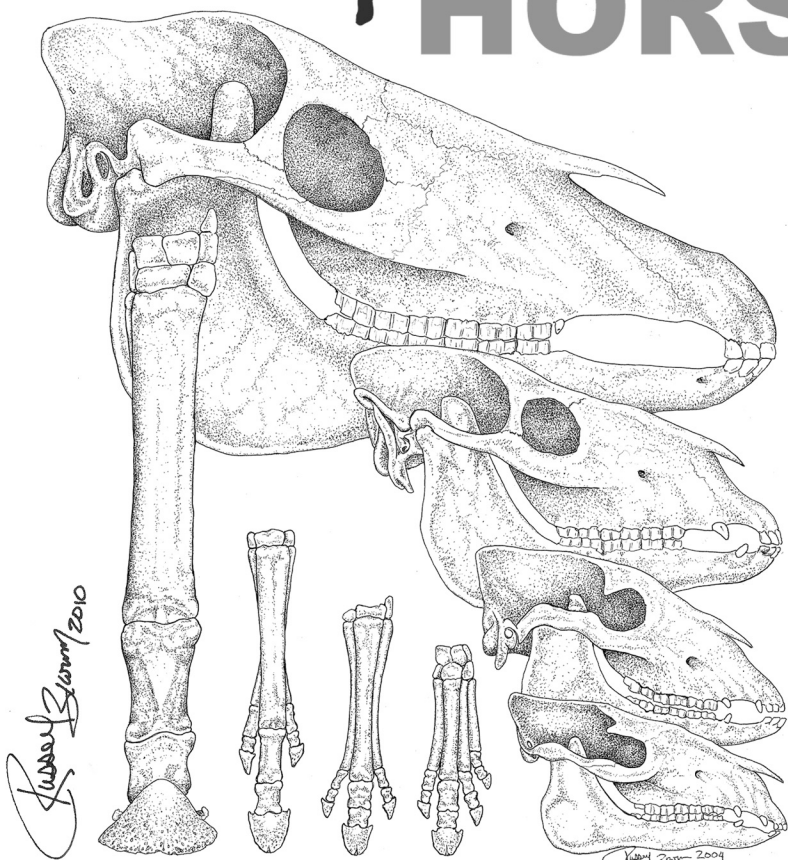


Equidae HORSES



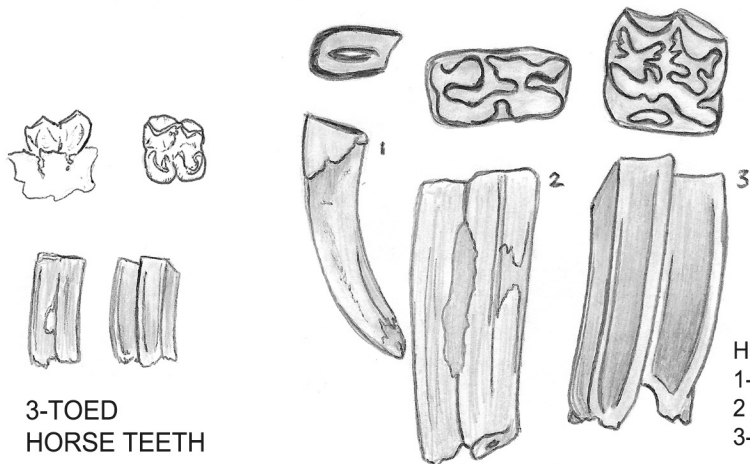
EQUUS

MERYCHIPPUS

MIOHIPPIUS

HYRACOTHERIUM

53 species from the family Equidae are found in the fossil record of Florida. In fact, horses are the most common mammal fossil found. Horses evolved mainly in North America, becoming extinct here at the same time the megabeasts died out, around 11,000 years ago. It wasn't until the Spanish conquistadors invaded the Americas, that the horses returned here. Miohippus, the oldest horse in Florida, dates from the Oligocene. The early horses were smaller. Their tooth patterns indicate that they were browsers, eating more soft plants. Over time, as forests disappeared and open grasslands dominated, their teeth adapted to eating grasses. They also evolved from 5 toes to 3 toes, and eventually to 1 toe as their limbs changed to make them speedier to avoid predators in the grasslands.



3-TOED
HORSE TEETH

HORSE TEETH
1- INCISOR
2 LOWER MOLAR
3-UPPER MOLAR

Miohippus sp.
Anchitherium clarencei
Hypohippus chico
Hypohippus affinis
Archaeohippus n.sp.
Archaeohippus blackbergi
Parahippus sp.
"Parahippus" leonensis
"Merychippus" gunteri
"Merychippus" primus
Acritohippus isonesus
Merychippus brevidontus
Merychippus californicus
"Merychippus" goorisi
Pseudhipparion n.sp.
Pseudhipparion curtivallum
Pseudhipparion skinneri
Pseudhipparion simpsoni
Neohipparion trampasense
Neohipparion eurystyle
Hipparion tehonense
Nannippus n.sp.
Nannippus westoni
Nannippus morgani
Nannippus aztecus
Nannippus peninsulatus
Cormohipparion quinni
Cormohipparion occidentale
Cormohipparion ingenuum
Cormohipparion plicatile
Cormohipparion emsliei
Protohippus perditus
Protohippus supremus
Protohippus gidleyi
Calippus n.spp.
Calippus proplacidus
Calippus placidus
Calippus elachistus
Calippus martini
Calippus cerasinus
Calippus hondurensis
Calippus maccartyi
Pliohippus mirabilis
Pliohippus pernix
Astrohippus stockii
Dinohippus leidyianus
"Dinohippus" mexicanus
Equus simplicidens
Equus (Hemionus) n.sp.
Equus "leidyi"
Equus (Amerhippus) fraternus
Equus alaskae group
Equus laurentius group