Globaura venusta gen et sp. n and Eoxanta lacertifrons gen. et sp. n. - non-teiid lacertoids from the Late Cretaceous of Mongolia

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Two Late Cretaceous Mongolian lizards Eoxanta lacertifrons gen. et sp. n (?middle Campanian) and Globaura venusta gen et sp. n. (?late Santonian-?middle Campanian) are assigned to Lacertoidea (sensu Estes et at. 1988). Eoxanta is considered the sister group of the Xantusiidae, and, thus, the oldest known representative of the xantusiid line. Globaura is the sister group of the Lacertiformes (sensu Estes et al. 1988). The paper also considers the polarity of some scincomorphan characters. Formation of the anteroventral border of orbit by maxilla is considered synapomorphic for the Scinciformes.

Key words: Cladistics. Reptilia. Sauria, Lacertoidea, Cretaceous, Mongolia.

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