

The Universities of Florence, Pisa and Chieti,
the Direzione Generale per i Beni Culturali e Paesaggistici dell'Abruzzo
and the Municipality of Scontrone

invite geoscientists to the International Scientific Conference

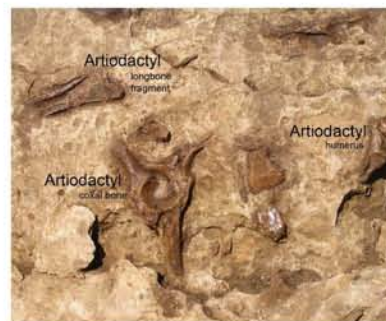


Mediterranean Miocene Park: Vertebrates and Paleogeographic Reconstructions

to be held in Scontrone (Abruzzi, Central Apennines–Italy), September 2010.



In 1990, a vertebrate fossil site was discovered in the outskirts of Scontrone, a beautiful mountain village located at the southern border of the Abruzzi National Park in the Central Apennines. Numerous remains of chelonians, crocodiles, lutrine carnivores and land mammals have been extracted, the latter including the problematic genus *Hoplitomeryx* and the giant insectivore *Deinogalerix freudenthali*. The Scontrone vertebrates, encapsulated in tidal carbonates of Tortonian age, display close similarities to a fossil assemblage discovered in the Gargano region (Apulia) in the early seventies. The two faunal assemblages share remarkable endemic characters indicative of a common paleobioprovince, isolated from the nearest mainland areas. In Scontrone, a small, active geo-paleontological center (Centro di Documentazione paleontologica "*Hoplitomeryx*") plays an important didactic role in the region offering an accurate documentation of the fossil fauna and a reconstruction of the Tortonian habitat. Scontrone is a jewel of wildlife, nature and human culture which will offer to the symposium participants a peaceful magic atmosphere.



The Conference is primarily aimed at promoting an interdisciplinary discussion between paleontologists involved with late Paleogene-early Neogene vertebrates and sedimentary geologists working on the Tertiary paleogeography reconstructions of the Mediterranean. The goal is to define taxonomic characters, phylogenetic evolution, age, stratigraphic position and depositional settings of the fossil faunas for the most accurate and reliable reconstruction of the Mediterranean Oligo-Miocene paleobioprovinces

Duration of the Conference: 3 days of scientific sessions, including a round table in the afternoon of the third day, plus 2 days of excursions, one in the outskirts of Scontrone and another all the way down to the Gargano Promontory.

At the end of the Conference, an optional geological, enogastronomic and cultural 3-day tour to Southern Abruzzi will be organized for those who wish to enjoy the beauties and tastes of this splendid Italian region.

Proceedings: a volume containing the extended abstracts of the selected contributions will be distributed during the conference, together with the fieldtrip guidebooks. The accepted papers will be published within 2011 in a reputed peer-reviewed international journal of geosciences.

Organizing Committee:

- S. Agostini (Direzione Generale per i Beni Culturali e Paesaggistici dell'Abruzzo. Soprintendenza per i Beni Archeologici, Chieti)
- U. Crescenti (Dipartimento di Geotecnologie per l'Ambiente ed il Territorio, G. D'Annunzio University, Chieti)
- P. Mazza (Department of Earth Sciences and Museum of Natural History, Section of Geology and Palaeontology, University of Florence)
- P. Melone (Mayor of Scontrone, L'Aquila)
- E. Patacca (Department of Earth Sciences, University of Pisa)
- M.A. Rossi (Direzione Generale per i Beni Culturali e Paesaggistici dell'Abruzzo. Soprintendenza per i Beni Archeologici, Chieti)
- P. Scandone (Department of Earth Sciences, University of Pisa)

Scientific Committee:

- S. Agostini (Direzione Generale per i Beni Culturali e Paesaggistici dell'Abruzzo. Soprintendenza per i Beni Archeologici, Chieti)
- J. Agustí (Institute of Human Paleoecology, University Rovira Virgili, Tarragona, Spain)
- R. Colacicchi (Department of Earth Sciences, University of Perugia, Italy)
- L. Corda (Department of Earth Sciences, University of Rome "La Sapienza", Italy)
- U. Crescenti (Dipartimento di Geotecnologie per l'Ambiente ed il Territorio, "G. D'Annunzio" University, Chieti, Italy)
- L. de Bonis (Faculté des Sciences et Centre National de Recherche Scientifique UMR 6046, Université de Poitiers, Poitiers Cedex, France)
- M. Freudenthal (Departamento de Estratigrafía y Paleontología, Universidad de Granada, 18071 Granada, Spain)
- S. Grandić (Zagreb, Croatia)

- T. Kotzakis (Department of Earth Sciences, University of Rome "Roma 3", Italy)
- G. D. Koufos (Laboratory of Geology and Paleontology, Department of Geology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece)
- W. Landini (Department of Earth Sciences, University of Pisa, Italy)
- P. Mazza (Department of Earth Sciences and Museum of Natural History, Section of Geology and Palaeontology, University of Florence, Italy)
- M. Morsilli (Department of Earth Sciences, University of Ferrara, Italy)
- E. Patacca (Department of Earth Sciences, University of Pisa, Italy)
- W. Piller (Institute of Earth Sciences-Geology and Palaeontology, University of Graz, Austria)
- M. A. Rossi (Direzione Generale per i Beni Culturali e Paesaggistici dell'Abruzzo. Soprintendenza per i Beni Archeologici, Chieti)
- P. Scandone (Department of Earth Sciences, University of Pisa, Italy)
- I. Vlahović (Faculty of Mining, Geology and Petroleum Engineering, University of Zagreb, Croatia)

Registration: a circular with detailed agenda of the Conference will be distributed in November, 2008. The circular will provide complete information, including forms and registration fees. The following pre-registration form is just aimed at exploring the degree of interest on the Conference and the amount of potential scientific contributions.

Pre-registration form

Name:

Affiliation:

e-mail:

Topic of a possible scientific contribution

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If you are interested in the Conference, please send an e-mail with the compiled pre-registration form to dr. P. M. Rinaldi, Florence University (paolomaria.rinaldi@unifi.it). You are also kindly requested to distribute this announcement among your colleagues. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

We hope to meet you in Scontrone.