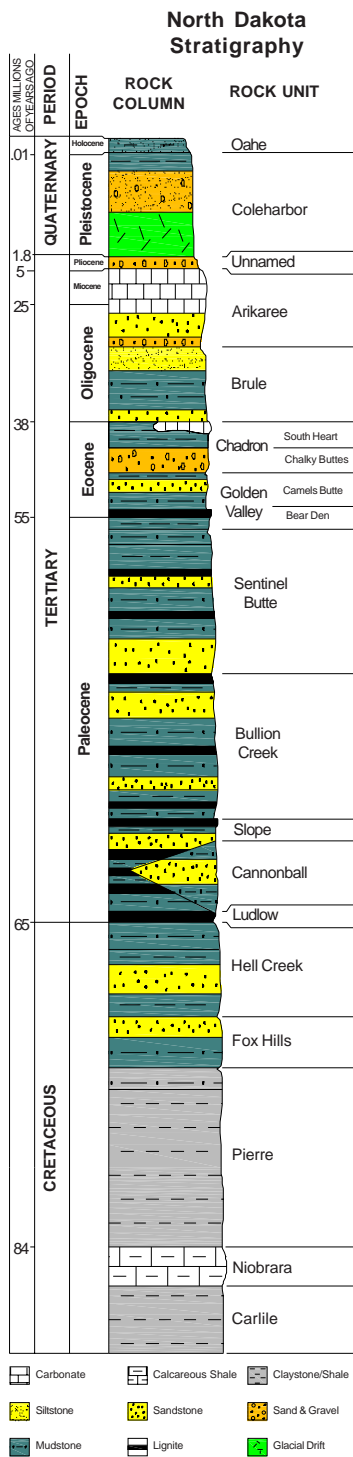


Coryphodon



Common Name:

Hippopotamus-like mammal

Classification:

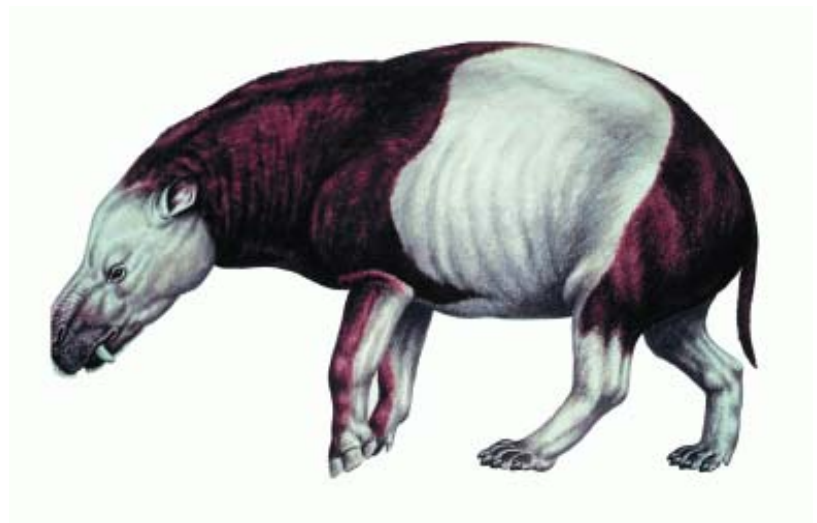
Class: Mammalia

Order: Pantodonta

Family: Coryphodontidae

Description:

Coryphodon was one of the large, browsing mammals referred to as pantodonts that lived in North Dakota during the early Tertiary. It was a bulky animal that grew to lengths of 7 ½ feet. They had a semi-aquatic lifestyle like a hippopotamus and probably lived in swamps and marshes. They were herbivores and had large canine tusks similar to the hippopotamus. They used the tusks to uproot tubers and roots. The structure of their leg bones suggests that they were slow moving. They also had one of the smallest brains compared to body size of all mammals.



Coryphodon. Painting courtesy of Simon and Schuster Publishing Company.



Locations where fossils have been found