

Review of: "A Dataset of Small-Mammal Detections in West Africa and Their Associated Micro-Organisms"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The authors should be commended for carrying out this timely and comprehensive study covering West Africa for over 58 years. It is an interesting study.

My comments are given below:

1. The title is misleading. The study focuses only on rodents as
 - authors claim data come from "127**rodent** trappings."
 - Keywords used for data acquisition were "rodents" instead of small mammals.

Thus, the title should be revised accordingly.

2. Inconsistency in the number of countries where the research was carried out. Although there are 14 West African countries in the ABSTRACT, in METHODS, 16 countries were defined as West African countries, and in Data Description, 17 West African countries are mentioned. This needs to be corrected.

A conclusion highlighting the significant findings of the study, the primary pathogens, the host species that harbor higher numbers, and the countries/regions that are at high risk and *vice versa*, would have been useful. I recommend a section discussing the data as it will be very useful for the reader.