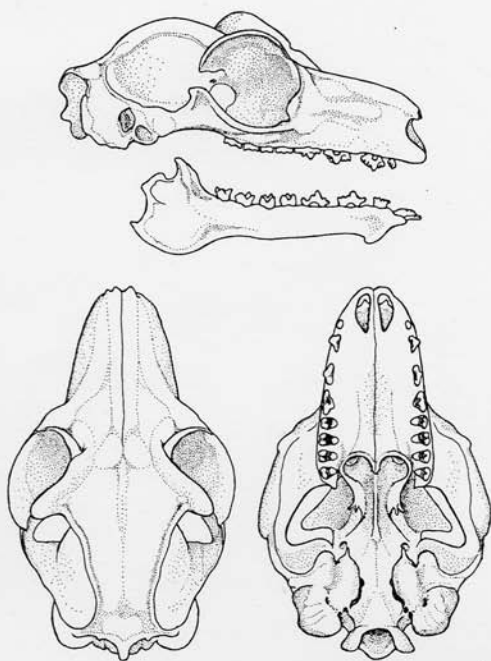


ORDER DERMOPTERA

Family CYNOCEPHALIDAE
(Flying lemurs of colugos)

Colugos are a taxonomic enigma. Probably they represent an offshoot of a primitive insectivore stock that has become modified for a strictly arboreal existence. Specializations for this habit include gliding membranes, enlarged radius, reduced and partly ligamentous ulna, and keeled sternum. The face of flying lemurs is fox-like, the eyes are large, and the fur is soft. The skull and teeth are peculiar (see below and Fig. 31).



These animals hang sloth-like from branches, and move with slow deliberate motions. They eat leaves, flowers, and fruit. One young is born each year.

One genus, 2 species; Asia, including Burma, Indochina, Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippine Islands.

Recognition Characters:

- **membrane extending from neck to digits of forefeet, from forelimbs to digits of hindfeet, and from hindlimbs to tip of tail.**
 - **two inner lower incisors on each side wide, comb-like, and procumbent; outer lower incisor multi-cusped (Fig. 31).**
1. forelimbs and hindlimbs \pm equal in size.
 2. soles of feet flat, resembling suction cups.
 3. **cranium broad, flattened** (Fig. 31).
 4. postorbital process well developed.
 5. temporal ridges prominent.
 6. upper incisors of left and right sides separated by large gap (Fig. 31).
 7. canines indistinct, premolar-like (Fig. 31).

Dental formula: $\frac{2 \ 1 \ 2 \ 3}{3 \ 1 \ 2 \ 3} = 34$

Genus:

Cynocephalus (2) - Flying lemurs.

Remarks: There are no general accounts of the natural history of this group. The osteology was described by Shufeldt (1911).

Figure 31. Skull of a cynocephalid (*Cynocephalus*, x $\frac{3}{4}$).