

LATE TERTIARY VERTEBRATES FROM HIDALGO, MEXICO

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Tehuichila Local Fauna has been recognized internationally since the nineteenth century as the first fossil vertebrate locality reported for Mexico, where *Agriotherium* and *Hippotherium peninsulatum* (= *Nannippus peninsulatus*) were found. Both species are considered index fossil for the Hemphillian and Blancan respectively making unclear the area's age. After those studies there were no other works on the area until the decade of 1990 when researchers from the Museum of Paleontology performed some biostratigraphic studies in the area, specifically in the Potrero Zietla locality which has great paleodiversity that includes the five vertebrate groups (fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals). The paleodiversity collected until now from the inferior strata from the Tehuiztla layer includes: indetermined teleost, *Rana* sp., *Hyla* sp., *Pseudemys* sp., *Kinosternon* sp., *Sceloporus* sp., *Phrynosoma* sp., indetermined Anatidae, *Callippus* (*Grammohippus*) *castilli*, *Dinohippus interpolatus*, *Cormohippus* sp., *Teleoceras fossiger*, *Prosthennops* sp., *Agriotherium shneideri*, *Hexobelomeryx fricki*, indetermined Soricidae, *Neotoma* sp., and indetermined Sigmodontidae. Based on the fauna found, the Potrero Zietla locality has been assigned to the Latest of the Early Hemphillian and can be correlated with La Presa Local Fauna, Guanajuato, Mexico; Coffee Ranch Local Fauna, Texas, USA, and Gracias Local Fauna in Honduras.