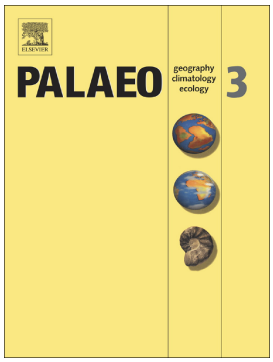

Oligocene fossil assemblages from Lake Nanning (Yongning formation; Nanning Basin, Guangxi Province, SE China): Biodiversity and evolutionary implications

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PII: S0031-0182(18)30056-7
DOI: doi:10.1016/j.palaeo.2018.05.033
Reference: PALAEO 8789

To appear in: *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*

Received date: 19 January 2018
Revised date: 22 May 2018
Accepted date: 22 May 2018

Please cite this article as: Tian Ying, David Shaw, Simon Schneider , Oligocene fossil assemblages from Lake Nanning (Yongning formation; Nanning Basin, Guangxi Province, SE China): Biodiversity and evolutionary implications. The address for the corresponding author was captured as affiliation for all authors. Please check if appropriate. Palaeo(2017), doi:10.1016/j.palaeo.2018.05.033

Oligocene fossil assemblages from Lake Nanning (Yongning Formation; Nanning Basin, Guangxi Province, SE China): biodiversity and evolutionary implications

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Abstract

Sediments of the long-lived Lake Nanning in southern China (Guangxi Province) have yielded rich and diversified fossil biota of Oligocene age. The history of research on these fossils is documented herein, and revised lists of the flora and fauna recorded from Lake Nanning are provided. Based on newly collected data, the mollusc fauna and palynology of the lake sediments are assessed. Gastropods (Viviparidae, Stenothyridae), bivalves (Unionidae), ostracods and fish have successfully radiated in Lake Nanning, and developed a variety of endemic species. Shell thickening, spines, carinae, nodes and restricted apertures in bivalves and gastropods are interpreted as armour to