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## Review of *Suomen Nisäkkäät [Mammals of Finland]* by L. Siivonen (Otava Publishing Company, 1972)

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## REVIEWS

Siivonen, L. (ed.). *SUOMEN NISÄKKÄÄT* [MAMMALS OF FINLAND]. Otava Publishing Company, Helsinki, Finland. 2 vols., 474 + 435 pp., illustrated, 1972. Price, 130 Fmk (U. S. \$35).

In 1956, Lauri Siivonen brought together the existing information concerning the mammals of Finland in his book, *Suuri Nisäkkäskirja*. Now, another significant contribution to mammalogy has been made through his efforts. Dr. Siivonen, who is Professor of Zoology at the University of Oulu, was responsible alone or with a colleague for about half of the chapters in these new volumes. The 28 contributing authors include Matti Helminen, Olavi Kalela, Teppo Lampio, Erkki Pulliainen, and others whose work is well known to American mammalogists.

The first part of volume 1 (137 pages) consists of brief discussions of mammalian distribution, reproduction, territory and home range, ethology, daily and seasonal patterns of activity, predator-prey relationships, effects of snow-cover, and other subjects. In this section, Prof. Siivonen has reviewed the zoogeography of Fennoscandian mammals, based on current concepts of climatic events during Würm time, and he considers that cold-adapted species probably spread northward during the last interstadial, after which they survived the last glacial advance in ice-free regions along the coast of what is now Norway.

The greater part of volume 1 and all of volume 2 are devoted to accounts of 66 species, arranged in systematic order and with each section prefaced by a discussion of ordinal characteristics. The accounts range in length from about one page for species not occurring in Finland but present elsewhere in Fennoscandia or in adjacent regions (for example, *Vespertilio murinus* L.), to 20 to 25 pages for others, comparatively well known, such as mountain hare and brown bear. Seven species of marine mammals are considered, as are three introduced from North America (mink, muskrat, and white-tailed deer). Well executed maps show the known distribution of each species in Fennoscandia and adjacent regions, and where appropriate, additional maps document changes in geographic ranges in Finland. Each account is accompanied by numerous black-and-white photographs of excellent quality (for example, 18 for the red squirrel, 10 for the wolf, 20 for moose), showing animals engaged in normal activities, habitat, dens, tracks, and other details. In addition, 41 color photographs portray 40 species in natural surroundings. The colors are faithfully reproduced in nearly all, and those of small mammals are of exceptional quality. The last four pages of volume 2 provide a list of scientific names with Finnish and Swedish vernacular names. Both Latin and Finnish names are included in the index. The books are printed on glossy paper of high quality and are well bound in linen.

The volumes do not include a bibliography, since two earlier books by Prof. Siivonen [*Pohjoislahti Nisäkkäät* (Mammals of Northern Europe), 1967, and *Nordeuropas Däggdjur*, 1968] provide sources of literature, taxonomic considerations, and synonymies. The present work will probably have less use than it deserves among mammalogists not literate in the Finnish language. However, the disadvantage in this respect is offset by the profuse illustrations (41 color, 596 black-and-white, 98 maps, and numerous diagrams and line-drawings). The maps of distribution and the photographs alone make these books well worth the investment.—ROBERT L. RAUSCH, Arctic Health Research Center, U.S. Public Health Service, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701.