

described here. One of us (APH) has collected additional specimens of this animal from Shark Tooth Hill in 1986 and Apache Canyon in 1989 for the New Mexico Museum of Natural History (NMMNH).

These scutes represent an aetosaur because of their close correspondence in both gross morphology and ornamentation to undoubted aetosaurs (compare Fig. 2 and LONG & BALLEW 1985: figs. 8–9). The only other animals with comparable scutes are some later crocodylians. However, Triassic »crocodylians« are characterized by pronounced anterior prominences on their paramedian scutes (CRUSH 1984: fig. 10C) and are less than a quarter the size of these scutes. A sphenosuchian »crocodile« is known from the Redonda (HUNT 1991b) and its scutes differ from those of aetosaurs not only in the above features, but they also lack ornamentation.

Systematic paleontology

Class Reptilia LAURENTI 1768
 Order Crocodylotarsi BENTON & CLARK 1988
 Suborder Aetosauria VON HUENE 1908
 Family Stagonolepididae LYDEKKER 1887

Genus *Redondasuchus* n. g.

Type species: *Redondasuchus reseri* n. sp.

Derivatio nominis: The name derives from the Redonda Formation which has yielded the holotype and all known specimens of this taxon and from the Greek (Egyptian) for lizard.

Locus typicus: Quarry 2 of J.T. GREGORY (YPM locality 6649; UCMP locality 6148; NMMNH locality 485) in the NE1/4 NE1/4 NW1/4 section 3, T8N, R33E, Quay County, New Mexico, USA (Fig. 1).

Stratum typicum: Upper part of the Redonda Formation (Fig. 1).

Distribution: Redonda Formation of Quay County, New Mexico, USA.

Diagnosis: Dorsal paramedian scutes of *Redondasuchus* differ from other aetosaurs in being strongly flexed (about 45°) two-thirds of their length from the medial edge, in not having any raised boss or radial pattern and in having a length: width ratio of 2:1 or greater.

Redondasuchus reseri n. sp.

Holotype: UCMP 65415, a left, dorsal, paramedian scute (Fig. 2).

Referred specimens: YPM 4256–4257 (Fig. 3, A – B), two partial paramedian scutes (LUCAS et al. 1985: Fig. 3F – G); six uncatalogued scutes from YPM locality 6649; UCMP 65331 and 65416, two partial paramedian scutes; UCMP 65258, a ?cervical scute; NMMNH 17091, a paramedian scute; NMMNH 17084, seven fragments of paramedian scutes.