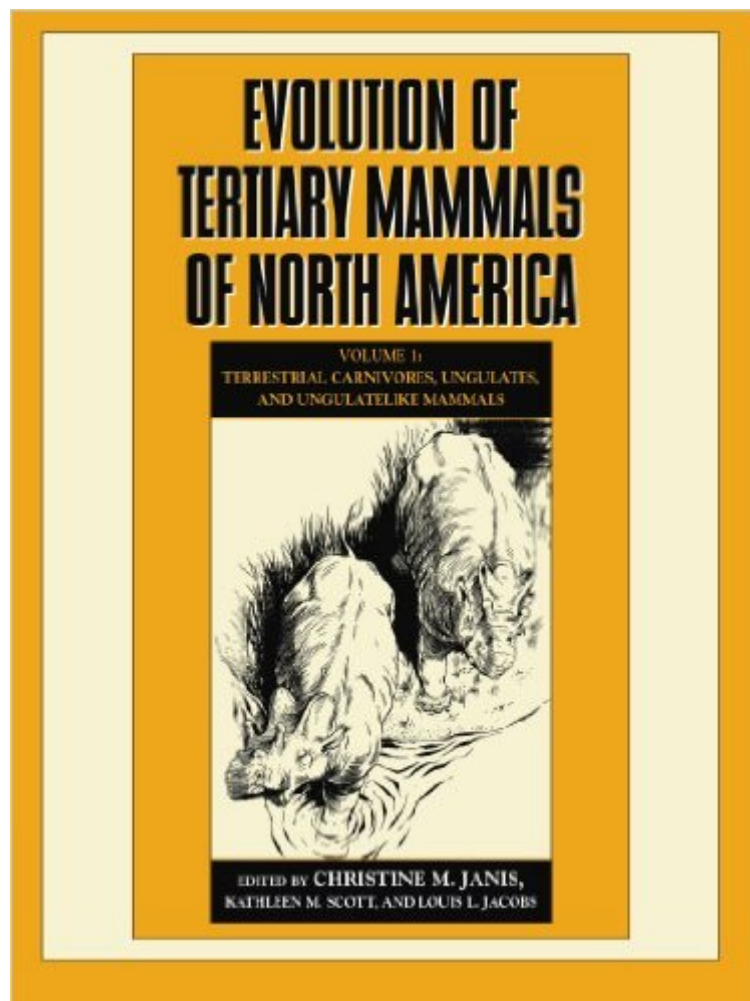


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Evolution Of Tertiary Mammals Of North America: Volume 1, Terrestrial Carnivores, Ungulates, And Ungulate Like Mammals



Synopsis

This book is a unique compendium and synthesis of the cumulative knowledge of more than 100 years of discovery and study of North American tertiary mammals. The potentially most valuable contribution of this book is the detailed information of the distribution in time and space of each species at fossil localities, recorded in a uniform scheme, so that each chapter provides the same level of information. Thirty six chapters are devoted to a particular family or order, written by leading North American authorities, including discussion of anatomical features, systematics, and paleobiology. Three introductory chapters summarize information on the geological time scale, Tertiary vegetation, and Pleistocene events, and four summary chapters integrate systematic and biogeographic information for higher taxa. This book will serve as a unique data base for continuing studies in faunal diversification and change, and for questions such as how changing biogeography and climates influenced the evolution of mammalian communities. It will be an invaluable addition to the libraries of paleontologists and zoologists.

Book Information

Paperback: 708 pages

Publisher: Cambridge University Press; 1 edition (March 17, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0521619688

ISBN-13: 978-0521619684

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 1.4 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (3 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,900,819 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #35 inÂ Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Paleontology > Paleozoology #549 inÂ Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Animals > Fossils #1070 inÂ Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Zoology > Mammals

Customer Reviews

In the editorial review - all stated is very true and extremely useful for any researcher studying the biostratigraphy and evolutionary trends of the mammalian groups within this volume (hopefully volume 2 is coming...someday!). HOWEVER, it is imperative that one double check references, statements, timelines, etc., with collaborating information on the group studied in detail as I have found some errors. Also, please note that each chapter is written by the "specialist" of that

group...but not all mammalian paleontologists will agree to their overview. Ahh...the wonders and joys of academia! I am extremely pleased that each chapter on the groups of mammals discussed are organized the same way, thus allowing for consistency and aid in reference localities that may be applicable to several groups of mammals. Another pertinent point to remember is that this type of study is never stagnant as new information regarding fossil finds in new strata and/or localities can constrict or expand the timelines for particular genera, as I have found with the Oligocene fossils found within the White River Badlands, particularly within the Orellan and Whitneyan "NALMAs." Other researchers focused on particular groups would state the same. Nevertheless, this is an excellent starting point for graduate students and other researchers - a must have reference book. Publication references for each chapter appear thorough, it has an excellent index and a decent locality database for each state. Additional information within this tome is also very useful, particularly background data for the various geological times during the Cenozoic.

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