

Taxonomic re-assessment and phylogenetic relationships of Miocene homonymously spiral-horned antelopes

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A morphological reappraisal of Middle Miocene and Early Pliocene antelopes with homonymously twisted horncores (i.e., with the left horncore twisted clockwise from the base up) and an additional re-description of some critical Greek specimens allows a revision of the current taxonomy at the species and genus level. A parsimony analysis recognizes *Hispanodorcus*, *Oioceros*, *Samodorcus*, *Samotragus*, *Paraoioceros*, and *Urmiatherium* as distinct lineages of the subtribe Oiocerina. The latter emerged during the Astaracian (ca. 14–11.5 Ma), and radiated in Eurasia during the mid-late Vallesian (ca. 10–9 Ma), resulting in a great variety of genera with unique combinations of morpho-ecological adaptations. The suprageneric relationships of Oiocerina are poorly understood, but their closest ancestors possibly lie within or close to the Middle Miocene “hypsodontines”, and inside Antilopinae.

Key words: Mammalia, Bovidae, Oiocerina, systematics, phylogeny, zoogeography, ecology, Miocene, Greece.

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