Mating Behavior of Tarsius tarsier in Captivity

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Abstract : Copulatory (mating) pattern was varied among mammals, and species may have species-typical patterns. Studies on mating behavior of tarsier that had been reported were study on Tarsius bancanus. Whereas, until now mating behavior of Tarsius tarsier has never been reported. The aim of this study was to study the mating behavior of T. tarsier in captivity. Three pairs of T. tarsier housed at the Primate Research Center of Bogor Agricultural University, Indonesia was observed using focal animal sampling method. The mating behavior was started with mounting by male followed with quick thrusting and slow thrusting, with duration range 3-4 minutes. When slow thrusting by male displayed, female shouted vocalization, and at the end, male remained motionless with his penis inserted in female genitalia. Mating behavior in T. tarsier occurred only once in the first oestrus day. Mating pattern in T. tarsier was similarly to T. bancanus.

Keywords : mating, mounting, Tarsius tarsier, thrusting

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