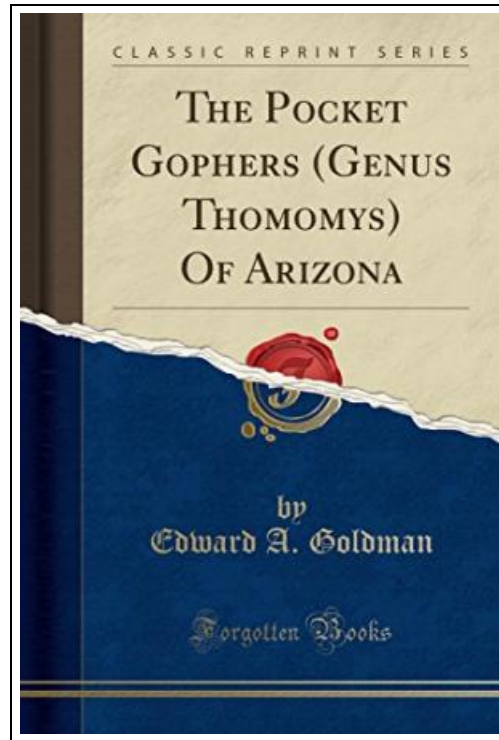


The Pocket Gophers (Genus Thomomys) Of Arizona (Classic Reprint)



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THE POCKET GOPHERS (GENUS THOMOMYS) OF ARIZONA (CLASSIC REPRINT)



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Forgotten Books. Paperback. Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. 42 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.0in. x 0.1in. Excerpt from *The Pocket Gophers (Genus Thomomys) Of Arizona* In such places the burrows may be close together, with many mounds of excavated earth dotting the surface and tunnels interspersed. Numerous mounds may mark the operations of one or several individuals, but studies indicate that each burrow occupant, male or female, is solitary, except during the mating season and during the time that the young must remain in the same tunnels with their mother. Colonies may be more or less isolated by areas of nearly impervious soil or by rock formations, with breeding connections between them uncertain. Below the upper walls of the Grand Canyon one form, *muralis*, was found living in isolated strips of soil only a few feet wide, bounded above and below by vertical cliffs about 300 feet high. It presents rather well marked characters, and in this and a few similar cases the use of full specific names seems warranted, although the close relationship to a neighboring form is also clearly evident. Response to environmental conditions is shown by the marked tendency of pocket gophers to assume the colors of the soils in which they burrow. This tendency is shared with many other mammals, but is especially noteworthy in the forms of the *Thomomys bottae* group. Pocket gophers of this group inhabiting light-colored sand are usually light shades of buff, varying to almost white; those living in reddish soils assume rufescent tones; and those from blackish terrain, especially dark volcanic soils, are usually deeper reddish or dark brown, and may vary to black in some specimens. Occasional melanistic individuals may occur anywhere, but black or blackish specimens are more prevalent in lava areas. Pocket gophers inhabiting soft, sandy ground...



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