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NEW FINDS OF MASTODONTS FROM MACEDONIA (GREECE)

by

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Abstract: The present work is mentioned to the studying of the tceth of three species of mastodonts from Macedonia. A fragment of the skull of M. pentelici with dp^{2-3} dex. (in situ) is examined. This species is well known from the U. Miocene-L. Pliocene beds of Greeee. On the other hand, studies are made regarding two fragments of m^3 of Tetralophodon longirostris. This species was found in many regions of Greece in Pliocene deposits. Anancus arvernensis is represented by a fragment of lower jaw with m_{2-3} sin. and one m_2 sin. It displays a great distribution in Europe and it lived during U. Pliocene.

INTRODUCTION

In the present work five specimens of mastodonts from Macedonia, are studied which belong to three different species.

The specimens Thes. Nº 1977/1,3 were found near the village Sani of Kassandra (Chalkidiki). In this region there are (GARDIKAS, 1939) sandstones and terra rossa. The first specimen shows that it has been found in the terra rossa, the second one in the sandstones. The specimens Thes. Nº 1977/2,4 are coming the first one from the region of Agia Trias (Thessaloniki); the second one from the region of the river Axios. Both were found in sands-sandstone's beds. The above two regions are known for their fossiliferous deposits (ARABOURG-PIVE-TEAU 1929, BONIS-BOUV RAIN-KE RAUD REN-MELENTIS 1973). The specimen Thes. Nº 1977/5 was found in the region of the village Milea (Grevena).

All the afore mentioned specimens are exhibited in the Museum of the Institute of Geology-Paleontology of the University of Thessaloniki.



Fig. 1. Sketch map indicating the exact points of site, where the fossils were found. 1. Sani, 2. Agia Trias, 3. Axios, 4. Milea.

I wish to deeply thank Prof. Dr. J. K. Melentis who placed the above material at my disposal and kindly helped me to study it.

Methods. I have used for teeth the nomenclature of ORLOV (1968, Vol XIII), (Fig. 2). The length and width were measured at the base and the height from the cingulum. For the measurements I have used vernier with an accuracy of 0,1 mm.

Paleontological part

Order	: Proboscidea ILLIGER, 1811
Suborder	: Elephantoidea OSBORN, 1921
Family	: Gomphotheriidae CABRERA, 1929
Subfamily	: Gomphotheriinae HAY, 1922
Genus	: Gomphotherium BURMEISTER, 1837 ($=$ Ma-
	stodon CUVIER, 1806)
Subgenus	: Choerolophodon SCHLESSINGER, 1917



Fig. 2. Nomenclature of mastodont's cheek teeth. at = anterior talonpt = posterior talonp = principal tubercles $i = intemediate \implies$ $c = central \implies$ $s = supplementary \gg$ g = eingulum(After ORLOV, 1968)

Mastodon (Choerolophodon) pentelici GAUDRY and LARTET, 1856

Synonyms

1856, 1859, 1862	Mastodon pentelici GAUDRY and LARTET
1857	Mastodon atticus WAGNER
1857	Turricius atticus WAGNER
1936	Trilophodon pentelici OSBORN

Description

Fragment of maxilla with dp²⁻³ dex(in situ), Thes. No 1977/1 Tab. 1, Fig. 3, Pl. I.

In a piece of the upper jaw are preserved the teeth dp^{3-3} dex. (in situ). From the dp^3 only the tops of the two first rows of tubercles have appeared. The dp^3 is elongated, with circular anterior and posterior ends and it has a deep embracing in the internal and external side at the point of the valleys.

It has three transverse rows each composed of two tubercles. The tubercles are distinguished between each other from shallow notches. There are not central tubercles, except of a small one, between the second and third row. The tubercles of each row, are situated, in such a way, that the line, which joins their tops, is forwardly convex. The anterior talon is well developed.



Fig. 3. Mastodon pentelici GAUDRY and LARTET. dp² dex. Thes. Nº1977/1. Occlusal view. 3/4 Nat. size.

The tubercles have conical form and the enamel has many shallow, elongated grooves. This pattern is characteristic for the subgenus *Choerolophodon* and called by SCHLESSINGER (1917) «choerodont».

The length of the tooth is 64,0 mm and the width of transverse rows is as follows: Ist row = 41,6 mm, II^{ad} row = 48,5 mm, III^d row = 44,8 mm. The height of the tooth varies on the internal side from 13,0 to 23,7 mm and on the external side from 16,7 to 24,5 mm. These measurements characterize the tooth as brachyodont (ORLOV, 1968).

Diagnosis

The characters for the diagnosis are:

- 1. Three transverse rows of tubercles on the dp².
- Central tubercles rare; there is only a small one between IInd and III^d row.
- 3. The tubercles are situated in a line forwardly convex.
- 4. The teeth are brachyodont.
- 5. The dimensions.

Relations and comparisons

As far as we know up to the present time, the species which is examined, is known only by their deciduous teeth. Gaudry was the first to find at Pikermi the skull of a young animal, with deciduous dentition and he gave the following characteristics of it (OSBORN, 1936, Vol. I, pag. 346): 1) The dp² has three transverse rows of tubercles. 2) The structure of the tubercles is bunolophodont and choerolopho-

dont. 3) The milk molars of the upper jaw are intermediate in character between M. angustidens and Tetralophodon longirostris.

ORLOV (1968) referring to M. pentelici says, that it bas possibly

four rows of tubercles on m_1^1 and m_2^2 and $\frac{?}{5+t}$ on m_3^3 . Central

tubercles are stout and situated somewhat outwardly on the cheek teeth of lower jaw and inwardly on the upper one. The tubercles form forwardly convex lines. The teeth are brachyodont.

M. pentelici shows similarities with the following species with which we shall compare it to find out the differences.

M. angustidens. This species is known from a well preserved milk dentition of the upper jaw from Guntersdorf of Austria (SCHLESSINGER 1917, pag. 11). The teeth of this specimen deviate from the examined species. a) The dp¹ has 1 1/2 rows and a basic tubercle on the anterior end. b) The dp² has 2 rows and a rudiment for the III^d one. c) The dp³ has 3 rows of tubercles and a rudiment for the IVth. d) The dimensions are smaller than in *M. pentelici*.

T. longirostris. A well preserved upper jaw of this species with milk dentition from Laaerberg of Austria was described by SCHLESSINGER (1917, pag. 84-85). The differences between the teeth of this species and *M. pentelici*, are: a) The dp¹ is formed from one series of tubercles without any arrangement in transverse rows. b) The dp² has 3 rows and a rudiment for the IVth. c) The dp³ has four rows; 2-3 small tubercles on the anterior and 4 on the posterior end. d) There is not any choerodont pattern on the teeth.

The rows of tubercles which appear on the milk teeth of the above species, are indicated in the following table (OSBORN 1936, vol. I, pag. 346).

	dpı	dp^2	dp³
T. longirostris	$1 \ 1/2$	3	4 1/3
M. pentelici	$1 \ 1/2$	3	3 1/3
M. angustidens	$1 \ 1/2$	2 1/2	3

M. (Zygol.) tapiroides. A well preserved upper jaw of this species with dp^{1-s} (in situ) from Halmyropotamos (Evia-Greece) was described by MELENTIS (1967, pag. 314). Its differences from *M. pentelici* are: a) The dp^1 has a triangular shape and three principal tubercles. b) The dp^2 has 2 rows of tubercles with a rudimentary tubercle in the anterior end and a well developed posterior talon. c) The dp^s has 3 rows and it is angular. d) The dimensions are smaller.

		ďp²											
Height		Width		(mm)	Length								
	IIId row	Ind row	Ist row				The		versit	Muse	Sar		
24,5	8,44	48,5	41,7		64.0	dex.	Thes. Nº 1977/1	niki	versity of Thessalo-	Museum of the Uni-	Sani (Chalkidiki)	Mastodon	
22,3	Ţ	45,0	35,0		52,0	pag. 200.	(1917)	After SCHLESSINGER	Hofmuseum Wien.	Naturhistorisches	Samos	pentelici	
21,0	I	36,4	31,3		41,5	pag. 316.	After MELENTIS (1967)	Ath. Nº 1967/93	sity of Athens	Museum of the Univer-	Halmyropotamos (Evia)	M. (zygol.) tapiroides	
18,0	32,3	I	26,5		45,7	pag. 84-85	(1917)	After SCHLESSINGER	Hofmuseum Wien.	Naturhistorisches	Laaerberg AUSRTIA	T. longirostris	

TABLE 1

Taxonomic position - Geological and Geographical distribution

M. pentelici is classified into mastodonts with 3 rows of tubercles on cheek teeth and especially in the genus *«Trilophodon»* (OSBORN 1936). Because of the structure of its cheek teeth SCHLESSINGER (1917) was of the opinion that it constitutes the special subgenus *Choerolophodon*. This subgenus was mentioned by Osborn. SIMPSON's (1945) genus *Comphotherium* comprises all these genera and subgenera.

The study of the teeth of M. pentelici shows that it has an intermediate position between M. angustidens and T. longirostris. This transition is especially evident from the dp³, where the rows of tubercles increase successivelly from 3 to 4 1/3. M. pentelici is in the middle with 3 rows and a rudiment for the IVth row. It seems that M. angustidens of the Miocene was the ancestral type of the two others which were developed in the U. Miocene-L. Pliocene.

M. pentelici lived in W. Europe (France-Spain), in Central (Germany-Russia) and reached as far as India. It occurs in U. Miocene-L. Pliocene. In Greece it was found in beds of the same age at Pikermi, Samos, Vathylakkos (Thessaloniki).

Genus: Tetralophodon FALCONER and CAUTLEY, 1857.

Tetralophodon longirostris KAUP, 1832

Synonyms

1832 Mastodon longirostris KAUP

1832 Tetracaulodon longirostris KAUP

1834 Mastodon dubius KAUP and SCHOLL

1834 Mastodon grandis KAUP and SCHOLL

1917 Mastodon (Bunolophodon) longirostris SCHLESSINGER

Description

Fragment of m³ sin., Thes. Nº 1977/4 Tab. 2, Fig. 4, Pl. I

In this specimen only the three last transverse rows of tubercles with the posterior talon are well preserved. Each transverse row consists of two principal tubercles, situated one against the other. Between principal tubercles the intermediate ones were developed, discerning from the principals by shallow notches and they are almost the same height with them. The central tubercles are poorly developed although we can distinguish some of them in the valleys of the tooth which are in complete contact with the rest ones (principals and intermediates). The tubercles have conical form and their enamel is very thick, while the cement is poorly developed or absent. The cingulum and posterior talon are well developed. The latter was formed by seven small tubercles, pressed one to the other. The tooth does not display any wear.

The length of the preserved tooth is 140,0 mm and the transverse rows have the following width: III^d row = 91.0 mm, IVth row = 88,0 mm, Vth row = 84,0 mm. The height of the tooth on the internal side is 49,0 (IV) - 60,0 mm (II) and on the external 45,0 (IV) - 56,0 mm (II).



Fig. 4. Fragment of m³ sin., Thes. N⁰ 1977/4. Occlusal view. 1/3 Nat. size. Fig. 5. Fragment of m³ dex., Thes. N⁰ 1977/5. Occlusal view. 1/2 Nat. size.

Fragment of m³ dex., Thes. N⁰ 1977/5 Fig. 5, Pl. I.

It concerns the anterior piece from a m^s dex which preserves the anterior talon, the first and a part of the second transverse row.

The morphology and the arrangement of tubercles, is the same as in the above specimen. A small central tubercle is discernible pressed between the first and second row. The anterior talon is less developed than the posterior one and it consists of a series of small tubercles pressed one to the other. The cingulum is well developed. The width of the first row is 76,0 mm and the external height is 66,0 mm while the internal is 60,0 mm.

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Diagnosis

- 1. The principal tubercles are situated one against the other.
- 2. The central tubercles are poorly developed.
- 3. The posterior talon is well developed while the anterior one is not.
- 4. The enamel is very thick and the cement is usually absent.
- 5. Low-medium crowned teeth (ORLOV, 1968).

6. The dimensions.

Relations and comparisons

ORLOV (1968, Vol. XIII, pag. 360-61) reffering to T. longirostris states that it has check teeth with low-medium height. The transverse rows of tubercles on m³ are 4-?. The central tubercles are little developed while the intermediate and supplementary ones developed near them in different degrees. Cement is poorly developed or absent.

A fragment of m^s sin. from the Pliocene of Haslach (Austria) was described by SCHLESSINGER (1917, pag. 101, Taf. XVII, Ab. 1). The three last rows and the posterior talon are preserved in this specimen. It shows significant similarities with the examined specimen. Their morphology and dimensions are similar. There is a little difference on the posterior talon, which has smaller width and it consists of four small tubercles not situated in a row, while in our specimen the posterior talon has seven small tubercles in one row.

Besides SCHLESSINGER (1917, pag, 101, Taf. XVII, Ab. 2) described a fragment of m³ dex that it preserves the posterior end, from the Pliocene of Teschen (Germany). It differs from our specimen in the following points: a) It has slightly smaller dimensions. b) The posterior talon it consists of only 2 small tubercles. c) The central tubercles are absent. Schlessinger regards that this specimen is a new form called *«sublatidens»*.

The species that are similar to *T. longirostris* are the following. *T. grandincisivum.* A well preserved m³ sin. of this species from Mannersdorf (Austria) was described by SCHLESSINGER (1917, pag. 121-23, Taf. XV, Ab. 2).

It is about a species with large dimensions. Its differences from *T. longirostris* are: a) The very large size. b) The tubercles are more stout. c) It is older.

neight	W Lot	Maximum	Preserved 1	In ³			
0,09	91,0	140.0		Thes. Nº 1977/4 sin.	Region of Axios Thessaloniki Museum of the Uni- versity of Thessalo- niki	Tetralophodon longirostris	
55,0	0,78	124,0	I	A pag. 101	Teschen Germany Naturhistorisches Hofmuseum Wien	ongiros tris	T.
66,0	112,0	I	230.0	After SCHLESSINGER (1917) pag. 122	Manuersdorf Austria Naturhistorisches Hofmuseum Wien	Tetr. grandincisivum	TABLE 2
48,0	75,0	I	126.0	pag. 31	Eibiswald Austria Inst. of Paleontology University of Wien	Mastodon angustidens	
. 65,0	98,0	Į	242.0	After SAKELLARIOU- MANE (1972)	Region of Axios Thessaloniki Museum of theUni- versity of Thes- saloniki.	ns A. arvernensis	

M. angustidens. This species differs from *T. longirostris* in the following points. a) It has smaller size. b) The m^3 has 4 1/3 rows. c) The central tubercles are massive and are situated in the middle of the valleys. d) There are not supplementary tubercles except those of cingulum.

Taxonomic position- Geological and Geographical distribution

T. longirostris also belongs to the mastodonts with four transverse rows on cheek teeth. All these mastodonts supposed to have as their ancestor an Oligocene form of the genus *Phiomia*. SCHLES-SINGER (1917) states that this species constitutes a new subgenus called *«Bunolophodon»*, while OSBORN (1936) and SIMPSON (1945) classifies it to the genus *Tetralophodon*. It is an ancestral form of *Anacus arvernensis*. It was an animal with big dimensions, with tusks in the upper and lower jaw, and it lived in warm areas.

Its distribution comprises all Europe and Asia from W. Europe, Germany, Hungary to China and India. It was also found in N. America. It lived in the Pliocene and the subgenus *«Morrillia»* (OSBORN, 1936) was found in the middle Pleistocene beds of Nebraska. In Greece it was found at Pikermi, Samos, Halmyropotamos of Evia and Vathylakkos (Tbessaloniki).

> Subfamily: Anancinae HAY, 1922 Genus: Anancus AYMARD, 1855 Anancus arvernensis CROIZET and JOBERT, 1826

Synonyms

1846 Mastodon brevirostre GERVAIS and de SERRES
1855 Anancus macroplus AYMARD
1858 Mastodon dissimilis JOURDAN
1917 M. (Dibnnodon) arvernense SCHLESSINGER
1922 Mastodon gigantarvernensis KLÄHN
1922 Mastodon minutoarvernensis KLÄHN

Description

Fragment of the mandibula with m_{2-3} sin. (in situ), Thes. Nº 1977 |2 Tab. 3, Pl. II.

In the posterior end of the left ramus of lower jaw the second and third molar have been preserved. The anterior talon and the internal side of the m_2 , have been destroyed. From m_3 only the two first rows have appeared. The m_2 is worn enough a fact which shows that it belongs to an old animal.

There are four transverse rows of tubercles on m_{θ} , which divided by shallow valleys. Between the principal tubercles the intermediate ones, are developed, while the central ones are absent. Each transverse row is composed of a pair of principal tubercles. These tubercles are arranged alternately, and not one against the other. By grinding the enamel of each tooth gets, originally, the form of a trefoil but, gradually, becomes circular. The enamel is very thick and the cement is limited in the center of the circle. The posterior talon is well developed and it is composed by two small tubercles.

The length of the preserved tooth is 144,0 mm and the width on the fourth row is 77,0 mm. The height of the tooth increases from the front to the back end and on the external side is from 20,0 to 33,0 mm. According to these measurements of height, the tooth is brachyodont. The part of m_3 that appeared, shows the above described morphology and arrangement of tubercles. The length and the height of m_3 cannot be measured but the width is 68,8 mm in the first and 76,0 mm(?) in the second row.



Fig. 6. Anancus arvernensis CROIZET and JOBERT m_2 sin., Thes. N⁰ 1977/3. Ocelusal view. 1/2,5 Nat. size

m₂ sin., Thes. Nº 1977/3 Tab. 3, Fig. 6, Pl. II

It is about a second molar of lower jaw in a good state of preservation. Only the anterior talon was destroyed. It seems the same morphology of the above described m_2 . The grinding of the tooth is little, only the first two rows have been worn. By grinding, the principal tubercles were gradually joined with intermediate ones.

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» height 33,0 53,0 28,0 36,0

The length of the tooth is 135,0 mm and the transverse rows have the following width:

 $I^{st} row = 64,2 mm \qquad IV^{th} row = 73,2 mm \\ II^{nd} = 71,8 \qquad Posterior talon = 42,7 mm \\ III^{d} = 76,8 \qquad >$

The height of the crown from the anterior to the posterior end is:

a) on the external side 40,5 - 53,0 mm and b) on the internal side 32,0 - 51,0 mm. Consequently it belongs to the brachyodont type.

Diagnosis

1. Four rows of tubercles on m₂.

2. Well developed intermediate tubercles while the central are absent.

3. Alternating arrangement of tubercles, which incline to the front.

4. Much worn teeth show a joining hetween principles and intermediate tubercles.

5. Low crowned teeth.

6. The dimensions.

Relations and comparisons

OSBORN (1936, Vol. I) states that A. arvernensis has four rows of tubercles on m_2^2 and 5 1/2 on m_3^3 . Also, that m_3 has long length and that the tubercles incline to the front. The enamel is thick and by griding gets in the begging a trefoil form. Also the internal and external principal tubercles are alternated.

According ORLOV (1968, Vol. XIII) A. arvernensis has four rows

of tubercles on m_1^1 and m_2^2 and $\frac{5+t}{5+t}$ on m_3 . Central tubercles are absent

but there are intermediates. Cement is very poorly developed. The same description has been given by SCHLESSSINGER (1917). He states that there are four rows on m_{1-2} and 5 1/2 on m_s ; the m_2 has a double posterior talon. According PIVETEAU (1958, Vol. VI₂) the dimensions of the teeth of *A. arvernensis* are:

$$m_{a} \quad \frac{120-174 \times 65-84 (1,46-2,17)}{138-149 \times 70-74 (1,86-2,04)} \quad m_{a} \quad \frac{160-222 \times 80-102 (1,86-2,40)}{161-248 \times 64-95 (2,59-2,94)}$$

Below we will mention the species that shows similarities with A. aryernensis and the differences between them.

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M. angustidens. The differences between this species and *A. ar*vernensis are: a) The size is smaller. b) There are 3 rows on m_{1-2} and 4 1/2 on m_3 . c) There are well developed central tubercles. d) The tubercles are situated one against the other. e) There are not other supplementary tubercles except those of the cingulum.

M. sivalensis. This species is similar with the examined one, but we can find the following differences: a) It has a greater size. b) There are 5 rows of tubercles on m^2 and 6 1/2 on m^3 .c) The degree of tubercle's alternation is greater and the form of the crown more complicated.

Taxonomic position- Geological and Geographical distribution

The species A. avernensis belongs to the mastodonts with four transverse rows of tubercles. SCHLESSINGER (1917) classifies this in the subgenus «Dibunodon». Later OSBORN (1936) gives it the name A. arvernensis (Subfam. Brevirostrinae). SIMPSON (1945) mentions all the above names as synonyms and classifies it to the genus Anancus (Subfam. Anancinae).

Fossils of the examined species have been found between 30th and 40th parallel, namely, in the jone of the warm climate. It was spread from France, NE. England, Central Europe, Russia to India.

It occured in the «newer Pliocene fauna» of English authors (OS-BORN, 1936. Vol. I). In this fauna *Hipparion* disappeared and was replaced by *Equus stenonis* and *Rhinoceros leptorhinus* by *R. etrus*cus. The proboscideans of this fauna are represented, except of *A.* arvernensis, by *M. (Zygolophodon) borsoni*, and 3 species of elephants *Archidiskodon planifrons*, *A. meridionalis* and *Elephas (Paleoloxodon)* antiquus ausonius. Generally its age is U. Pliocene, although it was found in L. Pleistocene in Africa.

In Greece it was found in many regions,, as for example, at Scoura of Sparta by GEORGALAS (1941), at Pylos (Peloponnesus) by MI-TSOPOULOS (1967) and in the area of the river Axios (Thesssaloniki) by SAKELLARIOU-MANE (1972). The beds in which it was found. belong to the U. Pliocene.

A. arvernensis was a mastodont with great dimensions and it had strong tusks in he upper jaw. Its teeth were adapted to soft food (fruits, sprouts). The warm climate of that period favoured the developement of forests in which it had lived and found its food.





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с

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Mastodon pentelici GAUDRY and LARTET a, b, Fragment of the skul luith dp^{2-3} dex. Thes. N° 1977/1. a) occlusal, b) external view. Tetralophodon longirostris KAUP.

c. Fragment of m³ sin. Thes. Nº 1977/4. Occlusal view. d. Fragment of m³ dex. Thes. Nº 1977/5. Occlusal view.



Anancus arvernensis CROIZET and JOBERT a, b, c. Fragment of the mandibula with $m_{2\rightarrow3}$ sin. Thes. Nº 1977/2. a) oeclusal, b) external c) internal view. d. m_2 sin. Thes. Nº 1977/3. Occlusal view.

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ΠΕΡΙΛΗΨΗ

ΝΕΑ ΕΥΡΗΜΑΤΑ ΜΑΣΤΟΔΟΝΤΩΝ ΑΠΟ ΤΗ ΜΑΚΕΔΟΝΙΑ (ΕΛΛΑΣ)

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Μελετώνται τὰ δόντια ἀπὸ τρία διαφορετικὰ εἴδη μαστοδόντων ἀπὸ τὴ Μακεδονία. ᾿Απὸ τὸ M. pentelici ἐξετάζεται ἕνα τμῆμα τοῦ κρανίου, ποὺ διατηρεῖ τὰ δόντια dp²⁻³ dex. (in situ). Τὸ T. longrirosrtis ἐξετάζεται ἀπὸ δὺο θραύσματα τοῦ m³ καὶ τὸ A. arvernensis ἀπὸ ἕνα τμῆμα τῆς κάτω γνάθου μὲ m₂₋₃ sin. (in situ) καὶ ἀπὸ ἕνα m₂ sin. Τὰ παραπάνω δείγματα βρίσκονται σ' ἀρκετὰ καλὴ κατάσταση διατηρήσεως καὶ δείχνουν τὴ μεγάλη ἐξάπλωση, ποὺ εἶχαν οἱ μαστόδοντες στὴν Ἑλλάδα.