

## AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES FROM THE EARLY MIOCENE OF WEISENAU IN THE HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TORINO

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The early Miocene (MN1) locality of Weisenau, near Mainz (Germany), is well known for having yielded some important remains of amphibians and reptiles, among which the type material of the amphisbaenian *Palaeoblanus tobieni*. We here report on a previously undescribed, small set (159 bones) of herpetofaunistic remains coming from this locality stored in the historical collections of the Museo di Geologia e Paleontologia of the Università degli Studi di Torino (Italy). The fossils from Weisenau exclusively represent vertebral elements of both amphibians and reptiles.

Amphibian remains include only few vertebrae of a medium-large-sized caudate (total length of the specimens reaching up to 0.8 cm) similar to *Salamandra sansaniensis*. As for reptiles, numerous snakes have been identified, including members of Boidae, “colubrines” and Viperidae. *Vipera cf. antiqua* was already reported from Weisenau and it is possible that the vertebrae herein attributed to viperids belong to the same taxon. Anguid lizards are also present, being referable to only one taxon, *Pseudopus*. Due to the unknown origin of the material and to its scarce representativeness it is not possible to draw any palaeoecological conclusion, but it represents at least an interesting comparative material available for study.