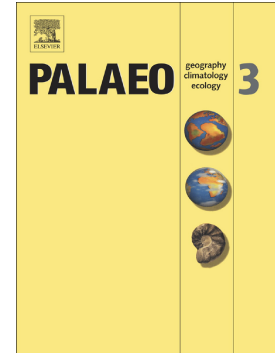


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## The Early Pleistocene herpetofauna of Rivoli Veronese (Northern Italy) as evidence for humid and forested glacial phases in the Gelasian of Southern Alps

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### Abstract

Among the Early Pleistocene Italian fossil herpetofaunas, Rivoli Veronese is remarkable in having yielded the youngest known allocaudates, represented by *Albanerpeton pannonicum*, together with remains of other amphibians and reptiles. The assemblage includes at least 15 other taxa, including two caudates (*Speleomantes* sp., *Ichthyosaura alpestris*), four anurans (*Bombina* sp., *Bufo bufo*, *Hyla* gr. *H. arborea*, *Rana* sp.), five lizards (*Lacerta* gr. *L. viridis*, cf. *Zootoca vivipara*, a third, small-sized lacertid, *Anguis* gr. *A. fragilis*, cf. *Pseudopus* sp.) and four snakes (*Coronella* sp., *Zamenis longissimus*, *Natrix* sp., *Vipera* gr. *V. aspis*). The finding of *Speleomantes* is particularly interesting as it is one of only a handful of fossil occurrences of this genus, being only the second one outside of its extant range. Excluding the extinct *Albanerpeton* and *Speleomantes*, which has a very narrow environmental range, the remainder of the assemblage suggests a Mean Annual

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