

Los Proterotheriidae (Mammalia, Litopterna): Sistemática, Origen y Filogenia

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Abstract: The Proterotheriidae (Mammalia, Litopterna): Systematics, origin and phylogeny. The aim of this thesis is to update the systematics and phylogeny of the Family Proterotheriidae. It also deals with the macrosystematics of the Order Litopterna. The following taxa are studied: Suborder Eolitopterna nov., Family Anisolambdidae new rank, *Wainka*, *Paranisolambda*, *Anisolambda*, *Guilielmofloweria*, *Eolicaphrium*, *Lambdaconops* gen. nov., *Protheosodon*, Suborder Lopholipterna, Family Proterotheriidae, *Lambdaconus suinus*, *L. inaequifacies* com. nov., *L. lacerum* com. nov., *Prolicaphrium specillatum*, *Paramacrauchenia scamnata* com. nov., *P. inexpectata* sp. nov., *Tetramerorhinus lucarius*, *T. cingulatum* com. nov., *T. cingulatum cingulatum* new rank, *T. cingulatum fleaglei* subsp. nov., *T. mixtum* com. nov., *T. prosistens* com. nov., *Thoatherium minusculum*, *Diadiaphorus majusculus*, *Anisolophus australis*, *A. floweri* com. nov., *A. minusculus* com. nov., *Neobrachytherium ameghinoi* gen et sp. nov., *N. intermedium* com. nov., *N. morenoi* com. nov., *N. ullaense* sp. nov., *N. aff. N. intermedium*, *Neobrachytherium* spp., *Thoatheriopsis mendocensis* gen. et sp. nov., *Proterotherium cervioides*, *Lophogonodon gradatum* com. nov., *L. paranensis*, *Epecuenia thoatherioides*, *Epitherium laternarium*, *Epitherium?* *eversus* com. nov., *Diplasiotherium robustum*, *D. pampa* sp. nov., *Eoauchenia primitiva*, *Neolicaphrium recens*, *N. major* sp. nov. Also the following dubious or problematic taxa are studied: *Brachytherium cuspidatum* nomen dubium, "*Diadiaphorus*" *velox* nomen dubium, "*Licaphrium*" *parvulum* species inquirenda, "*Licaphrium*" *intermissum* species inquirenda, *Heptaconus* nomen dubium, *Anisolophus acer?* com. nov., "*Licaphrium*" *debile* nomen dubium, "*Licaphrium*" *tenuae* nomen dubium, *Deuterotherium* nomen dubium, *Deuteotherium distichum* species inquirenda, *Thoatherium pericolorum* species inquirenda, *Licaphrium arenatum* nomen dubium, *Anomodotherium* nomen dubium, *A. montanum* nomen dubium, *Diaphargmodon fischeri* nomen nudum, *Merycodon* nomen nudum, *Merycodon damesi* (*nomen nudum?), *M. rusticus* species inquirenda, *Oreomeryx rutimeyeri* species inquirenda. The dental, cranial and postcranial anatomy of the group is described in general and some morphofunctional issues are considered. The oldest Proterotheriidae are Deseadan in age. Eighteen genera and twenty-four species originally assigned to this family, including those of the Paleocene-Eocene, are now classified within the new Suborder Eolitopterna (Litopterna), and the Orders Condylarthra and Notoungulata.