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REPTILE REMAINS FROM THE MIDDLE-UPPER TRIASSIC OF THE CARNIC
AND JULIAN ALPS (FRIULI-VENEZIA GIULIA, NORTHEASTERN ITALY)

*RESTI DI RETTILI NEL TRIASSICO MEDIO-SUPERIORE DELLE ALPI CARNICHE E
GIULIE (FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA, ITALIA NORDORIENTALE)*

Abstract - Reptilian remains from Upper Ladinian (Middle Triassic) and Lower Carnian (Late Triassic) of the Carnic and Julian Alps (Friuli-Venezia Giulia region, Northeastern Italy) stored at the Museo Friulano di Storia Naturale (Udine) are described. A large nothosaur similar to *Paranothosaurus* is identified for the first time in the Carnian. The placodont *Cyamodus* is reported for the first time from the Upper Ladinian.

Key words: Reptilia, Nothosauria, Placodontia, *Cyamodus*, *Paranothosaurus*, Thalattosauria, Middle-Upper Triassic, Carnic Alps, Julian Alps.

Riassunto breve - Vengono descritti alcuni resti di rettili provenienti dal Triassico medio (Ladinico superiore) e superiore (Carnico inferiore) delle Alpi Carniche e Giulie, custoditi al Museo Friulano di Storia Naturale. Viene segnalata per la prima volta la presenza nel Carnico di un notosauro di grandi dimensioni confrontabile con *Paranothosaurus*. La probabile presenza del genere *Cyamodus* viene segnalata per la prima volta nel Ladinico superiore.

Parole chiave: Reptilia, Nothosauria, Placodontia, *Cyamodus*, *Paranothosaurus*, Thalattosauria, Triassico medio-superiore, Alpi Carniche, Alpi Giulie.

Introduction

During recent years, thanks to the fieldwork and enthusiasm of the Museo Friulano di Storia Naturale (Udine) and its collaborators, we have seen a rising interest in mesozoic vertebrates, mainly reptiles, in the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region (Northeastern Italy). Attention to date has been focused mostly on Norian fossils (CALZAVARA et al., 1981; WILD, 1984; PINNA, 1987; DALLA VECCHIA et al., 1989). At the Museo Friulano di Storia Naturale are collections of reptilian remains of Anisian, Ladinian and Carnian age from the Carnic and Julian Alps. These have been found only recently, have never published and part of the collection forms the subject of this note. Ichthyopterygian remains will be treated in a separate contribution.

I prefer to use here the "traditional" classification of CARROL (1988) instead of the recent classifications based on cladistic analysis (TSCHANZ, 1989; STORRS, 1991; RIEPPEL,

