

Filling the ceratosaur gap: A new ceratosaurian theropod from the Early Cretaceous of Spain

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Ceratosaurian theropods evolved in two bursts, first in the Middle and Late Jurassic and then in the Late Cretaceous, leaving a 20 Myr gap in the Early Cretaceous during which remains are rare. We describe here a new ceratosaurian theropod, *Camarillasaurus cirugedae*, from fluvial deposits of the Camarillas Formation (lower Barremian, Lower Cretaceous) of Camarillas, Teruel Province, NE Spain. The new theropod is represented by a collection of associated bones, including a tooth, a possible cervical vertebra, two sternal plates, the proximal part of a right tibia, a broken right scapulocoracoid, the incomplete sacrum, five caudal vertebrae, an isolated caudal neural arch, a chevron, an almost complete presacral rib and some fragments of vertebrae, ribs, and other elements. *Camarillasaurus* is differentiated from other theropods by the extreme depth of the tibia proximal end, and a deep longitudinal groove on the tibia. The new dinosaur is a ceratosaur, phylogenetically close to the base of the clade, and perhaps more derived than the Chinese basal ceratosaur *Limusaurus*. The new taxon is significant in the evolution of the ceratosaurian dinosaurs, being placed temporally between its more common Jurassic and mid-Upper Cretaceous relatives, and it is one of only a few from Laurasia.

Key words: Dinosauria, Theropoda, Ceratosauria, Cretaceous, Teruel Province, Aragón, Spain.

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