

## *CERATOSAURUS* (DINOSAURIA: THEROPODA) IN THE LATE JURASSIC OF PORTUGAL

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A right femur and a left tibia were collected from Rodela do Valmitão (Lourinhã, West coast of Portugal) from Upper Jurassic Kimmeridgian at “Praia de Amoreira-Porto Novo” unit of “Camadas de Alcobaça” Formation.

The femur is 64,7 cm long and very similar to the *Ceratosaurus nasicornis*, the difference being that it is slightly longer. In the 58,3 cm tibia, the relative position of the epiphysials expansions is different from *C. nasicornis*, being more likely *C. dentisulcatus*. The distal and proximal expansions are in a more turned position by the diaphysial axis.

The femur and tibia ML352 are from a Ceratosauria due to the:

- Presence of trochanteric shelf.
- Anterior trochanter is not blade-shaped.
- Femoral head is projected anteromedially.
- Deep sulcus along the lateral side of the crista tibiofibularis
- Lack of the lateral longitudinal groove at the distal end of tibia
- The femoral head is projected anteromedially.

The specimen does not fit in any known ceratosaurian theropod genus besides *Ceratosaurus*. It is a ceratosaurian strongly related to *Ceratosaurus nasicornis* and *C. dentisulcatus*. The small differences noted are not sufficient to not assign it to this genus. While new material is not discovered, it should provisionally be regarded as an indeterminate species of basal ceratosauroid into the genus *Ceratosaurus*.

The ascription of this specimen to a basal ceratosauroid, in particular to *Ceratosaurus* sp., is coherent with the biochronology of Ceratosauria, in particular to the genus *Ceratosaurus*.