

BODY MEASUREMENTS OF A FEMALE SERVAL *Felis serval* Schreber, 1776, FROM THE EASTERN TRANSVAAL

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No measurements of serval in the Transvaal Museum collection are available (Rautenbach 1982, *Mammals of the Transvaal*, Pretoria: Ecoplan). Smithers (1983, *The Mammals of the Southern African Subregion*, University of Pretoria, Pretoria), only lists measurements of serval from Zimbabwe. An opportunity to obtain measurements from an adult female serval in the Eastern Transvaal Lowveld arose when an animal trapped between two security fences at Hoedspruit (24° 16'S; 31° 03'E) died during an attempt to release it on 28th May 1982.

The carcass was measured and weighed one hour after death, according to the criteria of Smithers (1971, *The Mammals of Bostwana, Memoir 4, National Museums of Rhodesia, Salisbury*), unless otherwise defined in parentheses. The stomach was opened and was found to be empty, though the animal appeared to be in good health. Measurements (in millimetres) were as follows:

Total length	1 145
Head length	155
Tail length	295
Hind foot (including longest claw)	180
Shoulder height (foot pad to dorsal extremity of scapula)	580
Chest circumference (behind axilla)	360
Neck circumference (across the axis)	200
Ear length	80
Upper canine (apex to gum line)	13
Lower canine (apex to gum line)	12
Mass	9,1 kg