

A HORN-CORE OF *GAZELLA DEPERDITA* GERVAIS (N. VAR.)
FROM MIDDLE SINAP

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We found a horn-core of *Gazella* in the vertebrate materials collected from the northern Ankara fossiliferous beds.

Material: A left horn-core fragment.

Horizon: Middle part of the Middle Sinap.

Locality: Yassioren village, 55 km NW of Ankara.

Diagnosis: This horn-core is broken near the base and the tip, and is curved backwards. External surface is slightly flattened, internal surface is convex. Posterior surface of the horn-core has a longitudinal furrow.

Remarks: *Gazella schreuderae* Hooijer (1945) has many deep furrows on the surface of its horn-cores, which are rather strongly curved backwards. For this reason this species is different from our fossil.

Gazella anglica Newton (1884), *Gazella gaudryi* Schlosser (1904), *Gazella longicornis* Andree (1926), *Gazella daviesii* Hinton (1906), and *Gazella mytilinii* Pilgrim (1926) (Schlosser, 1904; Andree, 1926; Pilgrim & Hopwood, 1928) do not resemble our fossil, because they all have certain differences of form.

Likewise, our horn-core differs also from *Gazella bailloudi* Arambourg & Piveteau (1929), *Gazella brevicornis* Gaudry (1862-1867) and the other known *Gazella* species (Persia, India and China).

The degree of curvature of the *Gazella* horn-core from Sinap is closer to that of *Gazella deperdita* Gervais, when compared with other *Gazella* species, and both fossils have similar posterior furrows. Moreover, the external surface of the horn-core of both specimens is convex in the same degree.

The horn-core of the Sinap fossil has not any furrows either on the external or the internal surfaces. Therefore, our specimen is different from *Gazella deperdita* Gervais. However, both fossils have the same form and structure.

Conclusion: In our opinion, the horn-core of the Sinap specimen is a variation of *Gazella deperdita* Gervais, and the vertical stratigraphic distribution of this species probably occurs from Pontian (Lower Pliocene) to Middle Sinap (Lower Pliocene). Thus, it can be concluded that the *Gazella* groups came to Turkey from the Pikermi, Salonica and Samos regions, while some Bovidae groups migrated to Turkey from Asia.

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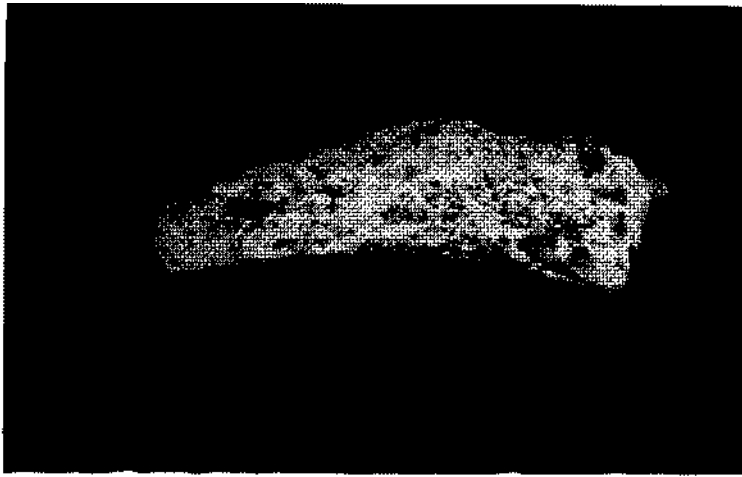


Fig. 1 - Medial view of a horn-core of *Gazella deperdita* Gervais.



Fig. 2 - Lateral view of a horn-core of *Gazella deperdita* Gervais.

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