

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

Carlos Baak-Baak<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán

**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

This work is interesting and has the potential to contribute to future research in West Africa concerning the diversity of rodents and their associated microorganisms. I have some comments.

## Title

The title should focus on rodents since it is the taxonomic group to which the work database refers.

## Abstract

In the search strategy, you list 16 countries; change 14 to 16.

## Context

To update data on existing rodents, I recommend checking the ASM Mammal Diversity Database page ([www.mammaldiversity.org](http://www.mammaldiversity.org)).

## Search strategy

-In the first inclusion criteria, change small mammals to rodents.

-I consider that eliminating documents that are not in English limits valuable information about rodents and their microorganisms in the region.

-Mention the total number of published manuscripts found.

-I understand that they took the names of the rodents as they were in the publication they consulted, so there is still a bias in the nominal species of rodents. Consulting experts in systematics is necessary to determine the valid names of the rodent species in the region. The work does not explain how it addressed the complex of rodent species.

- Describe the most important results on rodent diversity by country: are there species of rodents more infected by pathogens, are some countries more sampled, and what role do endemic rodents have in the storage of pathogens?

Regards

