



The Pterosaur Database

Faxinalipterus minimus

Fragmentary remains of a small pterosaur found at two localities 1.5km north east of Fuxinal do Soturno, Brazil.

stratigraphy: Carnian/Norian terrestrial sandstone in the Caturrita Formation

Holotype: UFRGS PV0927T consisting of left coracoid lacking the sternal end, proximal left humerus, medial and distal fragment of the right humerus, proximal fragments of left radius and maxilla fragment with teeth.



Jaw fragment with teeth

Bonaparte J. F., Schultz C. L. & Soares M. B., 2010 - Pterosaur from the Late Triassic of Southern Brazil. *Lecture Notes in Earth Sciences* 132 : 63 -71.

Abstract

A few postcranial remains of a Late Triassic pterosaur from the early Coloradian Caturrita Formation of Rio Grande do Sul are communicated. The general morphology of the coracoid, proximal portion of the humerus, femur, tibia and fibula suggests that it is more primitive than the pterosaurs from the Norian of northern Italy. The morphology and proportions of the different bones support their assignment to a primitive pterosaur. An almost complete maxilla with three teeth is tentatively referred to the same taxon because it was collected at some distance from the postcrania cited above.

This pterosaur is possibly older than other Triassic pterosaurs and was recorded from a typical terrestrial environment. It suggests that the earliest pterosaurs evolved in continental and littoral marine environments.

Note: Alexander Kellner suggested that this specimen may be a basal Pterosauromorph or possibly an Ornithodire.

The limited remains and associations make any classification tentative.