

## First Miocene megafossil of arrowhead, alismataceous plant *Sagittaria*, from South America

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The first pre-Quaternary representative of Alismataceae from South America is reported based on achenes of *Sagittaria montevidensis* from the Palo Pintado Formation (upper Miocene) in the south of Salta Province, Argentina. Achenes are laterally compressed, have a lateral beak and a single recurved seed inside them. The fruits were found both in the base (10 Ma) and the top of the formation (~5 Ma), suggesting similar environmental conditions during this time period. A cursory review of the Alismataceae family in the fossil record, with a special interest in those South American reports is given. During the Oligocene–Miocene *Sagittaria* may have arrived from tropical Africa to South America and thence to North America.

**Key words:** Alismataceae, *Sagittaria*, achene, aquatic plants, fossil fruits, Neogene, Argentina.

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