

REGIONAL OVERVIEWS ON THE LAST GLACIAL LARGER MAMMAL
FAUNAS OF NORTHERN EURASIA
(MAMMUTHUS-COELODONTA FAUNAL COMPLEX)
A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF SELECTED PAPERS

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PREFACE

The latest part of Pleistocene — the last glacial and its temporal equivalents — contains the most complete worldwide network of palaeontological information, often in the form of surface-outcropping sediments. Thousands of such localities are known, from which fossil mammal remains have been recovered and studied scientifically.

During the past two decades on particular more and more regional overviews have been produced, summarizing the published knowledge from different areas. Special interest has focussed on the cold-period *Mammuthus-Coelodonta* Faunal Complex of Eurasia (= Late Pleistocene European-Siberian Faunal Block = Mammoth Fauna etc.). This complex, which ranges from the Atlantic Ocean to the Far East and western Beringia — and in part further into the New World — represents the most advanced stage of a cold resistant continental animal community in the evolutionary history of life on earth. In order to support future multiregionally-oriented investigations, the most important regional overview papers on larger mammals of the Last Glacial Eurasian *Mammuthus-Coelodonta* faunas are listed hereafter in geographic order. It is clear that the distribution range can be covered almost entirely, and that differences in taxonomic procedure in the published studies do not disturb the general picture.

PREMESSA

L'ultima parte del Pleistocene — l'ultimo glaciale e i suoi equivalenti temporali — contiene la più completa rete mondiale di informazioni paleontologiche, spesso sotto forma di sedimenti che affiorano in superficie. Sono note centinaia di località da cui provengono resti fossili di mammiferi che sono stati studiati scientificamente. Durante gli ultimi vent'anni, in particolare, sono state prodotte rassegne regionali che riassumevano le conoscenze delle diverse aree. Qui viene puntualizzato, con particolare cura, il complesso faunistico euroasiatico dell'ultimo glaciale Mammuthus-Coelodonta (= Blocco faunistico euro-siberiano del Pleistocene superiore = Fauna a Mammut, ecc.). Questo complesso, che si estendeva dall'Oceano Atlantico all'Estremo Oriente, fino alla Beringia occidentale e in parte anche a Nuovo Mondo, rappresenta lo stadio più avanzato di una comunità di animali continentali resistenti al freddo della storia evolutiva della vita sulla terra. Per favorire future indagini ad ampio raggio, sono qui riportati, in ordine geografico, i lavori di rassegna regionale più importanti sui grandi mammiferi del complesso faunistico euroasiatico dell'ultimo glaciale Mammuthus-Coelodonta. Questa rassegna copre quasi interamente la gamma di distribuzione di detta fauna; le differenze tassonomiche che si possono incontrare non alterano il quadro generale.

Key-words: Pleistocene, last glacial, Eurasia, larger mammals, bibliography

Parole chiave: Pleistocene, ultimo glaciale, Eurasia, grandi mammiferi, bibliografia

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