

عنوان مقاله:

Geometric morphometric analysis of the second upper molar of the genus *Apodemus* (Muridae: Rodentia) in Northern Iran

محل انتشار:

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خلاصه مقاله:

Wood mice of the genus *Apodemus* are widespread in temperate areas of the Palaearctic region. Dental shape variation and morphological differences among three species of *Apodemus* (*A. witherbyi*, *A. hyrcanicus*, *A. uralensis*) were investigated using outline-based geometric morphometrics of the second upper molar (M2/) and a morphological study of 92 museum specimens belonging to five populations of *Apodemus* in northern Iran (East Azerbaijan, Khorasan, Tehran, Golestan, and Noor) were analyzed and identified. All species were distinguishable by the shape of the second upper molar (M2/). The Noor population was identified as *A. hyrcanicus*, and the Khorasan, Tehran, East Azerbaijan populations overlap with specimens of *A. witherbyi* and are differentiated from *A. uralensis* and *A. hyrcanicus*. Two species (*A. hyrcanicus* and *A. witherbyi*) were detected in the population from Golestan. Morphological traits could not separate *A. uralensis* from *A. witherbyi*, and according to the results of canonical variate analysis (CVA), only *A. hyrcanicus* is separate from the other two studied species.

کلمات کلیدی:

Apodemus, geometric morphometrics, morphology, Iran, molar

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