

Chapter 1 : Form and life of the Rhinogrades

Rhinogradentia is a fictitious order of mammal invented by German zoologist Gerolf blog.quintoapp.coms of the order, known as rhinogrades or snouters, are characterized by a nose-like feature called a nasorium, which evolved to fulfill a wide variety of functions in different species.

Most of these species are obligate quadrupeds, but one or two smaller species spend much of their time on their hind legs. Proeuclasaurs are most common in the forests of southern and eastern Australia and on the island of Tasmania. In the north and interior, these deer-like herbivores are replaced by chlorosaurs and iguanodontians, respectively, but once were more widespread. Common Rainbow Brush-runner *Mossmania* sp. Common rainbow brush-runner, *Mossmania* sp. Australia A diminutive denizen of the rainforests of the east coast, the common rainbow brush-runner feeds on leaves and fruits of a wide variety of plants as well as grasses on the forest edge. An extremely alert and "jittery" animal, this euclasaurs is the most widespread member of the *Mossmania calura*-species complex. Long-horned Euclasaurs *Ceratodromeus leucopus* Long-horned euclasaurs, *Ceratodromeus leucopus* Southeastern Australia The long-horned euclasaurs *Ceratodromeus leucopus* is a characteristic species of the savannah and woodlands of southeastern Australia, and lives in huge nomadic herds. While some are still present in northern Australia, chlorosaurids are increasingly replaced by proeuclasauroids further south. Chlorosaurids are generally small, the largest, *Chlorosaurus ornatus*, reaching 3 meters in length. They are swift and lightly-built runners, similar to the proeuclasauroids in many respects. These crests or casques are not bone, as is the case with some other euclasaurs, but hollow keratin structures, usually in the form of a lambeosaur-like tube extending off the forehead. Chlorosaurids are also the only group of euclasaurs that has gone back to bipedalism. While some chlorosaurids are quadrupedal, species of the genus *Parachlorosaurus* spend their entire adult lives on their hind legs. Chlorosaurids are the worst known family of euclasaurs, with many species only now coming to light. Their habits are still poorly known, and much of their species count may simply be color variation in just a few true species. Thus, there may be as many as 7, or as few as three known species of chlorosaurs, distributed between 3 genera. Chlorosaurs range from the northern tropical forests of Australia to Papua-New Guinea. Un-authenticated reports allege to chlorosaur species on the Moluccan islands, Timor islands and in the Philippines. Ornate Green Euclasaurs *Chlorosaurus ornatus* Ornate green euclasaurs, *Chlorosaurus ornatus* Papua Despite of the name *Chlorosaurus*, means "Green saurian" *Chlorosaurinae* is only a clade, meaning that not all its belonging species are in fact, green, and therefore proved to be related by DNA analysis not coloration. The Ornate green euclasaurs, *Chlorosaurus ornatus* is one such example. Splashback Euclasaurs *Parachlorosaurus viduatus* Splash-back euclasaurs, *Parachlorosaurus viduatus* Timor and Sundas The Splashback Euclasaurs, *Parachlorosaurus viduatus*, is a blue-black species found in Timor and the Lesser Sundas Islands, comprising two races which some consider to be subspecies: This is an elusive species which often remains hidden in the vegetation. A series of blue splashes, starting at the base of the tail is a shared trait for both races, but the nominate race carries only one blue stripe on the flanks while *timorensis* carries two. These massive herbivores echo the hadrosaurs of Africa and Laurasia, and possess many convergent features with this group, including a quadrupedal stance, short, deep tails, and horse-like muzzles tipped by flattened beaks. Euclasaurs fill all of the large grazer and low-browser niches on Australia. Most are quite large, the four-ton highcrest euclasaurs being an average size for this group. Highcrest Euclasaurs *Euclausaurus ornatus* High-crest euclasaurs, *Euclausaurus ornatus* South-western Australia A giant euclasaurs species of southwestern Australia, the highcrest euclasaurs is an animal of coastal woodland, scrub and heath, infrequently venturing into the more arid inland areas. Unlike the great euclasaurs, the highcrest rarely herds and usually lives in mated pairs or small family groups. This was the first euclasaurs species to be formally described, and was so named because the holotype and paratypes were gunned down I mean collected, at a locality corresponding in our world to the town of Eucla, near the Western-South Australian border. Great Euclasaurs *Euclausaurus ingens* Great euclasaurs, *Euclausaurus ingens* Australia By far the largest land animal on the continent, small herds of these behemoths can be found in savannah and open woodland habitats

throughout eastern and northern Australia a closely related species is found in the southwest. Not a fussy-feeder, great euclasaurs will happily munch on grasses and a wide variety of low-foliage. Magnificent Hexacorn *Hexacornis magnificus* Magnificent hexacorn, *Hexacornis magnificus* AustraliaKakadu and Arnhem Land The magnificent hexacorn *Hexacornis magnificus* is a spectacular swamp-dweller that feeds on sedges and aquatic grasses as well as browsing on p-Pandanus leaves. During the Pleistocene epoch, hexacorns could be found throughout northern and eastern Australia today they are restricted to the wetlands of Kakadu and Arnhem Land, this applies to the subspecies in the area, most notably *Hexacornis magnificus arnhemensis*. Other subspecies are found on Papua, most notably *Hexacornis magnificus papuaensis*. Duohorn *Bicornis benemattii* Duohorn, *Bicornis benemattii* Western Australia The duohorn *Bicornis benemattii* is a relatively rare euclasaurs, found only in the arid grasslands of Western Australia. Duohorns are grazers, rather like the more distantly related genus *Euclausaurus* of southern and eastern Australia. Duohorns are capable of tackling the toughest grasses, the spiniest acacias, and even the formidable dontgothere shrubs. It is not unknown for these hardy animals to venture into sclerophyll forests, where they mow over bushes and young trees. The two immense horns that give the duohorn its name rise up from the postorbitals just behind the eye sockets to form an impressive capital-V shape. Unlike the hexacorns, which use their horns as principally as sexual symbols, the cranial structures of the duohorns are intended for a far more utilitarian purpose. A mature duohorn possesses a powerful defensive weapon on its head, a weapon it has no compunctions against using. Baluong *Allocceros brontogenus* This species of Euclarsaur that was though to believed to be extinct, but was recently found roaming Eastern Australia. As of now not much is known about it at the moment, but more research will be conducted in the future. However, what is known is that they travel in large family herds. Tanamisaurs probably evolved as high-level browsers, similar to the South American pseudosauro pods, but the drying of Australia robbed them of their habitat. The tanamisaurs are animals beautifully adapted to life in the arid interior and are widely distributed in the deserts and semi-deserts of Central and Western Australia. The anterior hump is a water-reservoir whilst the posterior one consists mostly of fat. During sandstorms, the slit-like nostrils can be closed whilst a thick, translucent membrane protects the eyes. Was the start of the dry season Still, this guy was already stuffing his face, his humps were already bulging in anticipation of the coming hard times. Smart, probably how he managed to live so long. The mating season was long over but he still had quite a bit of colour in that crest of his. He just stood there, chewing his cud while I approached him. He snorted in annoyance as I took the shot, or maybe it was because of all those flies buzzing around his nostrils that he got so ticked off? He turned to the north and started walking. As a blur on the horizon, he stopped and continued feeding

Chapter 2 : The Hartford Courant - We are currently unavailable in your region

The Snouters: Form and Life of the Rhinogrades is a book originally published in Germany (original title: Bau und Leben der Rhinogradentia) by Gerolf Steiner, which wrote most of the book with the pseudonym of Harald Stämpke.

Marine Snouters of the Triassic The holotype of Thalattosaurus When I started this humble blog in dear lord late , I did not intend for it to become a blog dedicated to Triassic hellasaurs, but here we are. The more I read about the Triassic, the weirder it gets. For example, it seems like half of the reptiles alive during the Late Triassic were marine or at least semi-aquatic. There was that recent post about underappreciated vanclaveans. Placodonts will come later and will probably spread across several posts—it was a big group. Thalattosaurs were around during the Middle and Late Triassic, with a wide distribution that currently favors the Northern Hemisphere: Particularly in China , thalattosaurs made up a significant portion of the fauna in successive marine formations, where they are present in the Xingyi Middle Triassic, Landian and Guanling Late Triassic, Carnian. These animals were anguilliform swimmers, using lateral undulations of the body, combined with a deep, laterally-flattened tail, to move through the water like marine iguanas. The more plesiomorphic of these two were the Askeptosauroida. Although there are currently only four askeptosauroid genera known, they demonstrate considerable disparity in terms of skull shape and dentition. Anshunsaurus was similar but had a shorter snout and fewer teeth in the maxilla. Miodentosaurus differed with an even shorter, more robust, snout. Endennasaurus , while superficially similar to its cousins, has a narrow, toothless snout—it must have been limited to eating soft-bodied prey. Further, Endennasaurus appears to have been more strongly aquatic than its cousins, showing a stiffer trunk and thicker bones for ballast. Miodentosaurus Anshunsaurus The remaining thalattosaurs comprised the Thalattosauroida. These thalattosaurs were better adapted to a marine existence, with stiffer trunks and shorter legs, and started doing some very strange things with their snouts. Unlike the more generalized diets of askeptosauroids, thalattosauroids trended toward a diet of hard-shelled prey durophagy. The remaining thalattosauroids are quite well known. Unlike the relatively straight, no-nonsense snouts of the askeptosauroids, Xinpusaurus had a snout featuring a considerable notch between the maxilla and premaxilla that was occupied by sizable triangular teeth. In some specimens of Xinpusaurus, the premaxillae extended forward into an exaggerated point like that of a swordfish. Close relative Concavispina had a similar skull, if a bit more robustly constructed. It also has weirdly notched neural spines that it shares with Xinpusaurus xingyiensis. These animals had sharp teeth in the front of the jaws and rounded, crushing teeth in the back. Endennasaurus Concavispina; note how ridiculously long its tail is. There are several specimens known, divided into four species: The skulls assigned to X. Is the spear simply missing in X. Perhaps it has to do with ontogeny? How different are any of these species? Where the spear exists, Liu writes that "the snout is relatively longer in smaller specimens and varies in length in specimens. Therefore, the size of the snout cannot be used as a good diagnostic character. Xinpusaurus suni Maisch described the type of X. He concurred with Liu on the uselessness of the snout re: However, he notes that snout length was not used to differentiate X. However, Maisch does not find support for synonymizing X. Xinpusaurus kohi; note the broken toothless spear-snout Most recently, Li et al. I also note that in Li et al. The ends of their snouts are rounded, not obviously broken-off as is the case in the type of X. These animals differed mainly in respect to how downwardly-deflected their snouts are. The teeth at the front of their snout were small and sharp. A distinct diastema separated the premaxillary and maxillary teeth. The maxillary teeth were rounded, as were the teeth in the vomers. They must have been plucking shellfish with their hooked snouts and crushing them with their back teeth. Things get significantly stranger with Hescheleria and Nectosaurus: Hescheleria had similar dentition to Thalattosaurus and Clarazia. In Nectosaurus, however, the maxillary teeth were more numerous and pointy. Despite sharing a downturned snout, Hescheleria and Nectosaurus must have been eating different things. Note the downturned snout and giant dentary "tooth. Merriam named the Thalattosauria in , basing the family on two California taxa, Thalattosaurus and Nectosaurus. Clarazia and Hescheleria, both from Monte San Giorgio in Switzerland, were described by Bernhard Peyer as strange marine reptiles of "uncertain affinity" in In fact, thalattosaurs have been of uncertain affinity throughout most

of their history. While many authors considered them to be diapsids Benton, ; Evans, ; Rieppel, , nobody was quite sure of their relationships to any other diapsid group. She also examined some other thalattosaurs and reclassified as needed *Thalattosaurus shastensis*, for example, was moved into *Nectosaurus*; *Thalattosaurus perrini* was sunk as a nomen dubium, etc. Thalattosaurs secondarily ditched their upper temporal fenestrae by greatly reducing the size of the squamosals and postorbitals. The result is that the parietal is the only significant bone remaining. In , Chen et al. However, as a friend of mine reminded me, what we really need is a large, monograph-type work that summarizes and fully describes currently-known thalattosaurs. Perhaps something like Nicholls but on a larger scale. This might also elucidate the *Xinpusaurus* situation. Also, as Darren Naish has noted, we should be careful of assuming that marine adaptations are strictly convergent--they may well indicate common ancestry. In his initial description of the group, Merriam did provide some of that. They may have visited the shore but, like the Plesiosaurs, were better fitted for swimming than for crawling. The heavy vomerine and posterior mandibular teeth may have been used for crushing the light shells of ammonites, which existed in vast numbers in the same seas. However, in view of the incomplete knowledge of the animal as a whole, and taking the absence of any extant model into account, there is no sound basis for the construction of a scenario which would explain the jaw apparatus of *Hescheleria* to a satisfactory degree. The very powerful claws at first seem incongruous in a marine reptile. However, the marine iguana also has powerfully developed, recurved claws which help it cling to rocks in heavy seas. *Endennasaurus* was primarily adapted to an aquatic lifestyle, although the strongly ossified limbs imply it could have also moved on land at least for reproduction. *Thalattosaurus* by Ken Kirkland, from Hilton , still the best thalattosaur illustration out there. In their full description of *Concavispina* , Liu et al. How much time did they spend on land vs. What were askeptosauroids eating vs. How different, really, are the skeletons of askeptosauroids and thalattosauroids? If they are different, what does that say about their ecologies? How did *Hescheleria* and *Nectosaurus* even get food in their mouths? Future authors might focus more on the ecological implications of the odd thalattosaur skulls and skeletons, rather than spending all their efforts on the alpha taxonomy of the group, which remains surprisingly stable. Special thanks to Nick Gardner for edits and suggestions.

Chapter 3 : April Fool's is over

Marine Snouters of the Triassic The holotype of Thalattosaurus When I started this humble blog in (dear lord) late , I did not intend for it to become a blog dedicated to Triassic hellasaurs, but here we are.

Monorrhina Monorrhina is a probably paraphyletic group of Snouters with only one nasarium. Archirrhinos haeckeli, the Primitive Snouter. Most of them fall in the section Pedestria those who walk with the nasarium , with the only exception of Archirrhinos haeckeli, or Primitive Snouter. It does, however, use the broad nasarium, held fast to the ground by viscous mucus, when it uses all the four legs to hold and eat the cockroaches it feed on. The section Nasestria is then divided in two tribes: Asclerorrhina, with a soft, muscular nasarium, and Sclerorrhina, whose nasarium is stiffened by bones. The tribe Asclerorrhina comprises essentially two groups of Snouters: The family Rhinocolumnidae Dulcicauda, Dulcidauca and Columnifax, on the left have a strong pillar-like nasarium on which they stand relatively motionless; Dulcicauda and Dulcidauca secrete from their tail a sweet nectar used to attract insects which then they seize with their front limbs. Another Rhinocolumnidae, Emunctator sorbens Snuffler has a smaller and more primitive nasarium it uses to "fish" for aquatic invertebrates, catching them in strands of highly viscous mucus. Columnifax is similar to Dulcicauda; it has established a symbiotic relationship with a hopsorrhinid that brings it hunted preys in exchange for milk, which is produced by both sexes. Rhinotaenia asymmetrica, the Snorkeling Ribbon Snouter. The subtribe Hypogeonasida comprehends a number of burrowing species that live in the mud of lakes and streams. They breathe through long nasaria that protrude from the mud like snorkels, and they show a strong reduction of external features such as hair, eyes and sometimes limbs. Members of the genus Rhinostentor Trumpet Snouters are more aquatic, and they have a wide siphon lined in hair that allow them to catch plankton. A progression of Georrhinidae Rhinotalpa phallonasus, R. The numbers show the length in mm. Except for Rhinotalpa, which in overall aspect is similar to Hypogeonasida, the subtribe Georrhinidae shows a strong degeneration of most body structures in favor of the nasarium, unique among vertebrates. Rhinotalpa has a large, bristled and inflatable nasarium used to dig tunnels, while it shows reduction or disappearance of digestive tract, lung capacity, nostrils, hair, brain, eyes and homeothermy. In the more extreme Enterorrhinus and Holorrhinus, the nasarium accounts for most of the body length, while the digestive systems is a simple tube and the brain is a small ganglion. Sclerorrhina The Golden Snout Leaper. The tribe Sclerorrhina is distinguished by the presence of articulated bones in the nasarium that allow them to use it as a proper, leg-like limb for locomotion see here about monopods. The most primitive family of Sclerorrhina Amphihopsidae are tree-dwelling Snouters with both the nasarium and the tail are turned in limbs to leap, both forward and backward, while the legs are still as developed as before. Hopsorrhinus consumes insects it captures by leaping backwards; Mercatorrhinus brings them to the rhinocolumnid Columnifax, receiving milk in exchange. Among Hopsorrhinidae, Otopteryx volitans shown on the book cover and on the right deserves a special mention. Thanks to very long, narrow ears stiffened by a bone, the os alae auris that provide lift , each leap allow it to glide for a long distance, until it lands by spreading the ears wide. Finally, Orchidiopsidae on the left do not use their prehensile tail and their ossified snout to leap after insects, but rather catch them by posing as flowers, like the orchid mantis or Flower-Faced Snouters. The nasarium has flat, broad section similar to the petals of an orchid in Orchidiopsis or a lily in Liliopsis , while the forked tail holds fast on a branch. The petal-like sections also emit a viscous, flower-scented secretion; in Liliopsis thaumatonasus, such secretion is also luminescent thanks to symbiotic bacteria. Polyrrhina Polyrrhina are distinguished by the unique feature of multiple snouts: Since the nasaria are moved thanks to a pneumatic apparatus, when moving it constantly emits a hissing noise. The other phalanx, Dolichoproata, contains only one genus, Rhinochilopus, or the Tasselsnouter. Tasselsnouters have a nasarium branching in nineteen pairs of nasidi, slender appendages they use to root in the woods, searching and carrying food. Tetrarrhinida are Polyrrhina with four nasaria. Most species in this tribe are found in the family Nasobemidae, the true Snout Walkers. Their nasaria are very long, slender and fully flexible, while their long tail, albeit thin, can be used as a grasping appendage to hold fruit. While the tail is usually a flat ribbon, it can be controlled by pumping

throw internal channel the gas derived from the digestion of plant matter. The most specialized species of the tribe, and only member of its family, is *Tyrannosaurus imperator*, the Predacious Snouter. Hexarrhinida The Shaggyfaced Snouter. Hexarrhinida have six nasaria. The other possibly polyphyletic family, Isorrhinidae, is distinguished by six very long and slender nasaria, sometimes lacking corpora spongiosa. The less specialized Isorrhinidae, *Eledonopsis*, lives in burrows with its thin nasaria, up to 30 cm long, crawling around the forest floor, from which it takes the name "Ribbon Snouter". The surface of the ribbons is covered in bristles and curls in a tube to bring captured springtails and barklice towards the mouth, while larger preys such as spiders are entangled in mucus and tied by several nasaria. The other two genera of Isorrhinidae, *Hexanthus* also called *Ranunculonasus* and *Cephalanthus* also called *Corbulonasus* trap insects by posing as flowers, like Orchidiopsidae, but with very different methods. *Hexanthus* lies motionless on the ground, hidden by its greenish colour, while its nasaria creep up the stalk of flowers, while the end of each nasarium ends with a flower-shaped structures. These, coloured yellow, red and black, emit a vanilla-like scent, known to attract the six-winged insects. *Cephalanthus* brings its small body at the level of the flowers, standing on a long and rigid tail. The nasaria form six broad petal-like structures circling the mouth, and close around the insects pushing them towards the teeth. *Cephalanthus* never move from their spot; to mate, the males simply wait to be pushed by the breeze towards the females. Recent discoveries The Russian edition of the book adds an appendix where newly discovered species of aquatic Snouters are described, allegedly collected a decade before in the shallow sea off the Antarctic coast. All of them are only a few cm long. The family Hydroidopsidae contains two new species: *Rhizoidonasus euphorbiformis* and *Larvanasus haleciformis*. *Rhizoidonasus* lives in colonies, with the parent individual attached to the seafloor through the six nasaria, each branching in rhizoid-like structures. The long tail is also branched, and younger organisms live attached to these branches while their nasaria develop.

Chapter 4 : Waxing Paleontological:

GENERAL. The Snouters, which are regarded as a special order of the mammals, and which have found a monographer in the well-known specialist Bromeante de Burlas, are - as the name indicates - all distinguished by the fact that the snout is extraordinarily developed.

That hitherto they have remained unknown to science is because their native land, the South Sea Archipelago Hy-yi-yi written Heieiei in German, was not discovered until the year and even then was visited for the first time by civilized Europeans through a rare chance connected with the Pacific war. But in addition this group of animals has particular significance because among them are found principles of structure, modes of behavior, and ecological types that are unknown elsewhere, not just among mammals but among vertebrates in general. This island, which in contrast to many islands of the South Seas is not of volcanic origin even though it does not lack an active volcano Kotsobousi-Kozobausi of respectable height feet, extends some twenty miles from north to south and about ten miles east to west, consists predominantly of limestone and metamorphic shales, and has as its highest elevation Shou-wunoonda Schauanunda, a twin-peaked mountain feet high. The climate of the island is extremely equable, as is customary of islands of the central and eastern Pacific. The tropical vegetation, the botanical evaluation of which has scarcely begun, displays alongside genera of worldwide distribution many endemic forms of archaic character thus the Maierales, closely related to the Psilotales; and the genus Necolepidodendron, to be classed among the Lepidodendrales; and likewise the Schultzeales, that form a series of magnificent virgin forest trees that are to be ranked near the Ranunculaceae; and many more. The Hy-yi-yi Archipelago, to which Hy-dud-dye-fee belongs, must hence be of ancient origin, as is true also in respect to the geological-palaeontological findings almost exclusively palaeozoic deposits; cf. At the very latest, the island group must have become completely isolated from other continents in the Upper Cretaceous; likewise it is to be assumed that the archipelago, for its part, is the remnant of a fair-sized continent, since - in contrast to New Zealand - it contains an incomparably greater variety and peculiarity of native groups of organisms on a total island area of only slightly more than square miles. The natives found by Skamtkvist on his arrival in called themselves Hooakha-Hutchi Euacha-Hat-schi. They have since become extinct, but according to Skamtkvist seem to have been polynesian-europaeoid. It was impossible to investigate their language because a headcold introduced by the discoverer destroyed these children of nature inside of a few months. Of their cultural artifacts only a few wooden objects could be saved cf. The peaceful tribe was supported by the natural bounty of the surroundings. This much Skamtkvist was able to ascertain. These arrangements had the fortunate scientific byproduct that despite the presence of humankind the extraordinary archipelago world of organisms was preserved, as is the more astounding because almost all the terrestrial animals would have been destroyed if they had been hunted more intensively. Despite the fact that their native home was unknown, Snouters had been mentioned on one previous occasion. This concise and yet clear description, that expresses the peculiar gait of this Snouter even in the rhythm of the verse, answers to a hair that of Nasobema lyricum². Hence one cannot think other than that Morgenstern must have had a specimen of this Snouter before him or have had detailed information about it. Bleedkoop in Das Nasobemproblem The Nasobame Problem considers that there are two possibilities. Either Morgenstern was briefly in Hy-yi-yi during the years to, or through some chance or other he received a hide of Nasobema lyricum the honatata of the natives. According to a verbal communication from Mrs. Bleedkoop concludes from this that Morgenstern had learned of Hy-yi-yi from an acquaintance. But whether he actually had the honatata before him, or with a poets intuition simply sketched a picture of the animal, mist remain enigmatic. Perhaps too he wished to veil the islands with their ancient organisms from European greed and hence-to an extent as camouflage-wove these lines into his poem? We do not know, just as we do not know from whom Morgenstern got his information about Hy-yi-yi and its fauna. Actually the only possibility in this direction is a merchant sailor, Captain Albrecht Jens Miespott, who died at an early age; Morgenstern maintained a considerable correspondence with him. In, after returning from a long and extraordinary journey, Miespott died in a state of mental derangement in Hamburg. Perhaps it was he who knew the secret of Hy-yi-yi and

carried it with him to the grave. In a meritorious study I. Schutliwitskij occupied himself with the same problem. Yet here too the data are contradictory. It may be present singly, or in a greater number. The latter condition is unique among the vertebrates. Together with the early polyrrhinallization there occur numerous extensive alterations of the entire structural plan of the head. Special muscles, derived from the facial musculature innervated by the N. Facialis or by a branch, the N. Beyond this, in one group the hopsorrhines⁴ or Snout Leapers the capacity of the snout to develop energy is increased further by M. The nasal sinuses and the corpora spongiosa undergo far-reaching alteration and an increase in size, which are accompanied by a shift in function. Thus for instance in almost all of the more advanced forms the tear duct takes on the functions of an outer respiratory passage. Such special details will be considered further in discussing the individual species. Head of a young embryo, to show the polyrrhine condition after Stulten Correspondingly, the posterior appendages are mostly more or less reduced, while the anterior appendages have been modified as grasping organs for holding the food or as little hands for grooming. In the genus *Rhinostentor* Trumpet Snouters they participate in the formation of a water-filtering apparatus. Whereas, then, the paired appendages are less impressive features of the general organization of the Snouters, with these animals the tail occupies an outstanding place and in its construction has developed manifold and altogether aberrant types. Thus one finds not only coiling tails and lasso-like tails, but also in the sclerorrhines⁶ the Proboscipedes the tail serves the more primitive forms for jumping and the more advanced as a grasping organ cf. In most Snouters the body is covered with a fairly uniform coat, in which no distinction can be made between underfur and guard hairs; this is to be attributed not only to the climatic conditions of the archipelago, but according to Bromeante de Burlas is to be regarded as a primitive character. This view is favored also by the regular way in which the hairs are grouped. In one genus there are in addition strong horny scales similar to those of scaly anteaters, that are altogether of the nature of reptilian scales. At times the coloration of the coat is magnificent. Famous above all is the extraordinary luster of the pelt, caused by the special structure of the hair cortex. A few aquatic species, and the very small burrowing species that are found on the sandy shore, are completely bare; likewise a single parasitic species cf. The manner of feeding varies greatly among the different families, and even within the same family or genus. Yet this is hardly surprising when one recalls that besides a single aquatic shrew⁷ the Snouters are the only mammals of the archipelago and have thus been able to take possession of all ecological niches. Most of the rhinograde animals, the average size of which is indeed small, eat insects. But in addition there are also herbivores-especially fructivorous species-and one predacious genus. To be mentioned finally as particularly specialized forms are the plankton feeders that live in fresh water, and the burrowing forms, among which are the tiniest vertebrates known. The crab-eaters among the hopsorrhines can be derived readily from the insectivorous forms. A strange case of symbiosis will be discussed in the systematic section pp. It is particularly remarkable that among the Snouters there is one flying genus with a single species, and that there are also sessile and parasitic forms. Considering the habits and the structural organization of the animals, however, one is not astonished that the number of species is rather large. In this connection geological interest is attached to the excellent study by M. Assfugl of the genus *Dulcicauda*⁸ the Honeytails. These authors were able to show that land bridges must have persisted for various lengths of time between the different islands of the archipelago, and were able to estimate the dates of their interruption cf. All in all, the study with this material of Rassen-kreise and their evolution Rensch is especially promising, even though in many areas there are great gaps that are hardly to be closed even by the palaeontological approach, since the pertinent fossils lie in deposits that have sunk beneath the surface of the sea. In general the reproductivity of the Snouters is not high, which permits the conclusion that the death rate also is low. So far as now is known there is invariably a single young at a birth the Snout Leapers with physiological polyembryony are an exception. However, pregnant females occur all year long. Among the monorrhine forms the young are so advanced in development at birth that they do not have to be suckled. Correlatively, the mammary glands of these Snouters are vestigial or display, in the genus *Columnifax*⁹ Pillar Snouters, lactation independent of a lactation hormone cf. In the polyrrhine genera, in which the newborn are in quite a dependent condition, there is a single pair of mostly axillary teats. The rhinogrades have scarcely any enemies. In the interior of the islands the only warm-blooded creatures besides the already mentioned swamp shrew *Limnogaloides* are birds of the genus *Hypsiboas*¹⁰

Megaphone Birds. All these are of the size of songbirds and have occupied biotopes quite distinct from those of the Rhinogradentia. According to Bouffon and Sotprimarsch they are descended from petrels, and in fact from forms close to *Hydrobates*. There occurs only a single primitive amphibian species *Urobombinator submersus*¹¹, whose gigantic larvae are devoured by the Hooakha-Hutchi at ceremonial feasts. The slow-moving *Nasobema* species have enemies from their own ranks in the predacious rhinogrades of the genus *Tyrannonasus*. However, this genus is confined to a few islands. For the most part, only the oceanic birds that at certain seasons breed on some of the smaller islands occasionally take a rhinograde. Here attention may be called to yet another peculiarity of the Hy-yi-yi-an fauna: Thus the cockroach-like kinds are represented by numerous structurally distinct types, most of which can be placed among the Blattadae. Besides these there are also a few more advanced insects, above all Hymenoptera, whereas Lepidoptera are absent altogether. Hence, pollination is accomplished partly by Hymenoptera above all by the *Pseudobombus* species, that outwardly resemble bumble-bees but that actually are related to the xylocopids, and partly by caddisflies and cockroaches. There are no ants. As a marked peculiarity the six-winged insects Hexaptera of the superorder Hexapteroidea¹³ should be mentioned; they are descendants of the Palaeodictyoptera and have terrestrial larvae. These insects are mostly animals of the open country; i. Here too we may record the peculiarity that the larger islands have some endemic species. These primitive forms are wholly lacking in the smaller islands. Probably this is to be attributed to the fact that the smaller islands for instance Owmvussa or Sawabisi are coral islands and hence of recent formation, or because they do not afford sufficient protection against the wind for inept fliers, so that an endemic species there died out as the islands sank and grew smaller. With respect to the systematic arrangement of the Snouters, the following considerations apply: In this connection the presence on Mairuvili of *Limnogaloides* is significant; for this animal, that unquestionably is to be reckoned among the Insectivora, has many features in common with *Archirrhinos*, so that it is not impossible that both species may be traced back to a common ancestry. For the rest, the systematic classification of the Snouters follows predominantly the degree of development of the snout. Eledonopsis; 23 Hexanthus; The thickness of the branches indicates the relative numbers of species of the several genera. Here *Dulcicauda* and *Dulcidauca* that elsewhere are regarded as separate genera are placed together under *Dulcicauda*. The 14 families contain altogether species; there is still a possibility that one or another unknown species inhabits some isolated region of the archipelago. This may be anticipated the more because the just-mentioned group of the Rhinotalpiformes has yielded surprising discoveries of new types in recent years. Some systematic difficulties are to be expected also when the question is clarified for broadly distributed species as to when we are dealing with true races, i. The example of Mammontops¹⁵ Shaggy-faced Snouters, that originally was native to Shou-wunoonda and later was kept by the Naval Administration in the zoo at the experimental station on Shay-nay-lukha Schaielacha, demonstrated the extraordinary degree to which the phenotype could be modified. Genetic experiments have failed hitherto because of the difficulty of rearing the animals cf. Only *Hopsorrhinus* once again affords an exception.

Chapter 5 : Rhinogradentia - Wikipedia

Snouters But they received their first and only scientific description in a monograph, *Bau und Leben der Rhinogradentia*, published in by the German naturalist Harald Stämpke. For instance, the Sniffing Snouter caught fish with the long, delicate threads that emerged from its nostrils.

A diverse endemic insect fauna was bizarre in including Palaeozoic relicts, and the flora also included archaic forms such as large clubmosses. Of great interest is that rhinogradentians were mentioned in late 19th century European literature, and indeed there is some indication that the Hi-yi-yi islands had actually been discovered by westerners long prior to As evidenced by the bibliography of Stumpke , a substantial number of publications devoted to rhinogradentian morphology, behaviour and evolution appeared during the s and 50s and such was the interest in this group that the Darwin Institute was set up on Hy-dud-dye-fee the largest island of the archipelago , and an international conference on rhinogradentians held there in [adjacent image shows conference delegates photographed at the meeting, from here]. In what must be ranked as one of the greatest man-made environmental catastrophes of all time, secretly conducted atomic tests occurring in the same region initiated an earthquake that caused the sudden subsidence and destruction of the entire archipelago. So not only were all the rhinogradentians known at the time made extinct, but all scientists formally specialising on the group were killed. A few internet sites discuss rhinogradentian diversity and figure a few of the rarely-discussed species most notably, this excellent French site , but they fail to cover the more remarkable lineages within the group. Let me emphasise that I am barely providing a fraction of the information published within Stumpke however, and if you want in-depth information on the members of the group you must get hold of the book yourself. A superficially shrew-like quadruped, it possessed a large nasarium that served as a support when the animal lunged forward to grab prey. Archirrhinos -like ancestors are thought to have given rise to the nasolimacids, the snail-like snouters. While primitively similar to Archirrhinos, nasolimacids evolved a specialised nasarium where the muscles and sinuses were extensively subdivided, thereby allowing the structure to function much like the foot of a snail. These remarkable mammals lived standing on their foot-like nasarium, their bodies sub-vertical and their limbs reduced or modified. They included armour-plated forms as well as the sugarmice Rhinolimaceus, a taxon so named as a gland at its tail base secreted a sweet-tasting fluid. Probably closely related to the nasolimacids were the rhinocolumnids or pillar-nosed snouters. Again, what was probably the most basal member of the group - the sniffers Emunctator [see adjacent image] - were not all that different from Archirrhinos, though they differed notably from that taxon in using mucosal strands to trap and ingest prey from shallow water. Emunctator possessed a long, mobile tail equipped with a poisonous spur at its tip, and the same character was present in most other pillar-nosed snouters. Among these are the sedentary honeytails Dulcicauda, a group that - like the sugarmice - evolved caudal glands that secreted fragrant secretions that were attractive to insects [Dulcicauda shown at bottom of post]. Columnifax produced milk that the snout leaper drank, while the snout leaper would collect hermit crabs that were eaten by the Columnifax. What particularly captured the attention of many of those who studied rhinogradentians is that, though descending from shrew-like terrestrial insectivores, they underwent one of the most remarkable adaptive radiations seen among mammals. A morphologically unusual and phylogenetically isolated group, the hypogeonasidans, included both fossorial and aquatic forms. Among the fossorial species were the bizarre ribbon snouters Rhinotaenia: Predominantly animals of tidal sediments, some of them lived almost like parasites within the valves of large bivalves. Ribbon snouters are generally regarded as closely related to the aquatic rhinostentorids, or trumpet snouters. Indeed several derived characters, and a unique sort of mucin secretion, were common to the sniffers and the ribbon snouters, suggesting that the hypogeonasidans evolved from sniffers Bromeante de Burlas Trumpet snouters are among the groups that are never mentioned whenever rhinogradentians are discussed. In these forms the nasarium was a funnel-like filtering apparatus, formed into a distal rosette fringed with water-repellent hairs. Stiff bristles lined the naked body. Closely related to the hypogeonasidans were the even more remarkable georrhinidans or burrowing snouters, the only group in which the snout was markedly larger than the rest of

the body. Basal members of this group are best exemplified by the fossorial mole snouters *Rhinotalpa*. Equipped with strongly reduced limbs as well as wreaths of stiff bristles around the snout and head, *Rhinotalpa* used inflation and deflation of its nasarium as well as erection and relaxation of the bristle wreaths to move within its burrows. These features were not present in all members of the genus however, and some e. Georrhinida includes what must be among the most amazing of all tetrapods, the holorrhinids allsnouters, as they were so structurally modified that even their tetrapod identity has been doubted actually, this is not the first time that members of a rhinogradentian clade have been wrongly identified as invertebrates. The most specialised allsnouter was the Turbellarian-like dwarfsnouter *Remanonasus menorrhinus*. Just 2 mm long, this tiny worm-like mammal has been regarded by some as a free-living turbellarian flatworm, and in fact Stulten argued that turbellarians were highly derived rhinogradentians! Among the soft-nosed snouters, the most familiar and best known are the sclerorhinans, or snout leapers. Equally well known are the members of the last division: This might have merit, especially given models that propose an explosive island-endemic radiation of rhinogradentians from a founding ancestor. However, the presence of fossil and extant rhinogradentians in the Old World has shown that all of the major divergences within Rhinogradentia had occurred during the Mesozoic, making the group an ancient one, with a relict distribution in modern times. This argues against the idea of an explosive island-endemic radiation. Snout leapers and their relatives included numerous terrestrial, arboreal and even volant forms. The most basal forms, the arboreal snout leapers or perihopsids, were likened by Stumpke to arboreally modified kin of Archirrhinos. Their overall proportions were not extraordinary, but their large nasarium was jointed like a limb and possessed a distal plate-like organ. The tail was similarly equipped, providing the animal with similar spring-action pseudo-limbs at both end of the body. Accordingly, perihopsids were reportedly extraordinarily agile, able to leap both forwards and backwards with speed. Presumably derived from a perihopsid-like snout leaper, the hopsorrhinids or true snout leapers were characterised by an extraordinarily long, gracile, jointed nasarium that the animals used to make long backward leaps. The body was particularly short, hindlimbs were entirely absent, and the tail was long, slender and prehensile. Multiple species inhabited the beaches of Hi-yi-yi. More on rhinogradentians in the next post Refs - - Bromeante de Burlas, J. A derivacao e a arvore genealogica dos Rhinogradentes. Form and Life of the Rhinogrades.

Chapter 6 : The Snouters: Form and Life of the Rhinogrades (Literature) - TV Tropes

The Snouters: Form and Life of the Rhinogrades by Harald St?mpke and a great selection of similar Used, New and Collectible Books available now at blog.quintoapp.com

She gave them dining coupons and agreed to see them the next day before they drove home. Bessie gazed at the wall in front of them and averted her eyes. That big fish is staring right at me. It was high tide and the surf washed ferociously over the rocks. The dining galley as it was called was designed in a rustic, seafaring motif: Skillfully prepared fish mounted on plaques of various sizes peered from the walls. Their side of the long wooden tables covered with checkered oil cloth faced outward toward the crashing sea. Bessie picked at hers and wrinkled her nose. The lettuces is wilted. How can they serve salad greens this decrepit. Another couple sat down across from them. Harry chuckled "Gets the attention of the viewers. He has to show his customers how comfortable our beds and mattresses can be. And what better way Lead a man into the bedroom and the next thing you know His expression was jovial but Bessie noticed an edge to his voice. The server brought the MacDonalds their salads. Bessie noticed their greens were equally limp and unappealing. Cat food cannery here in town. Their nametags read Dorothy and Hubert Presley. Where Cindy was stout, with a bulldog expression, Dorothy was thin, her neck narrow and corded. She squinted at Harry. She turned to Bessie. The wait staff wheeled in supper. It had a dried out look beside small serving of what appeared to be canned green beans and half a baked potato. Hubert Presley gave Harry his best man to man smile. Hubert pursed his lips and shook his head. We go for five card stud. The canned green beans were watery. Gotta keep up with the millennials. He raised his voice slightly. Your originality is stunning! The servers wheeled in dessert: David broke the ensuing silence. He looked up and grinned at Harry. Best we drive back home tonight. We can always come back. David MacDonald looked disappointed. He smiled at Harry. David MacDonald grinned at Bessie. She and Harry held hands as they exited the dining room and found their car.

Chapter 7 : Peoria Chiefs | blog.quintoapp.com

The Town Talk, Alexandria-Pineville, La. B-8 Sunday, August 4, Corporate Cup All-Stars blow away Snouters "It was good to get some of severely crippled by the addition of young college guys.

Bizarre Alien Locomotion indeed. It documents a fictional order of strange mammals mostly native to the Hy-yi-yi Islands known as the Rhinogrades, or Snouters. Among other things, the most unique trait of the Rhinogrades is the nasarium, an organ derived from the nose that has evolved to fill every conceivable purpose imaginable. You heard correct; they use their noses for everything. Including eating, singing, walking, jumping, grabbing, camouflage, burrowing, and swimming As ridiculous as it sounds, the author documents them like real animals, right down to the last details. Can be read in full here. This book provides examples of: All Animals Are Domesticated: Unlike other mammals, the fur colour of snouters are often very beautiful and vibrant. Beware My Stinger Tail: Several species of Snouter have venomous spikes derived from hair at the end of their tail. Aside from their noses, some of their anatomy is incredibly strange; to the point some species are confused with flatworms. Most of them can only move around on their noses if they move at all and the limbs of many have become highly reduced. The Earwing Otopteryx volitans flies with its ears using its nose to steer. But by far the strangest are the hermaphroditic marine species found off the coast of Antarctica one of which breeds by gemmation. When a Tyrannonasus catches a Nasobema, the prey will break down in tears because once caught, there is no escape. The Flower-faced Snouters, Lilysnouters, and the Orchidsnouters among others all disguise themselves as flowers to attract insects. The Lilysnouters hunt at night and have glowing mucus. Averted , there is nothing especially dangerous about Hy-Yi-Yi or its inhabitants. Even for the snouters, life is easy; besides Tyrannonasus and occasionally sea birds which are only found on a few small islands , nothing preys on them. Everything Is Better With Spinning: To Real Life , the Shaggy-faced Snouter is really obviously based on the woolly mammoth. They are covered in thick fur, eats plants, have large slab-like molars, uses their noses to grab things, travels in herds, and are one of the largest Rhinogrades. Besides the Tyrannonasus, sea birds will occasionally prey on snouters. Strangely enough, some species of Rhinogrades breath through their tear ducts despite having multiple noses. The final evolution of this trope. Some Rhinogrades may have evolved into Turbellaria "flatworms". Home to not only the Snouters, but many primitive arthropods that should have gone extinct over million years ago. Mike Nelson, Destroyer of Worlds: Played for laughs in another, immobile species that bribes other rhinogrades to bring it food in exchange for milk, as even the males have large and suspiciously human-like mammaries. Our Monsters Are Weird: Because of their reduced limbs, some species have a very long tail that works like this. This is lampshaded in several places in the documentary. One of the oldest, if not THE oldest. Even so, they rarely catch their prey.

Chapter 8 : Waxing Paleontological: Marine Snouters of the Triassic

All of the snouters are physiologically and genetically plausible, although many (the one with humanoid breasts, for example) are obviously fictitious. The text is verbose, reserved, and utterly serious-exactly in the manner of a real scientific monograph.

Chapter 9 : Welcome to the Ghost House

The Old Saybrook Land Trust has joined forces with Yankee magazine in an effort to bring more money for open space into town. For every new reader who subscribes to the magazine using special.