

ZEOGRAPHICAL REGION

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Faunal composition of various zoogeographical regions



Endemic families

1. *Hippopotamidae* (hippopotamus)
2. *Orycteropidae* (Aard Varks)
3. *Chrysochloridae* (Golden moles)
4. *Anamoluridae* (flying squirrels)
5. *Giraffidae* (giraffs)
6. *Potamagolidae* (otter shrew)
7. *Marcoscelidae* (elephant shrews)
8. *Pedetidae* (spring hass)
9. *Thyronomyidae* (cane rats)
10. *Ctenodactylidae* (Gundis)
11. *Petromuridae* (rock rats)
12. *Bathyergidae* (sand burrowing rodent)

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Birds

- ❖ Birds are very numerous in this region .
- ❖ Cuckoos, hornbills, woodpeckers, king fishers, bee eater, weaver birds, orioles, owls, goat suckers, storks, pigeons, parrots, pheasants, sunbirds, guinea fowls, secretary birds, ostriches etc.
- ❖ Six families are unique to this region these are including ostriches, secretary birds, hammer heads, crested touracos, mouse birds, and helmet shrikes.

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Reptiles

- ❖ Reptilian fauna very much rich.
- ❖ Turtles, agamid, crocodiles, monitor lizard, python, vipers boas etc.
- ❖ Of the total 50 species of chameleons, 46 species are found in this region .
- ❖ Particularly Girdled lizards to this region.

amphibians

- ❖ Amphibians are less distinctive.
- ❖ Toads and frogs are numerous .
- ❖ Tailed amphibians and tree frogs are absent in this region.
- ❖ Only notable family dectylethridae (xenopus ,clawed toad) is special for this region.

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Affinities

- In number of unique families point of view, it is the second to the Neotropical region .
- Ethiopian region shares with Palaearctic , families of Jerboas, coneys, dormice and wild horses .
- It differs markedly fro this region in being without moles, beaver, bears and camels .

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Australian region

- ☐ ***Australian region covers Australia, Tasmania, New guinea and the few of smaller islands of Indonesian archipelago.***
- ☐ ***Newzealand and pacific islands are not included in this region .***
- ☐ ***Many workers prefer to treat them separately as ancient island and oceanic island respectively.***

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climate

- ☐ ***Australian region is partly tropical and partly temperate .***
- ☐ ***Southern Australia is of temperate climate.***
- ☐ ***Eucalyptus and mixed hard wood forests .***
- ☐ ***Interior Australian continent consists of hot, arid plains and deserts .***

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physical and geographical features

- *The region is unique having no land connection.*
- *New guinea and northern part of Australia are tropical, with high summer temperature.*
- *Covered with luxuriant tropical rain forests.*
- *Southern side Australia is of temperate climate with woody forests and deserts.*

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Zoological characteristics

- ***There is absence of higher placental mammals.***
- ***There is presence of a variety of primitive form of mammals , primitive forms include mammals such as monotremes (egg laying mammals), marsupials (pouched mammals) .***
- ***Among birds such as Cassowaries, emus, tooth billed ,pigeon, birds of paradise .***
- ***Among reptiles such as scale footed lizard .***
- ***Among aquatic animals like neoceratodus (lug fish)fresh water mussel trigonia, and mountain shrimp (anaspids).***

Hence Australian region is often referred to as the “veritable museum of archaic animals

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Over all Comparative fauna to zoological aspects of the region

Australian

- ❖ *Australian region has 134 families of terrestrial vertebrates of which 30 are unique to this region.*
- ❖ *30 families are endemic to this region.*
 - a. *8 of mammals*
 - b. *17 of birds*
 - c. *3 of reptiles*
 - d. *2 of amphibians*

Total nine mammals families there is only one family of placental mammals other 8 are monotremes. The dominant mammalian fauna consists of marsupial mammals .

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Unique families of the mammals to Australian region

- **Two families of monotremes are duckbill platypus and echidna**

Birds

- ❖ **Ten families of birds are unique to Australian region are flightless birds are emus and cassowaries, honey suckers, lyre birds, bower birds, tooth billed pigeons, birds of paradise.**
- ❖ **Absence of pheasants, woodpeckers, barbets and finches.**

reptiles

- ❖ **In Australian region reptiles, only moderately varied and only two families are exclusively found**
 - a. **Carettochelydidae** b. **Pygopodidae**

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- ❖ *250 species of small lizard*
- ❖ *Among large lizards komodo dragons, a varanid , only is notable.*
- ❖ *Crocodiles occur in tropical parts of the region*

Amphibians

- ❖ *Australia is the only region in which the common toad are absent and tail amphibians are also absent.*
- ❖ *Common frogs and tree frogs are represented by 100 species.*

fishes

- ❖ *Fresh water fauna is very poor .*
- ❖ *Only 3 genera of the lung fish is found in rivers of Queensland.*

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Neotropical region

It includes south America ,most of Mexico and the West indies.

Climate

- ☐ *This region is mostly tropical but the southern region extends into the south temperate zone.*
- ☐ *The Amazon river basin has a high rain fall all the year.*
- ☐ *Tropical forests*
- ☐ *Total absence of deserts .*
- ☐ *Treeless grassy plains*
- ☐ *Temperature fluctuations in some parts.*
- ☐ *Mountains*
- ☐ *Severe climate in some part of extent o degree*

THANK YOU