

## **MAMMALS FROM THE BLUE ASH LOCAL FAUNA (LATE OLIGOCENE), SOUTH DAKOTA, MARSUPIALIA AND LAGOMORPHA**

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### ABSTRACT

Two marsupials (*Herpetotherium fugax* and *Herpetotherium* sp.) and three lagomorphs (*Palaeolagus subhypsodus* n. sp., *Palaeolagus* sp. cf. *P. philoi*, and *Palaeolagus* sp.) are identified from the Blue Ash local fauna of South Dakota. Of the species identified here, *H. fugax* is otherwise known from the Orellan to early Arikareean, *Herpetotherium* sp. is morphologically closest to the middle to late Arikareean *H. youngi* but is smaller in size, *Palaeolagus subhypsodus* is intermediate between the Whitneyan *P. burkei* and the Arikareean *P. hypsodus*, and the other lagomorphs are closest to Arikareean species morphologically. The age of the fauna is still not definite based on these species but it is suggested that it is slightly earlier than previously described Arikareean faunas.