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A PALEONTOLOGIA CELEBRANDO A VIDA



REVISION OF THE SPHAGESAURIDAE KUHN, 1968 (CROCODYLIFORMES, MESOEUCROCODYLIA)

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The Sphagesauridae is a family of notosuchian with highly derived traits amongst the crocodyliforms. These animals possessed its posterior mandibular and maxillary teeth obliquely disposed with a single tuberculated keel, which provided a shearing mechanism associated to a propalinal movement of the jaw. The teeth are coated by coarse enamel and unlike most crocodylians the posterior teeth are anteroposteriorly compressed. Some of the Sphagesauridae teeth are worn in patterns that resemble those of herbivores and durophagous, reflecting a probable omnivory. By the date, these crocodylians are known strictly from the Adamantina Formation of the Bauru Basin, Upper Cretaceous (Turonian-Santonian), Brazil. Based on the new materials collected and described recently, the present contribution proposes a diagnosis emend of this family, which was based only on its posterior teeth morphology.