 1658	This paper	Trapped specimen
141	Los Altares 5	43°53'13"	68°23'53"	–	Chubut	CNP 114	This paper	Trapped specimen
142	Meseta Espinosa	46°32'29"	67°58'34"	343	Santa Cruz	CNP-E 363	This paper	Owl pellets
143	Monumento Natural Bosques Petrificados	47°40'18"	68°01'11"	–	Santa Cruz	–	Heinonen and Haene 1994, O. Pearson notes 1981: 7 (MVZ)	Owl pellets
144	Neuquén	38°54'42"	68°03'56"	336	Neuquén	–	This paper	Trapped specimen
145	Pampa de los Guanacos	45°21'47"	68°38'28"	423	Chubut	CNP-E 303	This paper	Owl pellets
146	Pampa de Salamanca	45°21'49"	67°22'46"	600	Chubut	CNP-E 307	This paper	Owl pellets
147	Paso del Sapo	42°43'51"	69°35'25"	396	Chubut	CNP 1606	This paper	Trapped specimen
148	Pichi Mahuida	38°50'03"	64°56'14"	130	Río Negro	–	Thomas 1927	Trapped specimen
149	Pico Salamanca	45°24'34"	67°25'00"	–	Chubut	CNP-E 461	This paper	Owl pellets
150	Pico Truncado	46°50'57"	68°08'12"	167	Santa Cruz	CNP-E 464	This paper	Owl pellets
151	Piedra Clavada Sur	46°42'40"	68°40'58"	215	Santa Cruz	CNP-E 357	This paper	Owl pellets
152	Piedra Grande 1	43°37'27"	66°22'43"	17	Chubut	CNP-E 114	This paper	Owl pellets
153	Piedra Grande 2	43°36'06"	66°22'53"	70	Chubut	CNP 1428	This paper	Trapped specimen
154	Piedra Museo (Laguna del Diez)	47°53'42"	67°52'04"	–	Santa Cruz	CNP-E 21	Pardiñas 1999	Owl pellets
155	Piedra Parada	42°38'14"	70°13'25"	–	Chubut	CNP-E 213	This paper	Owl pellets
156	Playa Fracasso	42°25'50"	64°07'27"	0	Chubut	CNP 1455	This paper	Trapped specimen
157	Playa Kaiser	42°47'00"	64°58'00"	–	Chubut	CNP-E 26	This paper	Owl pellets
158	Playa Paraná	42°48'13"	64°56'26"	–	Chubut	CNP-E 183	This paper	Owl pellets
159	Puente Nollman, Chico river and RPN°27	45°18'34"	67°44'26"	235	Chubut	CNP-E 312	This paper	Owl pellets

(Table 1 continued)

No.	Locality	Latitude S	Longitude W	Altitude	Province	Voucher	Main reference	Observations
160	Puerto Lobos	42°00'35"	65°04'19"	1	Chubut	CNP-E 257	Udrizar Sauthier and Pardiñas 2006	Owl pellets
161	Puerto Madryn, ALUAR	42°44'20"	65°02'45"	–	Chubut	CNP 1362	This paper	Trapped specimen
162	Puerto Piojo	44°53'00"	65°40'19"	6	Chubut	CNP 2021	This paper	Trapped specimen
163	Puerto Pirámide	42°34'12"	64°16'35"	–	Chubut	–	Daciuk 1974, Monjeau et al. 1997, 1998	Trapped specimen
164	Punta Delgada	42°46'00"	63°38'00"	–	Chubut	MLP 2.III.00.8	Pardiñas et al. 2001	Owl pellets
165	Punta Este	42°47'00"	64°56'00"	–	Chubut	–	De Santis and Pagnoni 1989	Owl pellets
166	Punta León	43°04'08"	64°28'01"	–	Chubut	CNP-E 95	This paper	Owl pellets
167	Punta Loma	42°49'03"	64°54'35"	–	Chubut	CNP 1025	This paper	Trapped specimen
168	Punta Mejillón	41°00'48"	64°09'51"	0	Río Negro	CNP 1687	This paper	Trapped specimen
169	Punta Norte, near Ea. La Ernestina	42°04'46"	63°45'35"	–	Chubut	–	Daciuk 1974	Trapped specimen
170	Punta Tombo	44°02'54"	65°13'34"	–	Chubut	MACN 16384	This paper	–
171	Rawson	43°17'57"	65°05'47"	–	Chubut	MACN 4732	Thomas 1898, Herskovitz 1962, Heinonen and Haene 1994	Trapped specimen
172	Res. Prov. Isla de los Pájaros, alred. de vivienda	42°25'46"	64°31'00"	–	Chubut	–	Daciuk 1974	Trapped specimen
173	Riacho San José	42°25'36"	64°36'05"	–	Chubut	–	Massoia et al. 1988	Owl pellets
174	Río Negro (=Carmen de Patagones)	40°46'59"	62°58'00"	–	Río Negro	–	Waterhouse 1837, 1839	Trapped specimen
175	RNN°25 and RPN°27	43°51'25"	67°56'59"	228	Chubut	CNP-E 231	This paper	Owl pellets
176	R.P.P. Loma, cañadón próx. a Lobería	42°48'46"	64°53'49"	–	Chubut	–	Daciuk 1974	Trapped specimen
177	RPN°33, 6 km S RPN°12	42°41'51"	70°07'32"	574	Chubut	CNP-E 234	This paper	Owl pellets
178	RPN°30 and A° Los Bomberos	44°46'14"	65°49'07"	5	Chubut	CNP 1354	This paper	Trapped specimen
179	RPN°40, bridge on Chubut river	43°37'15"	68°57'05"	301	Chubut	CNP-E 230	This paper	Owl pellets
180	Salina Chica	42°39'56"	63°51'09"	–	Chubut	CNP-E 14	This paper	Owl pellets
181	San Carlos	40°02'11"	67°56'37"	650	Río Negro	F. Llanos personal collection	This paper	Owl pellets
182	Sierra del Portezuelo	38°55'00"	69°32'00"	–	Neuquén	–	Pardiñas et al. 2003	Owl pellets
183	Sierra Grande	41°38'26"	65°22'01"	289	Río Negro	CNP-E 389	This paper	Owl pellets
184	Telsen	42°21'00"	67°01'00"	395	Chubut	–	Nabte et al. 2006	Owl pellets
185	Tres Cuevas	42°38'50"	70°09'10"	435	Chubut	CNP-E 158	This paper	Owl pellets
186	Valle Hermoso	45°46'08"	68°30'57"	–	Chubut	–	Massoia and Pardiñas 1988	Owl pellets
187	Vieja pasarela de Piedra Parada	42°40'17"	70°05'13"	455	Chubut	CNP 1069	This paper	Trapped specimen
188	Villa Regina	39°06'00"	67°05'00"	–	Río Negro	–	Massoia and Vetrano 1988	Owl pellets

Acronyms for institutions are as follows: Argentina: Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales "Bernardino Rivadavia" (MACN); Museo de La Plata (MLP); Chubut, Colección de Mamíferos (CNP) and Colección de Materiales de Egagróptilas y Afines "Elío Massoia" (CNP-E) of Centro Nacional Patagónico (GENPAT-CONICET), Puerto Madryn, Chubut.

entries of the MACN mammal collection this specimen is also consigned with “Chubut” as locality. Furthermore, a critical appraisal of the Durnford’s journey (Durnford 1878, Anonymous 1883) strongly suggests that the southern-most point reached by this voyager was 45°50’S, 69°50’W (Durnford 1878; erroneously consigned as 46°50’S in Anonymous 1883), more than 315 km N in straight line from Puerto Deseado. The discussion about the presence of *G. griseoflavus* in Puerto Deseado and surroundings is not a minor issue. Although it was subsequently registered in southern localities of Santa Cruz province (see Heinonen and Haene 1994, Pardiñas 1999, this contribution), its persistent absence around Puerto Deseado and the lower course of the Deseado river is noteworthy. This absence appears not to be an artifact of sampling, because there are seven owl pellets samples from this sector (minimal number of specimen=1091; unpublished data) and no specimen of *G. griseoflavus* was registered. Apparently, this rodent avoids the Deseado Massif reaching southern Santa Cruz latitudes through an inland diagonal “corridor” adjacent and perhaps partially “sheltered” by the basaltic plateaus that characterize northcentral Austral Patagonia. A similar distributional pattern to those observed in *G. griseoflavus* is demonstrated by other species of small mammals typically associated with the Monte (e.g., *Akodon iniscatus*).

We can learn from this note that *G. griseoflavus* is an important component of the rodent diversity in Patagonia occupying a significant portion of this vast territory. As many other small mammal species not typically present in the western portion of this region, *G. griseoflavus* was, in part, ignored as a Patagonian element. In the past decade, an impressive amount of data from a variety of sources and approaches are contributing to depict a new geography for Patagonian mammals (Lessa et al. 2010). We are confident that in the near future refined databases as presented here for *G. griseoflavus* will be crucial for a better analyses and understanding of biotic evolution in the Southern Cone of South America.

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