

1 **Appendix A. Supporting information**

2 **Table A1.** Mean values of external body measurements (mm) and mass (g) for rodents and  
 3 shrews captured (sexes combined). Numbers in brackets show the range of the measurements.

4 HB = Head and Body length; T = Tail length; HF = Hind Foot length; E = Ear Length.

| Species                            | Weight          | HB                | T               | HF             | E              |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <i>Mastomys natalensis</i>         | 36.8 (20 - 89)  | 104.1 (78 - 140)  | 98.0 (70 - 125) | 21.6 (18 - 26) | 17.4 (15 - 21) |
| <i>Saccostomus campestris</i>      | 53 (37 - 77)    | 119.5 (103 - 139) | 36.5 (31 - 46)  | 17.9 (16 - 20) | 17.7 (16 - 20) |
| <i>Elephantulus brachyrhynchus</i> | 35.6 (18 - 46)  | 109.2 (82 - 124)  | 79.2 (59 - 91)  | 25.8 (25 - 27) | 19 (17 - 21)   |
| <i>Crocidura hirta</i>             | 13 (9 - 15)     | 80.2 (72 - 91)    | 50.8 (45 - 56)  | 13.7 (12 - 15) | 8.2 (7 - 10)   |
| <i>Steatomys prantensis</i>        | 26.2 (15 - 39)  | 99 (80 - 115)     | 47.5 (42 - 53)  | 15.7 (15 - 17) | 16.5 (16 - 17) |
| <i>Mus minutoides</i>              | 7.5 (5 - 10)    | 61.5 (57 - 66)    | 44 (43 - 45)    | 11.5 (10 - 13) | 8.5 (8 - 9)    |
| <i>Rattus rattus</i>               | 32 (28 - 36)    | 106.5 (100 - 113) | 103 (97 - 109)  | 23 (22 - 24)   | 18             |
| <i>Crocidura nigrofusca</i>        | 14.5 (11 - 17)  | 81.8 (73 - 89)    | 53.3 (50 - 57)  | 15 (14 - 16)   | 6.5 (6 - 7)    |
| <i>Steatomys parvus</i>            | 13.5 (7 - 20)   | 74 (61 - 86)      | 48.6 (42 - 54)  | 14.7 (13 - 17) | 11.7 (10 - 13) |
| <i>Dendromus mesomelas</i>         | 10 (9 - 11)     | 68 (66 - 70)      | 86 (84 - 88)    | 19.5 (19 - 20) | 13.5 (13 - 14) |
| <i>Gerbilliscus leucogaster</i>    | 67              | 134               | 131             | 33             | 20             |
| <i>Arvicanthis niloticus</i>       | 72 (64 - 81)    | 130 (120 - 142)   | 122 (104 - 140) | 29.7 (28 - 31) | 15.7 (15 - 17) |
| <i>Acomys spinosissimus</i>        | 23.7 (20 - 27)  | 82.5 (79 - 89)    | 87 (84 - 90)    | 15.5 (14 - 17) | 12.8 (11 - 14) |
| <i>Aethomys sp.</i>                | 93.7 (62 - 126) | 155 (134 - 175)   | 122 (107 - 137) | 25 (23 - 27)   | 19.7 (19 - 20) |