

I kept some genetic records on the breeding colony here at Fort Collins and was almost to state the same thing about another interpretation of color. In the young from one strain of varying lemmings the juvenals and post-juvenals were all in summer textured and colored pelage. In another strain the juvenals and post-juvenals were sometimes in winter textured and colored pelage, sometimes in summer textured and colored pelage, and some were intermediate in both color and texture. Since all three types occurred in the same litter I was of the opinion that the ability to give winter pelage was an inherited characteristic. However, as stated earlier, in adult animals the brown hair was summer textured and the white hair was of winter texture. I was going to pursue this problem even farther but my breeding stock of varying lemmings recently died. My data are not sufficient to publish these results but I may present a paper next spring at the Mammal meetings on this subject. What do you think

Lawrence, Douglas Co., Kansas

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The following information was sent to Richard M. Hansen in answer to inquires concerning the change of pelage of *Dicrostonyx* in northern Alaska.

The brown pelage on the head and back of animals in winter pelage is indeed a part of the winter pelage (hair of winter texture). This brown winter pelage, at the time I was formulating material on the lemming for publication in the mammals of northern Alaska, was demonstrated to several colleagues at the Museum and they were unanimously convinced of my interpretation. Analyzing and deciphering pelage change in many mammals is at times perplexing, and I believe that this is a case where it would be relevant that others examine the same material for evaluation of the problem. The mammals of northern Alaska is a work of broad scope and attempt was not made to deal with individual species elaborately, however, the statement on winter pelage of *Dicrostonyx* was more than implied. The specimens in winter pelage examined by me are listed