

# 中国新生代哺乳动物分期<sup>1)</sup>

童永生 郑绍华 邱铸鼎

(中国科学院古脊椎动物与古人类研究所, 北京 100044)

**摘要** 一个多世纪以来, 在中国新生代地层中已发现近1500种哺乳动物。根据这些动物群体的组成及演替特征, 将中国新生代初步归结为18个哺乳动物期, 其中早第三纪10个, 晚第三纪5个, 更新世3个。

**关键词** 中国 新生代 哺乳动物分期

国际上, 各地质时期的层型剖面多以海相地层为依据, 但新生代陆相地层出露更广泛, 划分新生代陆相地层所依据的古生物门类不尽相同。哺乳动物演化迅速的特点已被证明是划分新生代陆相地层的有效证据。北美有众多发育良好的新生代陆相盆地沉积和丰富的化石, 在生物地层学的研究上, 很早就以哺乳动物为基础, 建立了系统的新生代分期 (Wood 等, 1941); 几经变化, 最近这些期被统称为陆生哺乳动物期 (Land mammal age)。相对于北美, 欧洲这一期间的陆相盆地沉积不那么发育, 很多著名的哺乳动物群均发现于裂隙堆积中, 迫使众多学者对生物地层学的研究侧重于哺乳动物的演化。由于欧洲对哺乳动物的研究历史悠久, 研究工作也比较深入, 现在不仅建立了一些陆生哺乳动物期, 而且还根据哺乳动物群的进化阶段 (stage in evolution) 提出了类似于“生物带”的部分哺乳动物年代“带” (the MP and MN zonation) 的划分方案。此外, 类似的陆生哺乳动物期在南美大陆也已建立了起来。

我国新生代地层以陆相沉积为主, 海相地层只有零星分布, 因此新生代生物地层学的主要研究对象也是陆相地层及其所含的哺乳动物化石。到目前为止已记载了约1500种化石哺乳动物, 地点遍及全国。为了弄清我国哺乳动物演化的特征及其与世界其它地区哺乳动物的关系, 有必要深入研究我国的哺乳动物时期, 建立能代表东亚地区哺乳动物时期的生物年代。虽然我国完整的新生代哺乳动物时代尚未系统地建立起来, 但不同地质年代的哺乳动物期已先后为一些研究者提出, 如 Romer (1966)、李传夔、丁素因 (Li 和 Ting, 1983)、童永生 (1989)、黄学诗、童永生 (见中国石油天然气总公司第三系研究课题协调组, 1991)、王伴月 (Wang, 1992) 先后提出了早第三纪的哺乳动物期名; 李传夔等 (1984)、邱占祥、邱铸鼎 (1990)、郑绍华、韩德芬 (Zheng 和 Han, 1991) 建立了晚第三纪和第四纪的哺乳动物期的划分方案。这里着重系统地探讨我国新生代哺乳动物期, 进一步阐明各期的特征及其相互联系。

文中更新世部分由郑绍华, 新第三纪由邱铸鼎, 老第三纪由童永生执笔。

1) 本课题属中国科学院支持的“八五”院重点科研项目



表2 晚第三纪生物年代及对比  
Tab.2 Neogene biochronology ages and correlation

Time in Ma	Chronostratigraphy		Mammal age	Typical Fauna	Related Fauna	Diagnostic Taxa	Europe	North America
5	Pliocene	Late	Yushean	Mazegou	Youhe Daodi	<i>Chardinomys</i> , * <i>Mimomys</i> * <i>Germanomys</i> , * <i>Hypolagus</i> * <i>Ochotonoides</i> , <i>Paracamelus</i> <i>Chasmaporthetes</i> , <i>Homotheriu</i> * <i>Mamut</i>	Villan- yan	Blan- can
		Early		Gaozhuang	Bilike Harr Obo		Rusci- nian	Hemphillian
10	Miocene	Late	Baodean	Ertemte	Qingyang Songshan Jilong	<i>Microtodon</i> , <i>Sinocricetodon</i> <i>Lophocricetodon</i> * <i>Prosiphneus</i> , <i>Progonomys</i> <i>Ictitherium</i> , <i>Machairodus</i> <i>Tetralophodon</i> , <i>Samotherium</i> * <i>Gazella</i> , * <i>Hipparion</i>	Turolian	Clarendonian
				Bahe Lufeng			Bulong Amuwusu	
		Middle	Tunggurian	Tunggur	Xiaolongtan Xianshuihe Halamagai Koujiacun Jiulongkou	" <i>Monosaulax</i> ", <i>Heterosminthus</i> <i>Protalactaga</i> , <i>Plesiodipus</i> <i>Bellatona</i> , <i>Platybelodon</i> <i>Kubanochoerus</i>	Astaracian	Barstovian
				Shanwangian	Shanwang	Xiaodian	<i>Plesiosciurus</i> , <i>Diatomys</i> <i>Yangofiber</i> , <i>Spanocricetodon</i> * <i>Democricetodon</i> , * <i>Alloptox</i> <i>Hemicyon</i> , <i>Palaeotapirus</i> <i>Plesiceratherium</i> , * <i>Anchitherium</i>	Orleanian
20	Early	Xiejian	Sihong	Fangshan	<i>Eucrietodon youngi</i> <i>Tataromys suni</i> <i>Sinolagomys pachygnathus</i> <i>Sinopalaeoceros siejiaensis</i> <i>Tsaganomys altaicus</i>	Agenian	Arikarean	
			Xiejia	Jiaozigou Zhangjiaping				

\* First appearance

哺乳动物时代时,很难直接参照欧、美的动物群。但地球上的哺乳动物有相似的演化过程和特征,这正是本文确认我国哺乳动物期的基本原则。根据哺乳动物的演化特征及群体相近程度,将我国新生代陆生哺乳动物归纳为18期,即古新世的上湖期、浓山期;始新世的岭茶期、阿山头期、伊尔丁曼哈期、萨拉木仑期、那读期;渐新世的乌兰戈楚期、乌兰塔塔尔期和塔朋布拉格期;中新世的谢家期、山旺期、通古尔期、保德期;上新世和第四纪的榆社期、泥河湾期、周口店期和萨拉乌苏期(表1、2、3)。另外,对我国陆生哺乳动物期的划分,力图保持与地质年代的一致性,并尽量在各地质年代中使用接近的动物分类阶元进行划分。但实际上新生代各地质分期的时间跨度很不一致,不同的时代采用相同的分类阶元进行划分并不可取。因此,这里对哺乳动物期的确定,一般由动

表 3 第四纪生物年代及对比  
Tab.3 Quaternary biochronology ages and correlation

Time in Ma	Chronostratigraphy	Mammal Age	Typical Fauna	Related Fauna	Diagnostic Taxa	Europe		North America	
Pleistocene	Late	Salawusu and	Salawusu	Xujiayao Sanjiacun Loc.3 of ZKD	<i>Microtus complicidens</i> <i>Mammuthus primigenius</i> <i>Bubalus wansjocki</i>	Toringian	Late	Rancholabrean	
			Middle	Zhoukoudianian	Late		Jinniushan		Dingcun Miaohoushan Yanhuidong
	Early	Loc.1 of ZKD			Xiaodukou Xinghuashan Nangouling Loc.13 of ZKD Longtandong Geleshan Chenjiawo	<i>Youngia epitingi</i> <i>Lagurus simplicidens</i> <i>Gulo schlosseri</i> <i>Mustela constricta</i> <i>Dicerorhinus tichorhinus</i> <i>Megaloceros luochuanensis</i> <i>Bubalus teilhardi</i>			
					Late	Gongwangling	Gonghe (upper) Xiaochangcun Xicawan Laochihe Gengjiagou Loc.9 of ZKD Yanjinggou Hedong Lalishan Longmoshan	<i>Allocricetus teilhardi</i> <i>Ailuropoda fovealis</i> <i>Megantereon lantianensis</i> <i>Panthera palaeosinensis</i> <i>Dicerorhinus lantianensis</i> <i>Elaphodus cephalophus</i> <i>Elaphurus lantianensis</i> <i>Megaloceros konwanlinensis</i> <i>Leptobos breicornis</i>	
							Middle	Xiashagou	Gonghe (lower) Linyi Zhangyuhougou Tongshanzhen Xihoudu Loc.12 of ZKD Gaoping Dongpaoshan Bijiashan Jinggou Miaozuiping
	Early	Nihewanian	Early	Loc.18 of ZKD	Dongyaozitou Dachai Houhecun Xicun Cap travertine of ZKD Huangkan Jiajiaoshan Juyuandong Longgupo Yinshan (lower) Potou	<i>Allophaiomys terrae-rubrae</i> <i>Minomys peii</i> <i>Rhizomys brachyrhizomoides</i> <i>Episiphneus youngi</i> <i>Youngia omegodon-trassaerti</i> <i>Ailuropoda microta</i> <i>Megaviverra pleistocanenica</i> <i>Stegodon zhaotungensis</i> <i>Tapirus peii</i> <i>Potamochoerus nodosarius</i> <i>Metacervulus capreolinus</i> <i>Spirocerus peii</i>			Villanyian (late)
Early					Irvingtongian	II	I	III	
	Early	Biharian	Late	I					II

表4 早第三纪部分哺乳动物科的时代分布  
Tab.4 Ranges of selected Paleogene taxa

	SH	NS	LC	AST	IDMH	SRMR	ND	ULGC	ULTT	TBBL
Distylomyidae										
Tachyoryctoididae										
Tataromyidae										
Aplodontidae										
Tsaganomyidae										
Ochotonidae										
Suidae										
Tayassuidae										
Entelodontidae										
Ruminantia										
Zapodidae										
Cricetidae										
Leporidae										
Anthracotheriidae										
Helohyidae										
Rhinocerotidae										
Eomoropidae										
Amyndodontidae										
Brontotheriidae										
Uintatheridae										
Yuomyidae										
Lophialestidae										
Coryphodontidae										
Ischyromyidae										
Alagomyidae										
Tamquammyidae										
Cocomyidae										
Equidae										
Isectolophidae										
Miacidae										
Taeniolabidae										
Prodinoceratidae										
Mimotonidae										
Eurymyidae										
Arctostylopidae										
Archaeolambdidae										
Phenacolphidae										
Pseudictopidae										
Anagalidae										
Astigalidae										
Mesonychidae										
Viverravidae										
Bemalambdidae										

SH—上湖期 (Shanghusn), NS—浓山期 (Nongshanian), LC—岭茶期 (Lingchan), AST—阿山头期 (Arshantan), IDMH—伊尔丁曼哈期 (Irdinmanhan), SRMR—沙拉木仑期 (Sharamurunian), ND—那读期 (Naduan), ULGC—乌兰葛楚期 (Ulangochuan), ULTT—乌兰塔塔尔期 (Ulantatalian), TBBL—塔朋布拉格期 (Tabenbulukian)

物群中科和属一级的更迭而限定, 但不同的地质时期标准略有不同(表4、5、6)。

### 上湖期 (Shanghuan, Early Paleocene)

李传夔、丁素因 (Li 和 Ting, 1983) 正式以广东南雄上湖动物群命名。湖南茶陵 (王伴月, 1975)、江西狮子口 (郑家坚等, 1973)、陕西石门和山阳 (薛祥煦、赵聚发, 1982; 薛祥煦等, 1994)、河南高峪沟 (童永生、王景文, 1980) 动物群可归入同一时代。

上湖动物群含哺乳动物有 20 种左右 (周明镇等, 1977), 它是这一时期最有代表性的动物群。其特征是阶齿兽科 (*Bemalambdidae*) 相对繁盛, 犴兽科 (*Anagalidae*) 和丽犴科 (*Astigalidae*) 已分化, 中兽科 (*Mesonychidae*) 和古灵猫科 (*Viverravidae*) 首次出现。

安徽潜山盆地是我国古新世哺乳动物化石的主要产地, 所产动物组合在性质上与上湖动物群相近, 阶齿兽 (*Bemalambda*) 分布于望虎墩组下段和上段的下部, 古灵猫科的 *Pappictidops* 也产于该组上段的下部。因此, 望虎墩组下段和上段下部的动物群也应该归于上湖期。在望虎墩上段下部的假古狷类 (*pseudictopids*) 已相当分化。

### 浓山期 (Nongshanian, Late Paleocene)

浓山期取名于广东南雄盆地的浓山动物群 (童永生等, 1976), 1983 年李传夔、丁素因正式使用。安徽潜山痘姆组和望虎墩组上段上部动物群 (邱占祥等, 1977)、江西池江 (童永生等, 1976)、河南大章 (童永生、王景文, 1980)、安徽双塔寺 (邱占祥等, 1977)、新疆台子村 (周明镇, 1960)、内蒙古脑木根 (周明镇等, 1976) 等动物群可归入这一时期。

浓山期哺乳动物已报道的有 55 属。虽然该期与上湖期一样, 哺乳动物以绝灭目为主, 但在科一级的组成上与后者有较大的差异。古脊齿兽科 (*Archaeolambdidae*)、伪脊齿科 (*Phenacolophidae*) 和北柱兽科 (*Arctostylopidae*) 首次出现, 并明显分化, 在动物群中占有重要的位置; 出现了似啮齿类 (*Eurymylidae*) 和似兔形类 (*Mimotonidae*) 动物; 晚期出现了恐角兽科 (*Prodinoceratidae*); 在华北, 常见多瘤齿兽目的纹齿兽类 (*taeniolabidids*); 其他重要成员有假古狷科 (*Pseudictopidae*) 和犴兽科; 上湖期繁盛的阶齿兽这时已经绝迹。

以前认为是早始新世的河南潭头和江西的坪湖动物群, 由于缺少典型的早始新世哺乳类, 很难说不是浓山期动物群。另外, 新疆大步目前只发现两种哺乳动物: *Coryphodon dabuensis* 和 *Pyrodon xinjiangensis*, 后一种是比同一盆地台子村组发现的火焰山兽 (*Houyanotherium*) 进步一些的恐角兽, 而前一种在形态上与北美古新世最晚期克拉克福克期的一种冠齿兽 (*C. proterus*) 很相似。因此, 大步动物群的时代有可能属于浓山期晚期。

### 岭茶期 (Lingchan, Early Eocene)

李传夔、丁素因 (Li & Ting, 1983) 根据湖南衡东岭茶动物群命名岭茶期, 并把我国所有的早始新世哺乳动物群都归入这一时期。

细齿兽科 (*Miacidae*) 和钟健鼠科 (*Cocomyidae*) 等 8 个科出现, 啮齿目、奇蹄目和偶蹄目也在这一期间首次出现, 从此现生目在动物群中占据着统治地位。

岭茶期动物群粗略地可分为三个组合: 自下而上分别是钟健鼠 - 东方脊猿 (*Coco-*

表5 晚第三纪部分哺乳动物科、属的时代分布  
Tab.5 Ranges of selected Neogene taxa

		Xiejian	Shanwangian	Tunggurian	Baodean	Yushean
Tataromyidae	<i>Tataromys</i>					
	<i>Leptotataromys</i>					
Dipodidae	<i>Protalactage</i>					
	<i>Paralactaga</i>					
	<i>Sminthoides</i>					
Zapodidae	<i>Parasminthus</i>					
	<i>Heterosminthus</i>					
	<i>Lophocricetus</i>					
Cricetidae	<i>Eucricetodon</i>					
	<i>Megacricetodon</i>					
	<i>Plesiodipus</i>					
Muridae	<i>Kowalskia</i>					
	<i>Progonomys</i>					
	<i>Apodemus</i>					
	<i>Chardinomys</i>					
Siphneidae						
Arvicolidae	<i>Mimomys</i>					
Ochotonidae	<i>Sinolagomys</i>					
	<i>Alloptox</i>					
	<i>Bellatona</i>					
	<i>Ochotona</i>					
Ursidae	<i>Hemicyon</i>					
	<i>Ursavus</i>					
	<i>Indarctos</i>					
Hyaenidae						
Mustelidae						
Rhinocerotidae	<i>Plesiaceratherium</i>					
	<i>Chilotherium</i>					
Equidae	<i>Anchitherium</i>					
	<i>Hipparion</i>					
Proboscidea	<i>Gomphotherium</i>					
	<i>Platybelodon</i>					
	<i>Stegodon</i>					
Tragulidae						
Suidae	<i>Hyotherium</i>					
	<i>Listriodon</i>					
	<i>Kubanochoerus</i>					
	<i>Potamochoerus</i>					
	<i>Sus</i>					
Cervidae						
Camelidae						

*mys-Orientolophus*) 组合, 以岭茶动物群为代表; 昌乐齶 - 混副鼠 - “始祖獭” (*Changlelestes-Acritoparamys* “*Homogalax*”) 组合, 以山东五图动物群为代表; 菱臼兽 - 犀獭 (*Rhombomylus-Heptodon*) 组合, 以湖北大尖动物群为代表, 包括新疆十三间房、安徽张山集、山东牛山、江西宁家山等动物群, 蒙古国的伯姆巴 (*Bumban*) 动物群可能与之相当或稍早。

表 6 第四纪部分哺乳动物属的时代分布  
Tab.6 Ranges of selected Quaternary taxa

	Nihewanian			Zhoukoudianian		Salawusuan
	Early	Middle	Late	Early	Late	
<i>Gigantopithecus</i>						
<i>Anourosorex</i>						
<i>Ochotonoides</i>						
<i>Hypolagus</i>						
<i>Sciurotamias</i>						
<i>Petaurista</i>						
<i>Belomys</i>						
<i>Allocricetus</i>						
<i>Microtus</i>						
<i>Allophaiomys</i>						
<i>Mimomys</i>						
<i>Borsodia</i>						
<i>Villanyia</i>						
<i>Cromeromys</i>						
<i>Clethrionomys</i>						
<i>Eothenomys</i>						
<i>Brachyrhizomys</i>						
<i>Rhizomys</i>						
<i>Hystrix</i>						
<i>Trogotherium</i>						
<i>Eospalax</i>						
<i>Myospalax</i>						
<i>Episiphneus</i>						
<i>Allosiphneus</i>						
<i>Youngia</i>						
<i>Chardinomys</i>						
<i>Leopoldamys</i>						
<i>Nyctereutes</i>						
<i>Ailuropoda</i>						
<i>Megantereon</i>						
<i>Epimachairodus</i>						
<i>Homootherium</i>						
<i>Gomphotherium</i>						
<i>Tetralophodon</i>						
<i>Zygalophodon</i>						
<i>Stegodon</i>						
<i>Mammuthus</i>						
<i>Equus</i>						
<i>Proboscidea</i>						
<i>Hipparion</i>						
<i>Tapirus</i>						
<i>Coelodonta</i>						
<i>Nestoritherium</i>						
<i>Paracamelus</i>						
<i>Metacervulus</i>						
<i>Cervocerus</i>						
<i>Eucladoceros</i>						
<i>Megaloceros</i>						
<i>Leptobos</i>						
<i>Boopsis</i>						



### 阿山头期 (Arshantan, early Middle Eocene)

阿山头期源于内蒙古阿山头动物群, Romer (1966) 最先使用。

阿山头组的命名地点只发现两种哺乳动物化石: *Schlosseria* 和 *Teilhardia*, 而该动物群的大量化石产自都和敏勃尔及勃和勃尔和陡坎 (即马捷茨营地)。

阿山头动物群已知有 22 属 45 种 (Qi, 1987)。该动物群以奇蹄目的雷兽科 (*Brontotheriidae*) 和施氏獭 (*Schlosseria*) 状的脊齿獭科 (*Lophialestidae*) 和戴氏獭科 (*Deperetellidae*) 的出现和繁荣, 古老有蹄动物中有大型的恐角兽类—尤因他兽 (*Uintatherium*) 和戈壁兽 (*Gobiatherium*) 的存在, 早始新世的残留分子较多 (如獭类的 *Homogalax*, *Heptodon*) 为特征。目前小哺乳动物化石发现不多, 仅知 *Sinosinopa* (食虫目)、*Asiomys*, *Tamquammys* (啮齿目) 等。

山东西周、河南大仓房、卢氏组下部、新疆化石沟动物群的时代大致与阿山头期相当。

### 伊尔丁曼哈期 (Irdinmanhan, middle Middle Eocene)

伊尔丁曼哈期以内蒙古伊尔丁曼哈动物群命名, Romer (1966) 在作哺乳动物时代洲际对比时最先使用。

伊尔丁曼哈期哺乳动物地点遍布全国, 是早第三纪已知哺乳动物种类最多的时期。这一时期古有蹄类哺乳动物已趋衰退, 在大型的古有蹄类中仅有冠齿兽科 (*Coryphodontidae*) 中的真恐角兽属 (*Eudinoceras*), 而大型的恐角兽科已绝迹。奇蹄目则占据统治地位: 雷兽科、脊齿獭科和戴氏獭科高度繁荣, 两栖犀科 (*Amynodontidae*)、始爪兽科 (*Eomoropidae*) 和犀科 (*Rhinocerotidae*) 首次出现。偶蹄目中的沼猪科 (*Helohyidae*) 和石炭兽科 (*Anthrotheriidae*) 出现, 并有开始辐射之势。小哺乳动物中的 *Tsinlingomys* 类型的原始梳趾鼠和 *Lushilagus* 类型的原始兔形类最为繁多, 仓鼠科 (*Cricetidae*)、林跳鼠科 (*Zapodidae*) 和兔科 (*Leporidae*) 首次出现。

在众多的伊尔丁曼哈期的动物群中, 以内蒙古的伊尔丁曼哈和乌兰希热, 河南的王家坡、核桃园、李庄和云南的路美邑下部动物群最具代表性。

### 沙拉木仑期 (Sharamurunian, late Middle Eocene)

沙拉木仑期以内蒙古沙拉木仑动物群命名, Romer (1966) 最先使用。

该期的哺乳动物化石在我国分布也很广。大哺乳动物中反刍类 (*Ruminantia*) 和犭科 (*Entelodontidae*) 的出现以及石炭兽科的分化, 打破了伊尔丁曼哈期奇蹄目占绝对优势的局面; 小哺乳类中仓鼠科和林跳鼠科的初步分化也结束了伊尔丁曼哈期原始梳趾鼠占优势的格局。然而, 沙拉木仑期动物群中仍遗留了大量伊尔丁曼哈期常见的属。

比较典型的沙拉木仑期动物群除内蒙古沙拉木仑、乌兰乌苏外, 还有山西垣曲任村动物群、云南路南美邑上部动物群。新疆连坎、山东黄庄、广西洞均动物群中虽然遗留较多伊尔丁曼哈期分子, 还是可以归入沙拉木仑期, 或许说明其时代比典型动物群稍早。最近在江苏溧阳的石灰岩裂隙中发现的上黄动物群 (Beard 等, 1994) 似也可归入这一时期。

### 那读期 (Naduan, latest Middle-Late Eocene)

那读期由童永生 (1989) 以广西那读动物群命名。目前归入那读期的动物群不多, 除

广西那读动物群(包括原公康动物群)外,还有山西寨里(包括白水)动物群,云南蔡家冲动物群也暂时被归入这一时期。

那读动物群以石炭兽科和原始反刍类为主,奇蹄类却少见。这是一个偶蹄类继续繁荣、奇蹄类处于衰退的时期,哺乳动物面貌与沙拉木仑期的有所不同。寨里动物群也有类似的情况,石炭兽类多,却少见奇蹄类。小哺乳类中,仓鼠类和林跳鼠类分化,相对于原始梳趾鼠类至少在数量上占有优势。

文献中,常把蔡家冲动物群归入早渐新世,但该动物群的成员具有明显比早渐新世乌兰戈楚或阿尔丁鄂博动物群原始的性质,如其中“*Eucricetodon*”属的两个种在形态上要比欧洲早渐新世的真古仓鼠属更原始(童永生,1990),其他的一些已知属在始新世地层中也有发现,故这里把其归入始新世。

#### 乌兰戈楚期(Ulangochuan, Early Oligocene)

Romer (1966) 以内蒙古乌兰戈楚动物群命名乌兰戈楚期,并认为它与北美的 Chadronian 和欧洲 Sannoisian 或 Latdorfian 相当,但前者已被认为属晚始新世(Berggren 和 Prothero, 1992),欧洲的两个期名在时代上跨越了始新世和渐新世。

乌兰戈楚期的特征是以鼠兔科的链兔属(*Desmatolagus*)、雷兽科的大角雷兽属(*Embolotherium*)、副雷兽属(*Parabrontops*)、晚雷兽属(*Metatitan*)以及两栖犀科的副两栖犀属(*Paracadurcodon*)的首次出现,以及古老的獾科和中兽科的最后出现。始新世极为繁盛的脊齿獾科(*Lophialetidae*)和戴氏獾科(*Deperetellidae*)在乌兰戈楚期已绝迹。这一时期特有的属有 *Embolotherium*, *Parabrontops*, *Metatitan*, *Paracadurcodon* 和 *Schizotherium* 等。

内蒙古乌尔丁鄂博和查干布拉格动物群的组成与乌兰戈楚动物群相似,应归入乌兰戈楚期。呼尔井动物群曾被作为渐新世中期呼尔井期(Houldjinian)的代表(Romer, 1966; Li 和 Ting, 1983),甚至将含有始新世哺乳类(如 *Hypercoryphodon* 和 *Gobiatherium*)的马捷茨营地(Camp Margetts)也归入这一动物群。实际上典型的呼尔井动物群在组成上比较接近乌兰戈楚动物群,与其他晚期的渐新世动物群相差较大(Wang, 1992)。因此,呼尔井期一名似与乌兰戈楚期同义。

#### 乌兰塔塔尔期(Ulantatalian, Middle-Late Oligocene)

童永生和黄学诗(见中国石油天然气总公司第三系研究课题协调组,1991)以内蒙古乌兰塔塔尔动物群命名,认为其地质时代属于渐新世中期,可与欧洲的斯丹冰晚期(Late Stampian-Early Chattian)比较。

除鬣齿兽科(*Hyaenodontidae*)外,所有古新世起源的科均已绝灭,近半数始新世出现的科未能延续进入乌兰塔塔尔期。该期以查干鼠科(*Tsaganomyidae*)、塔塔鼠科(*Tataromyidae*)、圆柱齿鼠科(*Cylindrodontidae*)和牛科(*Bovidae*)的出现与分化为特征。常见的属有猬科的 *Amphechinus*, 林跳鼠科的 *Parasminthus* 和鼠兔科的 *Sinolagomys*。特有的属有 *Ordolagus*, *Gobiosminthus*, *Shamasminthus*, *Cyclomytus*, *Cricetops*, *Anomoemys* 和 *Selenomys*。

最近,王伴月(Wang, 1992)命名了克克阿木期(Kekeamuan),其所命名动物群的化石采自乌兰塔塔尔组的底部,组成特征与乌兰塔塔尔动物群大体一致。因此,以乌

兰塔塔尔期作为中国渐新世中期这一哺乳动物分期的名称较为合适。

#### 塔朋布拉格期 (Tabenbulukian, Late Oligocene)

以甘肃塔朋布拉格动物群命名, 李传夔和丁素因 (Li 和 Ting, 1983) 首先使用, 并与欧洲的夏底期 (Late Chattian) 相比。

塔朋布拉格期以拟速掘鼠科 (Tachyoryctoididae) 和双柱齿鼠科 (Distylomyidae) 的出现为特征。在动物群属一级的组成上, 中华鼠兔相当繁盛, 上述局限于乌兰花塔尔期的属, 如 *Ordolagus*、*Cyclomytus*、*Cricetops*、*Selenomys* 等已绝灭, 并为 *Yindirtemys* 和具四根白齿的 *Parasminthus* 种群所代替。

#### 谢家期 (Xiejian, Early Miocene)

李传夔等 (1984) 以青海谢家动物群命名, 邱占祥和邱铸鼎 (1990) 把甘肃兰州、张家坪、椒子沟、西水、甚至新疆索素泉及沙洼等动物群归入这一时期。

谢家期的哺乳动物化石主要发现于西北地区, 仅有 19 属 20 余种。渐新世时在这一地区常见的圆柱鼠科、塔塔鼠科、拟速掘鼠科、双柱齿鼠科和雷兽科等这时极少或不再出现; 塔塔鼠科和在渐新世晚期曾繁盛一时的一些属, 如林跳鼠科中的副蹶鼠属 (*Parasminthus*)、鼠兔科中的中华鼠兔属 (*Sinolagomys*)、犀科中的准噶尔巨犀 (*Dzungariotherium*) 和牛科中的中华古羊 (*Sinopalaeoceros*) 等在这一时期最后出现。除晚期可能出现了象类外, 在谢家期还没有发现较典型的中新世成员。所有已知属都为渐新世残存下来的成员, 但它们的种都比渐新世相应属的种进步。因此, 可以认为谢家期动物群属于贫化和特化了的渐新世动物群, 具有从渐新世向中新世动物群过渡的特色。

李传夔等 (1984) 认为谢家期的地质时代与欧洲的阿让期或 MN1—2 生物地层的时代相当。邱占祥和邱铸鼎 (1990) 把谢家组的上限上移, 与欧洲的 MN1—3 相比。兰州动物群的时代可能早些, 张家坪动物群则较晚, 而乌尔图动物群含有象类和巨尖古仓鼠 (*Megacricetodon*) 其时代更晚, 甚至可能属于后来的山旺期。

#### 山旺期 (Shanwangian, early-Early Middle Miocene)

李传夔等 (1984) 以山东临朐山旺动物群命名, 并把江苏下草湾和方山等动物群归入这一时期。

山旺期的哺乳动物已发现了 70 余种。从渐新世残留下来的大部分科已经或几乎绝迹, 代之以现生科或亚科, 如鼯鼠亚科 (Petauristinae)、熊科 (Ursidae)、长颈鹿科 (Giraffidae) 等的出现。我国发现的睡鼠科 (Gliridae) 最早也见于这一时期。大量新属出现于山旺期, 如 *Megacricetodon*、*Democricetodon*、*Alloptox*、*Hemicyon*、*Plesiaceratherium*、*Anchitherium* 和 *Hyotherium* 等。总之, 哺乳动物在山旺期进入了演化上一个崭新的时期: 啮齿目真正开始了以松鼠形类和鼠形类占绝对统治地位的时期; 肉齿目完全为新肉食类所代替; 长鼻目出现; 奇蹄目没落, 古老的奇蹄类已绝灭, 只有犀科、爪兽科和马科中新出现的安琪马属较常见; 反刍类明显分化。但是, 生存于这一时期的哺乳动物几乎所有的属都未能延续至今, 因此可以认为山旺期仅仅是开始了一个哺乳动物现代化的时期。

李传夔等 (1984) 认为山旺期大体可与欧洲的奥尔良期 (Orleanian) 或 MN

3—5 相比, 时代为中中新世早期。邱占祥、邱铸鼎 (1990) 根据欧洲早中新世 / 中中新世界限的更动, 将其时代订为早中新世, 而且对上述动物群的时代做了进一步的厘定。

### 通古尔期 (Tunggurian, Middle Miocene)

李传夔等 (1984) 以内蒙古通古尔动物群命名。归入这一时期的主要有陕西寇家村、冷水沟、河北九龙口等动物群 (李传夔等, 1984; 邱占祥、邱铸鼎, 1990)。

发现于通古尔期的哺乳动物已超过百种, 在我国称为安琪马 - 铲齿象动物群。这一时期的哺乳动物是山旺期动物群的继续和进一步发展, 长鼻目和反鸟类的种类明显增加, 新出现的科仅有跳鼠科 (Dipodidae) 和鬣狗科 (Hyaenidae)。它有许多与山旺期相同的属, 但也出现不少新的属。在这些新属中, 有这一时期特有的 *Heterosminthus*、*Plesioidipus*、*Bellatona*、*Platybelodon*、*Kubanochoerus*; 有晚中新世繁荣一时的成员, 如 *Chilotherium* 和 *Ictitherium* 属。梳趾鼠科、拟速掘鼠科和 *Megacricetodon*、*Democricetodon*、*Alloptox*、*Hemicyon*、*Plesiaceratherium* 等属在通古尔期最后一次出现。

李传夔等 (1984) 将其与欧洲陆相哺乳动物时代的阿斯特拉期 (Astaracian) 或 MN6—8 的相比, 时代订为晚中中新世。邱占祥和邱铸鼎 (1990) 同样根据欧洲时代界限更动上的原因, 改通古尔期为中 - 晚中中新世。丁家二沟动物群含有 *Platybelodon* 和 *Kubanochoeus* 较原始的种类, 可能说明它的时代稍早。

### 保德期 (Baodean, Late Miocene)

李传夔等 (1984) 以山西保德 (戴家沟) 三趾马动物群命名。这一时期所发现的哺乳动物相当多, 广布华北、西北和西南。在北方除保德动物群外, 比较典型的地方动物群还有甘肃庆阳和内蒙古二登图动物群; 在南方有含包括古猿在内的 100 余种哺乳动物的云南石灰坝动物群。目前已记述的保德期哺乳动物有 200 种以上。

保德期动物群继承了通古尔期动物群而进入了更为现代化的时期: 啮齿目中的鼠形类占绝对统治地位, 新生代晚期广泛分布的鼠科 (Muridae) 崛起, 现代分布在我国北方的鼯鼠科 (Siphneidae) 及南方的竹鼠科 (Rhizomyidae) 和豪猪科 (Hystricidae) 也在这一时期出现; 食肉目中的鼬科、鬣狗科和猫科开始繁盛; 长鼻目进一步多样化; 奇蹄目以三趾马属和大唇犀属占优势, 爪兽科和獾科趋于衰落; 反鸟类和其它偶蹄类更加蓬勃发展。一个在高阶元组成上与现代哺乳动物相似的格局已经形成。通古尔期许多常见的属这时已几乎绝灭, 并为大量新的属所代替, 如 *Sinocastor*、*Kowalskia*、*Sinocricetus*、*Eozapus*、*Lophocricetus*、*Apodemus*、*Alilepus*、*Ochotona*、*Mustela*、*Machairodus*、*Tetralophodon*、*Stegodon*、*Hipparion*、*Chleuastochoerus*、*Cervavitus*、*Honanotherium*、*Gazella* 等, 它们组成了作为晚第三纪特征的所谓三趾马动物群。在这些属中, 包含了相当数量的现生成员, 如 *Apodems*、*Sicista*、*Ochotona*、*Martes*、*Felis*、*Tapirus*、*Sus*、*Gazella* 等属。

李传夔等 (1984) 将保德期与欧洲土洛里 (Turolian) 或 MN11—13 相比, 时代订为晚中新世。邱占祥和邱铸鼎 (1990) 认为李传夔等原定的灞河期与保德期在哺乳动物组成上缺乏明显的分期特征, 应归入保德期。在众多的保德期动物群中, 阿木乌苏

和柴达木动物群含有三趾马和安琪马,以及相当数量通古尔期动物群中常见的分子,其时代可能较早,而二登图动物群含有属于这一时期较进步的成员,时代较晚。

### 榆社期 (Yushean, Pliocene)

邱占祥和邱铸鼎(1990)取山西榆社这一晚第三纪哺乳动物经典地名命名榆社期。目前发现属于该期的哺乳动物化石地点和种类都比保德期的少,山西榆社高庄和麻则沟、陕西游河、内蒙古比例克和河北稻地动物群是榆社期较典型的动物群。

榆社期动物群是保德期三趾马动物群的继续发展,含有大量与保德期动物群相同的属,但也出现了一些新的成员,如 *Mimomys*、*Chardinomys*、*Germanomys*、*Hypolagus*、*Nyctereutes*、*Paracamelus*、*Chasmaporthetes* 等;而保德期中一些较常见的属,如 *Microscoptes*、*Microtodon*、*Lophocricetus*、*Leptodontomys*、*Adcrocuta*、*Ictitherium*、*Chlestorchoerus* 等这时极少或几乎没有被发现。一些较古老的科,如山河狸科和始鼠科似乎已绝迹,而出现了现生的鼯科 (*Arvicolidae*)、犬科 (*Canidae*) 和骆驼科 (*Camelidae*)。至此,我国现生哺乳动物的所有科均已出现。但是,这一时期的属只有小部分延续至今。

比例克动物群含有 *Mimomys* 和 *Chardinomys* 的种比高庄动物群中相同属的种原始,麻则沟和稻地动物群中这两属的种又比高庄的进步。与高庄动物群的时代相比,显然前者较早,后者较晚。但它们在动物群的组成和进化阶段上所反映的分期特征并不明显,故这里把它们都归入同一动物期。

李传夔等(1984)分别以静乐动物群和游河动物群命名静乐期和游河期;邱占祥、邱铸鼎(1990)认为静乐动物群本身的性质尚不清楚,而哺乳动物化石的经典地点榆社,地层发育良好、化石丰富、特征明显,提出以榆社期替代静乐期和游河期,在时间跨度上榆社期覆盖静乐期和游河期早期,相当于欧洲卢西尼期 (*Ruscinian*) 和维兰尼 (*Villanyian*) 早期 (MN14—16)。由于原订静乐期的时代为早上新世,游河期为晚上新世;而最新的资料表明,作为这两个期命名的静乐动物群和游河动物群性质相似、时代接近,这样静乐期就失去了作为相当早上新世的含义,游河期既无法代表榆社高庄和内蒙古比例克早上新世动物群的时代,其晚期还属于现称泥河湾期的早期,从而丧失了它们存在的价值。因此,这里采纳邱占祥等的订正。

### 泥河湾期 (Nihewanian, Early Pleistocene)

“泥河湾期”一词作为地文期早有使用,而作为哺乳动物时代的名称最先是由李传夔等(1984)根据河北泥河湾下沙沟动物群提出的。郑绍华和韩德芬(1991)将其时代限于早更新世中期,即相当于现称的泥河湾期中期。泥河湾期哺乳动物群包括发现于“三趾马红土”之上,“离石黄土”之下不同类型堆积物的哺乳动物。一些上新世常见的属,如 *Sinocricetus*、*Kowalskia*、*Hipparion* 和 *Chilotherium* 这时已趋于衰亡或绝灭,大量现生属先后出现,啮齿目中的鼠科、鼯鼠科和鼯科以及偶蹄目中的鹿科和牛科进一步繁荣发展。根据动物群中属、种的替换和所含绝灭与现生种类的相对比例,该期可分为以下三个亚期:

**早期 (Early Nihewanian—Dachai phase)** 包括山西襄汾大柴、屯留西村、海眼,河北蔚县东窑子头、唐山贾家山、周口店第18地点、陕西大荔后河村、四川巫山龙骨坡

(下), 广西柳城巨猿洞、云南中甸尼西、安徽巢县银山(下)等地方动物群。所发现的哺乳动物有 106 属 135 种, 其中绝灭属 (38%) 种 (80%) 所占的比例较高; 首次出现的属有 *Gigantopithecus*、*Trogopterus*、*Amblyricetus*、*Eothenomys*、*Rhizomys*、*Trogontherium*、*Leopoldamys*、*Ailuropoda*、*Paguma*、*Equus* 等; 首次出现的种有 *Hylomys suillus*、*Hystrix subcristata*、*Ursus thibetanus*、*Mustela altaica* 等; 在这一期间最后出现的属有 *Alilepus*、*Mimomys*、*Brachyrhizomys*、*Tetralophodon*、*Zygalophodon* 等。

**中期 (Middle Nihewanian - Nihewan phase)** 除泥河湾下沙沟动物群外, 青海共和(下)、山西临猗、周口店第 12 地点、甘肃合水金沟、四川巫山龙骨坡(上)、湖北建始高坪、湖南保靖洞泡山、广西柳州笔架山等动物群也归入这一时期。已知哺乳动物至少有 100 属 134 种。该亚期的特征主要是 *Crocidura*、*Microtus*、*Lasiopodomys*、*Pitymys*、*Allosiphneus*、*Meriones* 和 *Allactaga* 等属的首次出现, *Talpa tatouchei*、*Eothenomys chinensis*、*Apodemus latronum*、*Sus scrofa* 和 *Gazella subgutturosa* 等现生种的出现; *Hypolagus*、*Sminthoides*、*Chardinomys*、*Pachycrocuta*、*Gomphotherium*、*Probosciparion*、*Elasmotherium*、*Chalicotherium*、*Postschizotherium* 和 *Procapreolus* 等属的最后出现。

**晚期 (Late Nihewanian - Gongwangling phase)** 归入这一亚期的动物群, 除陕西蓝田王公岭及涝池河外有四川盐井沟、周口店第 9 地点、广西大新黑洞、武鸣拉利山、巴马弄莫山、甘肃环县耿家沟和山西屯留小常村等地方动物群。已知哺乳动物约 84 属 102 种, 所占绝灭属 (26%) 种 (62%) 的比例较低; 首次出现的属有 *Petaurista*、*Cricetulus*、*Vivericula*、*Epimachairodus*、*Sivapanthera*、*Megatapirus*、*Megaloceros*、*Bubalus* 和 *Capricornis* 等; 现生种 *Anourosorex squamipes*、*Talpa moschatus*、*Petaurista alborufus*、*Cricetulus barabensis*、*Ailuropoda melanoleuca*、*Ovis ammon* 和 *Capricornis sumatraensis* 等出现。

#### 周口店期 (Zhoukoudianian, Middle Pleistocene)

郑绍华和韩德芬 (Zheng 和 Han, 1991) 最先使用周口店期作为哺乳动物期名。所发现的哺乳动物有 20 余个地点的 100 余种, 大量现生属在这一时期出现, 所占绝灭属的比例小于 20%。该期至少可分两个亚期。

**早期 (Early Zhoukoudianian)** 代表性动物群有发现于周口店第 1、13 地点的化石, 归入动物群有河北泥河湾小渡口、赤城南沟岭、河南南召杏花山、陕西蓝田陈家窝和四川歌乐山、安徽和县龙潭洞、贵州桐梓岩灰洞、广东罗定下山洞等地方动物群。其特征主要是 *Szechuanopithecus*、*Presbytis*、*Nectogale*、*Ia*、*Cricetinus*、*Castor*、*Myospalax*、*Qianomys*、*Ailurus* 和 *Gulo* 属的首次出现; *Crocidura russula*、*Ochotona daurica*、*Elephas maximus*、*Capreolus manchuricus* 和 *Gazella przewalskii* 等现代种的出现; *Ochotonoides*、*Bahomys*、*Paracamelus* 和 *Spirocerus* 属的最后出现。特征种有 *Lagurus simplicidens*、*Youngia epitingi*、*Mustela constricta*、*Megantereon inexpectatus*、*Dicerorhinus tichorhinus*、*Megaloceros luochuanensis*、*Bubalus teilhardi* 等。

**晚期 (Late Zhoukoudianian)** 辽宁金牛山、庙后山, 周口店新洞和山西丁村动

物群代表这一时期。以现生属 *Lepus*、*Arvicola* 和现生种 *Sorex arnaneus*、*Ochotona alpina*、*Microtus maximowiczii*、*Myospalax aspalax*、*Nyctereutes procyonoides*、*Equus przewalskii*、*Cervus canadensis* 等的首次出现, 以及 *Hypolagus*、*Trogontherium*、*Sinocastor*、*Qianomys*、*Homotherium*、*Dicerorhinus*、*Megalovis*、*Pachygazella* 属的最后出现为特征, 以 *Epimachairodus cuii*、*Pachygazella* 和 *Homotherium crenatidens* 的存在为标志。

#### 萨拉乌苏期 (Salawusuan, Late Pleistocene)

以内蒙古萨拉乌苏动物群命名, 作为哺乳动物时代最先由郑绍华和韩德芬 (1991) 使用。属于该期的哺乳动物至少发现了 99 属 149 种, 其中 90% 以上为现生属, 几乎所有现生种均已出现。在这一时期, *Hylobates concolor*、*Crocidura horsfieldi*、*Talpa leucurus*、*Lepus europaeus*、*Petinomys electilis*、*Rhizomys pruinosus*、*Dipus sowerbyi*、*Mus pahari*、*Viverricula indica*、*Felis catus*、*Camelus knoblochi*、*Bibos gaurus* 等现生种出现; 最后出现的种有 *Macaca robustus*、*Lepus wongi*、*Cricetinus varians*、*Myospalax wongi*、*Meles leucurus*、*Megaloceros ordosianus* 和 *Spirocerus peii* 等; 典型的种有 *Microtus complicidens*、*Mammuthus primigenius*、*Muntiacus gausshanensis*、*Bubulus wangjocki*、*Spirocerus hsuchiayaocus* 等。

## 二、讨 论

上述新生代哺乳动物时代的划分仅仅是很初步的, 从某种意义上来说, 只是把那些地点分散, 大多又不是发现在连续剖面上的动物群选出一些具有特色的、能代表哺乳动物发展过程中不同进化水平的典型动物群作为参照动物群, 按其演替关系进行分期、排列, 并力图在分期中保持生物年代与地质年代的一致性。由于中国新生代地层的研究缺少古地磁和同位素年代学的可靠资料作参照, 因此, 在我们的哺乳动物分期中并不深究各分期的界限与地质年代界限的确切关系。

关于中国哺乳动物时代与欧洲及北美的对比(详见表 1)。由于哺乳动物分布在空间上存在局限性, 在时间上具“穿时”现象, 这就难免导致群体对比上产生偏差。下面就中国新生代哺乳动物主要时期的界限和对比问题作简要的说明。

1) 白垩纪和第三纪的界限: 目前国际上公认的年龄值是 65Ma, 在磁性地层年表中位于 29 负向极性时 (29R) 的上部。我国的白垩纪和第三纪界限尚有争论, 焦点是广东南雄盆地上湖组的时代问题。最初认为上湖组时代相当于北美的 Torrejonian 期, 定为中古新世。在 70 年代初完成大塘剖面后, 提出了“也许包括时代更早的地层”的疑问(童永生等, 1976)。最近的磁性地层研究表明, 上湖组底部相当于 29R 负向极性时的上部(赵资奎等, 1991)。这样, 上湖组的时代应是古新世最早期—中期, 相当于北美的 Puercan 和 Torrejonian 期。虽然北美的 Torrejonian 和 Taffanian 的界限尚未完全确定, 但从古新世两分的角度来说, 暂与欧洲古新世两分期对比也不失为一个解决办法。

2) 始新世和古新世的界限在南雄盆地是置于浓山组的底界还是浓山组的顶面在我国学术界一直有争论, 然而近年已趋同后一种意见。就哺乳动物化石而言, 浓山哺乳动物

群的古新世面貌很明显,但界限的具体位置还未确定,虽然这一界限在生物发展史上是非常重要的。这里,仅根据岭茶动物群的古老性作为始新世初期的代表性动物群。

3) 伊尔丁曼哈期和萨拉木仑期一直认为是晚始新世,相当于北美的 Uintan 期和 Duchesnean 期 (Li 和 Ting, 1983)。近年的动物群和地层测年工作表明,这两个亚洲哺乳动物分期的时代为中始新世较好。在萨拉木仑期和乌兰戈楚期之间有一个性质与其不同的动物群,即南方的那读动物群和北方的寨里动物群,因而建立了另一个哺乳动物分期—那读期,另一方面萨拉木仑期动物群有可能比北美 Duchesnean 期动物群略早,至少比 Duchesnean 晚期动物群原始。在北美,对始新世后半期地层测年有新的发展,Uintan 期一般认为是 48—42.5Ma, Duchesnean 期的年龄是 42.5—37Ma,这两个年龄值落入欧洲的中始新世 Lutetian 和 Bartonian 期的范围内。因此,伊尔丁曼哈期和萨拉木仑期的时代可置于中始新世。寨里动物群(包括白水化石地点)最近的发现表明,这个动物群的时代比北美的 Chadronian 期(37—34Ma)早,与欧洲的 Priabonian 期相当。据此推测那读期的时代至少有一部分可认为是中始新世。

4) 始新世/渐新世界限和“始新世末期事件”是当前研究的热点之一。根据意大利的 Massignano 剖面,提出了始新世和渐新世界限在 34Ma,为此,有人认为亚洲的始新世/渐新世界限应在乌兰戈楚期和乌兰塔塔尔期之间 (Berggren 和 Prothero, 1992)。在没有更多的证据之前,我们仍将乌兰戈楚期作为渐新世早期,但将明显具有始新世色彩的云南曲靖蔡家冲动物群下移。

近年在甘肃酒泉盆地白杨河组干油泉段采得塔朋布拉格期哺乳动物,据磁性地层研究,其年龄值为 27—24.5Ma (梁世君等, 1992)。所以暂定塔朋布拉格期底界为 27Ma。

5) 新第三纪各哺乳动物期与欧洲的对比似比较肯定,但由于渐新世末和中新世初哺乳动物不易区分,因而,个别地点的时代尚待进一步确定,如索索泉、霍尔果斯地方动物群。

6) 第三系和第四系界限一直是国内外地质和古生物学者讨论的热点问题。这一界限最先是欧洲海相地层和生物组合为依据确定的,把卡拉布里期 (Calabrian) 的开始作为第四纪的下限,据最新资料其年代约为距今 1.6Ma,目前欧美古哺乳动物学者普遍使用这一界限。陆相地层及哺乳动物很早就引入第三纪和第四纪的划分,在哺乳动物化石方面,最早以所谓 E-L-E (真马、丽牛、真象) 的出现作为第四纪的下限,但随着研究的深入,证明这一标准不太有效。对这一界限的划分在我国地质古生物学者中目前大体有两种意见:一种是以黄土的出现作为第四纪的开始,界限订在 2.5Ma;另一种赞成采纳层型剖面目前测定的 1.6Ma 作为现用界限。前一看法与我国哺乳动物演化有其吻合之处,而且在地层划分中有一定的实用意义;后者则认为对国际性划分单元的处置应遵从传统和优先的原则,陆相地层及哺乳动物的划分和研究结果可与海相的作对比,但不宜另立自己的年代系统。本文侧重于阐明我国哺乳动物演化的特征,而不过多追究第三纪与第四纪的界限;界限或划在泥河湾期,或落在泥河湾期中,本文作者也未取得一致的看法。

**致谢** 作者感谢邱占祥、李传夔、郑家坚、吴文裕和陈冠芳阅读初稿,提出宝贵意见。美国哈佛大学弗林博士 (Dr. L. J. Flynn) 为本文修改英文摘要,在此一并致谢。



## 参 考 文 献

- 中国石油天然气总公司第三系研究课题协调组, 1991. 中国油气区第三系与欧美标准层序的对比. 科学通报, **23** (19): 1494 — 1495.
- 王伴月, 1975. 湖南茶陵盆地“红层”中的哺乳动物化石. 古脊椎动物与古人类, **13** (3): 154 — 162.
- 李传夔, 吴文裕, 邱铸鼎, 1984. 中国陆相新第三系的初步划分与对比. 古脊椎动物学报, **22** (3): 163 — 178.
- 邱占祥, 邱铸鼎, 1990. 中国晚第三纪地方哺乳动物群的排序及其分期. 地层学杂志, **14** (4): 241 — 260.
- 邱占祥, 李传夔, 黄学诗等, 1977. 安徽含哺乳动物化石的古新统. 古脊椎动物与古人类, **15** (2): 85 — 93.
- 周明镇, 1960. 吐鲁番盆地古新世哺乳类化石的发现及新疆新生代哺乳类化石层. 古生物学报, **3** (2): 155 — 158.
- 周明镇, 齐陶, 李荣, 1976. 内蒙古四子王旗晚古新世地层及哺乳动物群的性质与对比. 古脊椎动物与古人类, **14** (4): 228 — 233.
- 周明镇, 张玉萍, 王伴月等, 1977. 广东南雄古新世哺乳动物群. 中国古生物志, 新丙种 20 号: 1 — 100, 科学出版社.
- 郑家坚, 童永生, 计宏祥等, 1973. 江西池江盆地“红层”的初步划分. 古脊椎动物与古人类, **11** (2): 206 — 211.
- 梁世君, 王发泰, 胡亭等, 1992. 酒泉盆地第三系新的时代划分意见. 石油学报, **13** (2): 102 — 108.
- 童永生, 1989. 中国始新世中、晚期哺乳动物群. 古生物学报, **28** (5): 663 — 682.
- 童永生, 王景文, 1980. 河南潭头、卢氏和灵宝盆地上白垩统—下第三系的划分. 古脊椎动物与古人类, **18** (1): 21 — 27.
- 童永生, 张玉萍, 王伴月等, 1976. 南雄盆地和池江盆地早第三纪地层. 古脊椎动物与古人类, **14** (1): 21 — 27.
- 赵资奎, 叶捷, 李华梅等, 1991. 广东省南雄盆地白垩系—第三系交界恐龙绝灭问题. 古脊椎动物学报, **29** (1): 1 — 20.
- 薛祥煦, 赵聚发, 1982. 陕西洛南石门古新统的发现及该地区新生界的划分. 西北大学学报, (3): 70 — 80.
- 薛祥煦, 岳乐平, 张云翔, 1994. 陕西山阳盆地红色地层的磁性、生物和岩石地层界线的对比. 中国科学 (B 辑), **24** (4): 413 — 417.
- Beard K C, Qi T *et al.*, 1994. A diverse new primate fauna from middle Eocene fissure-fillings in southeastern China. *Nature*, **368**: 604 — 609.
- Berggren W A, Prothero D R, 1992: Eocene-Oligocene climatic and biotic evolution: an overview. In: Prothero D R, Berggren W A (eds), Eocene-Oligocene climate and biotic evolution. Oxford: Princeton Univ. Press, 1 — 28.
- Cavelier C, Pomerol C, 1986. Stratigraphy of the Paleogene. *Bull. Soc. geol. France.*, (8), II (2): 255 — 265.
- Li Chuankui, Ting Suyin, 1983. The Paleogene mammals of China. *Bull. Carnegie Mus. Nat. Hist.*, **21**: 1 — 93.
- Qi Tao, 1987. The Middle Eocene Arshato Fauna (Mammalia), Inner Mongolia. *Ann. Carnegie Mus.*, **56** (10): 1 — 73.
- Romer A S, 1966. Vertebrate Paleontology. Chicago and London: Univ. Chicago Press, 1 — 467.
- Wang Banyue, 1992. The Chinese Oligocene: A preliminary review of mammalian localities and local fauna. In: Prothero D R, Berggren W A (eds), Eocene-Oligocene climate and biotic evolution. Oxford: Princeton Univ. Press, 529 — 547.
- Wood H E, Chaney R W, Clark E H *et al.*, 1941. Nomenclature and correlation of the North American continental Tertiary. *Bull. Geol. Soc. Amer.* **52**: 1 — 48.
- Young, C C, 1927. Fossile Nagetiere aus Nord-China. *Palaeont. Sinica*, **3** (3): 1 — 82.
- Zheng Shaohua, Han Defen, 1991: Quaternary mammals of China. In: Liu T S(ed). Quaternary Geology and Environment in China. Beijing: Science Press, pp. 101 — 114.

## CENOZOIC MAMMAL AGES OF CHINA

Tong Yongsheng Zheng Shaohua Qiu Zhuding

(*Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology,*

*the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100044*)

**Key Words** China, Cenozoic, Mammals

### Summary

Up to now about 1500 forms of mammals have been recognized in the Cenozoic deposits of different ages, ranging from Paleocene to Holocene. Studies of in taxonomy, phylogeny, biogeography, and other aspects regarding these mammals are carried on actively in this country. This contribution aims to briefly summarize and update the mammal ages for the Chinese Cenozoic records.

Although systematic faunal succession and biochronology for all Chinese Cenozoic records have not been established, time units employed as land mammal ages have been introduced in the past years (Romer, 1966; Li & Ding, 1983; Tong, 1989; Wang, 1992; Li et al., 1984; Qiu & Qiu, 1990; Zheng & Han, 1991). On the basis of nature and magnitude of the faunal changes, 18 mammal ages can be recognized. They are the Shanghuan and Nongshanian of the Paleocene; Lingchan, Arshantan, Irdinmanhan, Sharamurunian and Naduan of the Eocene; Ulangochuian, Ulantatalian and Tabenbulukian of the Oligocene; Xiejian, Shanwangian, Tunggurian and Baodean of the Miocene; Yushean, Nihewanian, Zhoukoudianian and Salawusuan of the Pliocene and Pleistocene (Tabs. 1 — 6).

#### Shanghuan age

Shanghuan was based on the Shanghu Fauna of Nanxiong, Guangdong (Li & Ting, 1983). Near 20 forms of mammals have been recognized in this fauna (Chow et al., 1977), which provided most of the taxa for the biological characterization of this age. The temporal interval is characterized by the dominance of *Bemalambdidae*, the diversity of *Anagalidae* and *Astigalidae*, and the first appearance of *Mesonychidae* and *Viverravidae*.

The Shanghuan fauna was also found in the Qianshan Basin of Anhui, which yielded *Bemalambda* in the lower member and the lower upper member of the Wanghudun Formation: *Pappictidops* was also collected in the later member.

#### Nongshanian age

Nongshanian, based on the Nongshan Fauna of Nanxiong (Tong et al. 1973), was recognized by Li and Ting in 1983. As for the Shanghuan fauna, the Nongshanian

fauna mainly consists of extinct orders, but it is distinguished in composition at the family level. Archaeolambdidae, Phenacolophidae and Arctostylopidae appeared and the family Bemalambdidae was very reduced or extinct in this age. Eurymylidae (a rodent-like family) and Mimotonidae (a lagomorph-like family) made their first appearance, and Prodinoceratidae and taeniolabidids in North China occurred in the late Nongshanian.

The Taizicun Fauna of Xinjiang (Zhou, 1960; Tong, 1978), and the Naomugen (Nomogen) Fauna of Nei Mongol (Zhou et al., 1976) seem to be of late Nongshanian age.

#### **Lingchan age**

Li and Ting (1983) proposed this age based on the Lingcha Fauna of Hunan and assigned all similar local faunas to this age. The Lingchan is defined by the earliest appearance of the orders Rodentia, Perissodactyla and Artiodactyla. The interval is characterized by the first appearance of Miacidae, Isectolophidae, Equidae, Cocomyidae, Tamquammyidae, Alagomyidae and Paramyidae. From then on extant orders of mammals have dominated archaic ones in the faunas.

We suggest an informal subdivision of Lingchan into three phases. The early phase is characterized by the composition of *Cocomys-Orientolophus*, represented by the Lingcha Fauna; the middle phase of *Changlelestes-Acritoparamys*-“*Homogalax*”, represented by the Wutu Fauna of Shandong; and the late phase of *Rhombomylus-Heptodon* by the Dajian Fauna of Hubei.

#### **Arshantan age**

The term “Arshantan”, introduced by Romer in 1966, was based on the Arshanto Formation of Nei Mongol. Forty five species, belonging to 22 genera, have been recognized in this fauna (Qi, 1987). Some archaic orders and families failed to carry into the Arshantan. The age can be defined by the appearance and flourishing of Brontotheriidae, Lophialestidae and Deperetellidae of Perissodactyla, the presence of gigantic dinocerats—*Uintatherium* and *Gobiotherium*, and by the frequent occurrence of such early Eocene survivors as *Homogalax* and *Heptodon*.

The Arshantan faunas occur primarily in Nei Mongol, but they are also found in Shandong, Henan and Xinjiang.

#### **Irdinmanhan age**

Irdinmanhan was based on the Irdinmanha Fauna of Nei Mongol by Romer in 1966. The Irdinmanhan faunas have a wide distribution and are the most abundant and diverse faunas known in the Paleogene of China. Mammals of this interval achieved a new stage: archaic ungulates declined greatly; Perissodactyla were highly diversified with flourishing of Brontotheriidae, Lophialestidae, Deperetellidae and appearance of Aymnodontidae, Eomoropidae and Rhinocerotidae; Artiodactyla began a major radiation with the occurrence of Helohyidae and Anthracotheriidae. In the small mammals, *Tsinlingomys* (primitive ctenodactyloid) and *Lushilagus* (primitive lagomorph)

were dominant, and Cricetidae, Zapodidae and Leporidae made their first appearance at this time.

#### **Sharamurunian age**

Sharamurunian was proposed by Romer in 1966 based on the Sharamurun Fauna of Nei Mongol. The Sharamurunian faunas also have a wide distribution in China. The occurrence of ruminants and the diversity of Anthracotheriidae in these faunas broke the dominance of Perissodactyla in Irдинmanhan. An initial diversity of Cricetidae and Zapodidae among micromammals ended the dominance of Yuomyidae and Tamquammyidae in Irдинmanhan. Nevertheless, many Irдинmanhan genera of the latter families survived into the Sharamurunian.

Representative local faunas are the Sharamurun Fauna and Ulan Usu Fauna of Nei Mongol. The recently found assemblage from fissure-fillings at Shanghuang of Jiangsu probably belongs to Sharamurunian age.

#### **Naduan age**

Tong (1989) suggested the Naduan age based on the Nadu Fauna of Guangxi. It was a time of continued flourishing of Artiodactyla and decline of Perissodactyla. The temporal interval is characterized by the dominance of Anthracotheriidae and primitive ruminants, the scarcity of Perissodactyla and the diversification of Cricetidae and Zapodidae.

The Caijiachong Fauna of Yunnan was originally regarded as early Oligocene in age, but the fauna seems to be older than those of Oligocene (Tong, 1991; Wang, 1992), and is tentatively assigned to the Naduan.

#### **Ulangochuian age**

On the basis of the Ulan Gochu Fauna of Nei Mongol Romer proposed this age and correlated it with Chadronian of North America and Sannoisian or Latdorfan of Europe in 1966. The interval is characterized by the earliest appearance of *Desmatolagus* of Ochotonidae, *Embolotherium*, *Parabrontops* and *Metatitan* of Brontotheriidae and *Paracadurcodon* of Amarynodontidae, and the latest occurrence of the archaic families Anagalidae and Mesonychidae. Lophialestidae and Deperetellidae, which flourished during the Eocene, disappeared at this time.

The "Houlijinian" termed by Romer (1966) based on the Houlijin Fauna of Nei Mongol, which is generally like the Ulan Gochu Fauna (Wang, 1992), is treated as synonymous Ulangochuian.

#### **Ulantatalian age**

Tong and Huang (1991) proposed this age based on the Ulantatal Fauna, and correlated the age with late Stampian-early Chattian of Europe.

All the archaic families of Paleocene origin, except Hyaenodontidae, became extinct, and about half of the Eocene families failed to persist into the Ulantatalian. The Ulantatalian faunas are signified by the first appearance and flourishing of Tsagano-

myidae, Tataromyidae, Cylindrodontidae and Bovidae. *Amphechinus*, *Parasminthus*, and *Sinologomys* are common, and *Ordolagus*, *Gobiosminthus*, *Shamosminthus*, *Cyclomylus*, *Cricetops*, *Anomoemys* and *Selenomys* are diagnostic in this age.

Wang (1992) suggested Kekeamuan age based on an assemblage from the bottom of Ulantatal Formation, which is similar to the Ulantatal Fauna in composition. Thus, the Kekeamuan is probably synonymous with Ulantatalian.

#### **Tabenbulukian age**

Li and Ting (1983) named the age after the Taben Buluk Fauna of Gansu and correlated it with late Chattian of Europe.

The Tabenbulukian can be defined by the first appearance of Tachyoryctoididae and Distylomyidae. It is characterized by the absence of some genera which are restricted in the Ulantatalian fauna, such as *Ordolagus*, *Cyclomylus*, *Cricetops*, *Selenomys* etc.; the presence of *Yindirtemys* and *Parasminthus* with four-rooted upper molars; and the flourishing of *Sinologomys*.

#### **Xiejian age**

Li and others (1984) suggested this age based on the Xiejia Fauna. Remains of these taxa, about 20 genera, are only known from northwestern China. Families commonly known in Oligocene faunas of this area, such as Cylindrodontidae, Tataromyidae, Tachyoryctoididae, Distylomyidae and Brontotheriidae became extinct or declined greatly at this time; some genera which flourished during the late Oligocene, such as *Parasminthus*, *Sinologomys*, *Dzungariotherium* and *Sinopalaeoceros* made their last appearance; except for *Gomphotherium* which possibly occurs in the later Xiejian, all the genera known can be found in the Oligocene, but the species are more derived. Therefore, the Xiejian age is characterized by retention of holdover or highly specialized Oligocene survivors.

#### **Shanwangian age**

The Shanwangian age is based principally on the classic Shanwang Fauna of Shandong as recommended by Li and others (1984).

More than 70 forms of mammals are known from this interval. Some Xiejian families which survived from Oligocene are nearly or completely absent. The age is characterized by the earliest appearance of Petauristinae, Gliridae, Ursidae and Giraffidae, the occurrence of a large number of genera, such as *Megacricetodon*, *Democricetodon*, *Alloptox*, *Hemicyon*, *Plesiaceratherium*, *Anchitherium* and *Hyotherium*. The Shanwangian ushered in a new era of mammals: the myomorph rodents began a great diversification; modern carnivores completely replaced archaic carnivores; archaic perissodactyls further declined, and ruminants began flourishing. However, all the Shanwangian genera failed to carry to the present day.

#### **Tunggurian age**

This age was based by Li and others (1984) on the Tunggur Fauna of Nei

Mongol. The fauna provided most of the taxa in the biologic characterization of the Tunggurian and was regarded as the typical Tunggurian assemblage.

More than 100 forms of mammals have been recognized from Tunggurian faunas, which are usually known as *Anchitherium-Platybelodon* faunas in China. The Tunggurian was a time of continued diversity of the Shanwangian families. Proboscideans began a major radiation and ruminants began a diversification. The interval is defined by the first appearance of Dipodidae and Hyaenidae. Quite a number of genera are new, among which *Heterosminthus*, *Protalactaga*, *Plesiodipus*, *Bellatona*, *Gobicyon*, *Platybelodon*, *Kubanochoerus* and *Turcoceros* are typical for this age; some are common in late *Hipparion* faunas, also *Chilotherium* and *Ictitherium* for example. The families Ctenodactylidae, Tachyoryctoididae and the genera *Megacricetodon*, *Democricetodon*, *Alloptox*, *Hemicyon*, *pleiaceratherium* and others made their last occurrence in this interval.

The Jiulongkou and Dingjiaergou Faunas containing *Platybelodon* and *Kubanochoerus* might be older than the others.

#### **Baodean age**

Named after the classic Baode Fauna of Shanxi (Li et al., 1984), assemblages attributed to this age are widespread in China, especially in North and West China. Altogether, more than 200 forms have been recognized in the Baodean faunas.

During this age mammals became more modernized: myomorph rodents further diversified-Muridae rose abruptly, Siphneidae radiated in North China, Rhizomyidae and Hystricidae distributed nowadays in South China appeared; Mustelidae, Hyaenidae and Felidae sprang up; *Hipparion* and *Chilotherium* were dominant for Perissodactyla; Proboscidea and Artiodactyla flourished to an unprecedented degree. The age was the time of formation of the modern mammal pattern in composition at higher taxonomic ranks. Most of the common Tunggurian genera were replaced by such new comers as *Sinocastor*, *Kowalskia*, *Lophocricetus*, *Mustela*, *Machairodus*, *Tetralophodon*, *Hipparion*, *Cervavitus*, *Gazella* and others. Among genera, some survived to the present day, such as *Apodemus*, *Ochotona*, *Martes*, *Felis*, *Sus*, *Gazella* etc.

The Bahean age suggested by Li and others in 1984 has been eliminated because it has no indicative diagnostic features to set it off from Baodean age (Qiu & Qiu, 1990). Among the numerous Baodean *Hipparion* faunas, the Amuwusu and Tsaidam Faunas are probably older with the presence of *Anchitherium*, and the Ertemte Fauna may be younger with some derived taxa.

#### **Yushean age**

Proposed by Qiu & Qiu (1990) based on the Gaozhuang and Mazegou Faunas of Yushe, Shanxi. The age was a time of continued diversity of the Baodean families. It is defined by the earliest appearance of Arvicolidae, Canidae and Camelidae. Some common genera known in Baodean faunas, such as *Microscoptes*, *Microtodon*,

*Lophocricetus*, *Adcrocuta*, *Ictitherium*, *Chleuastochoerus* and others were replaced by the new comers *Mimomys*, *Chardinomys*, *Hypolagus*, *Nyctereutes*, *Paracamelus* and *Chasmaporthetes*. All taxa are members of living mammal families, but only a small proportion of genera persist to the present day.

The Yushean incorporates the former Jinglean and Youhean suggested by Li and others in 1984, which were vaguely defined and distinguished mainly by species differences (Qiu & Qiu, 1990). The Bilike Fauna of this age, containing more primitive species of *Mimomys* and *Chardinomys*, is thought to be older and the Daode Fauna with more advanced species of these genera is considered younger.

#### **Nihewanian age**

As a mammal age term, Nihewanian was introduced by Li and others (1984) based on the Xiashagou Fauna at Nihewan, Hebei, and limited to middle Pleistocene by Zheng & Han (1991). In our usage, we broaden the time interval to encompass all similar faunas. These are latest Pliocene to middle Pleistocene age.

In a broad sense, the Nihewanian includes the assemblages found in the beds above "Hipparion Clay" and beneath "Lishi Loess" in North China. Muridae, Siphneidae and Arvicolidae among Rodentia, Cervidae and Bovidae of the Artiodactyla, developed further and flourished at this time. Most of the genera are holdovers from the Yushean; others such as *Sinocricetus*, *Kowalskia*, *Hipparion*, *Chilotherium* were replaced by the modern genera *Allactaga*, *Cricetulus*, *Equus*, *Ovis* etc. On the basis of characters of faunal changes and proportion of extinct taxa contained, a subdivision of this age into three phases is proposed and informal terms "Dacai, Nihewan ss, and Gongwangling" are employed for these phases.

#### **A. Early Nihewanian (Dacai phase)**

Altogether, 106 genera and 135 species of mammals have been recognized from the early Nihewanian faunas. The temporal interval is characterized by a higher percentage of extinct taxa (38 ÷ genera and 80 ÷ species); the first occurrence of *Gigantopithecus*, *Trogopterus*, *Amblycricetus*, *Eothenomys*, *Trogotherium*, *Leopoldamys*, *Ailuropoda*, *Paguma*, *Equus* etc.; the first appearance of the extant species *Hylomys suillus*, *Hystrix subcristata*, *Ursus thibetanus* etc.; the last appearance of *Alilepus*, *Mimomys*, *Brachyrhizomys*, *Tetralophodon*, *Zygodolophodon* etc.

#### **B. Middle Nihewanian (Nihewan phase)**

At least 100 genera and 134 species have been known from this phase. It is defined by the first appearance of *Crocidura*, *Microtus*, *Lasiopodomys*, *Pitymys*, *Allosiphneus*, *Meriones*, *Allactaga* etc.; the first appearance of the extant species *Talpa tatouchei*, *Eothenomys chinensis*, *Apodemus latronum*, *Sus scrofa*, *Gazella subgutturosa* etc.; the last occurrence of the genera *Hypolagus*, *Sminthoides*, *Chardinomys*, *Pachyrocata*, *Gomphotherium*, *Proboscidipparion*, *Elasmotherium*, *Chalicotherium*, *Postschizotherium* and *Procapreolus*.

### C. Late Nihewanian (Gongwangling phase)

The phase, represented by at least 84 genera and 102 species, is characterized by the lower percentage of extinct genera and species contained (26% and 62% respectively); the first appearance of *Petaurista*, *Cricetulus*, *Viverricula*, *Epimachairodus*, *Sivapanthera*, *Megatapirus*, *Megaloceros*, *Bubalus*, *Capricornis* and others; the first occurrence of the modern species *Anourosorex squamipes*, *Talpa moschatus*, *Petaurista alborufus*, *Cricetulus barabensis*, *Ailuropoda melanoleuca*, *Ovis ammon*, *Capricornis sumatraensis* and others.

### Zhoukoudianian age

Zheng and Han (1991) suggested Zhoukoudianian as a mammal age based on the locality of Peking man. More than 100 species of mammals are known from nearly 20 localities. The extinct genera found in these faunas were less than 20% of the total. The faunas changed by some generic additions and congeneric species substitutions. A subdivision of this age into two phases seems desirable.

#### A. Early Zhoukoudianian

The early Zhoukoudian is characterized by the earliest appearance of the genera *Szechuanopithecus*, *Presbytis*, *Nectogale*, *Ia*, *Cricetinus*, *Castor*, *Myospalax*, *Qianomys*, *Ailurus*, *Gulo*; the first appearance of the extant species *Crocidura russula*, *Ochotona daurica*, *Elephas maximus*, *Capreolus manchuricus* and *Gazella przewalskii*; the latest occurrence of *Ochotonoides*, *Bahomys*, *Paracamelus* and *Spirocerus*.

#### B. Late Zhoukoudianian

The late Zhoukoudian can be defined by the appearance of the extant genera *Lepus*, *Arvicola*, and of the recent species *Sorex arnaneus*, *Ochotona alpina*, *Microtus maximowiczii*, *Myospalax aspalax*, *Nyctereutes procyonoides*, *Equus przewalskii*, *Cervus canadensis* etc.; the last occurrence of *Hypolagus*, *Trogotherium*, *Sinocastor*, *Qianomys*, *Homotherium*, *Dicerorhinus*, *Megalovis* and *Pachygazella*.

### Salawusuan age

Zheng and Han (1991) proposed Salawusuan as a mammal age based on the Salawusu Fauna of Nei Mongol. At least 149 species, belonging to 99 mammal genera were recovered from the Salawusuan localities. The extinct genera are less than 10% of the total. Almost all the living genera and species existed at this time. The faunal change took place mainly in species substitutions: *Hylobates concolor*, *Crocidura horsfieldi*, *Talpa leucurus*, *Lepus europaeus*, *Petiomys electilis*, *Rhizomys pruinosus*, *Dipus sowerbyi*, *Mus pahari*, *Viverricula indica*, *Felis catus*, *Camelus knoblochi*, *Bibos gaurus* and so on appeared, *Macaca robustus*, *Lepus wongi*, *Cricetinus varians*, *Myospalax wongi*, *Meles leucurus*, *Megaloceros ordosianus* and *Spirocerus peii* made their last occurrence.



Typical faunas, related faunas and diagnostic taxa of these ages, and a preliminary correlation of the Chinese mammal ages to those of Europe and North America are given in tables 1,2 and 3. These ages are represented by a series of fossil mammal assemblages, each from single localities, placed in chronological sequence based on stage in evolution and substitutions of taxa. Each assemblage, after all, represents a very short interval in evolutionary history of mammals and they do not fill the time span of about 65 Ma. Thus, discussion on precise boundaries between these ages is excluded because evolutionary change is not documented in these faunas. For the same reason, their calibration with Europe and North America needs to be confirmed.

**Acknowledgements** The authors want to thank Qiu Zhanxiang, Li Chuankui, Zheng Jijian, Wu Wenyu and Chen Guanfang for critical discussion and correcting of the manuscript. They also wish to thank Dr. L. J. Flynn for helpful comments and correcting the English.