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The origins of Chinese domestic cattle as revealed by Ancient DNA analysis

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Highlights

- Ancient DNA reveals that Chinese domestic cattle originated from the Near East.
- In the early Bronze Age, cattle found in Northern China belong to taurine cattle.
- Zebu cattle did not spread into the Central Plains until at least 1500 BC.
- Ancient cattle made an important contribution to modern East Asian taurine cattle.
- Haplogroup distribution has genetic continuity from the Bronze Age to present day.

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