

動物園食蟹獾行爲之初步研究

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摘要

為瞭解食蟹獾的行爲，自民國 76 年 8 月至 77 年 12 月在台北市立木柵動物園觀察食蟹獾的行爲。初步結果顯示，園內之食蟹獾為晨昏活動較頻繁的動物。即清晨 5 至 7 時及傍晚 17 至 19 時活動頻率較高的雙峰型分佈。一天之中大部分時間不活動 (81.7%)，夜間 20 時以後至清晨 5 時以前幾乎都在睡覺。活動的行爲以運動所佔比率較高 (41.8%)，其次依序為觀望、進食、修飾、聞嗅、敵對、玩耍、摸索、交配行爲、鳴叫及排遺等。就園內食蟹獾雌雄之間行爲比較而言沒有顯著差異。就敵對行爲而言，對峙威脅的頻率 (77.7%) 較咬鬥的頻率 (22.3%) 高。咬鬥在繁殖季節發生的頻率比非繁殖季節高。咬鬥的時間大都在 5 秒以內。雌雄之間的敵對行爲通常是同性相敵對，異性之間則較少。就敵對行爲發生之地點而言在洞穴及餵食區附近發生之頻率較高。園內食蟹獾的交配行爲從一月初到八月初之間的每個月份裡都曾觀察到。從個體間睡一起、少敵對、較多相互修飾、有交配的情形來看，園內食蟹獾有成對和分群的現象。

食蟹獾 (*Herpestes urva*) 屬於獾哥 (Mongoose) 的一種。獾哥和麝貓 (Civets)、靈貓 (Linsangs) 和獾 (Genets) 同屬於靈貓科動物。靈貓科有 37 屬 66 種，獾哥佔其中的 17 屬 31 種 (Macdonald, 1986)。雖然獾哥有 31 種，但至今只有部分的種類被研究過。例如黃獾哥 (*Cynictis penicillata*)，(Earle 1981)；細長獾哥 (*Herpestes sanguineus*)，(Baker 1981)；沼澤獾哥 (*Atilax paludinosus*)，(Frese 1981)；條紋獾哥 (*Mungos mungo* Gmelin)，(Neal 1970, Viljoen 1980, Messeri 1987 *et al.*)；小矮獾哥 (*Helogale parvula*)，(Ruedi 1983, Rasa 1973)；埃及獾哥 (*Herpestes*

ichneumon)，(Delibes and Beltran 1985)；帶狀獾哥 (*Herpestes vitticollis*)，(Ramachandran 1985)。

食蟹獾除出現在台灣外，亦分佈於中國南方、尼泊爾、印度、緬甸、中南半島、海南島、蘇門答臘、婆羅洲和菲律賓等地 (Macdonald 1986)。在這些地區對牠的研究資料很少，例如食蟹獾分佈新記錄 (Reza Khan 1979)、越南靈貓科的形態和生態學 (An' and Ahn 1980)，台灣獾哥血漿中之螺旋菌 (Tsai and Fresh 1971) 等。而國內有關牠的生物學資料也非常缺乏，僅限於初步的介紹，例如形態、分類及分佈等 (陳 1969，林 1981)、初略習性 (李 1988) 等。對於牠

A Preliminary Study on the Behavior of the Crab-eating Mongoose (*Herpestes urva*) in Captivity

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The behavioral aspects and the distribution of the Crab-eating mongoose (*Herpestes urva*) in Taiwan were studied at Taipei Zoo from August 1987 to December 1988. Eighteen captive animals showed crepuscular habits and were most active after dawn (5-7am) and before dark (5-7pm). Everyday they were almost inactive (81.7%) and slept throughout the night (20:00~05:00). Locomotion took up a high proportion (41.8%) of their activity pattern which was followed by watching, eating, grooming, smelling, fighting, playing, propping, mating, calling, defecating, and urinating. Little difference in behavior was observed between both sexes except the females showed a higher frequency in fighting during reproductive seasons. Agonistic behavior was most common among animals of the same sex and it usually happened near covers or feeding areas. Mating behavior was quite common between January and August. The Captive mongooses were observed to form social groups or pairs. They cuddled together, animated tribe, cleaning each other, involving mating. The mongooses seemed groups.