



***Phascolotheridium*, a new name for *Phascolodon* Simpson, 1925 (Mammalia) preoccupied by *Phascolodon* Stein, 1859 (Ciliophora, Phyllopharyngea)**

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The genus *Phascolodon* Simpson, 1925 (type species *P. gidleyi*, by monotypy), a 'triconodont' mammal, bears the same name as *Phascolodon* Stein, 1859 (type species *P. vorticella*, briefly described in Stein 1859a and described with illustration in Stein 1859b), a ciliated protistan. As Ciliophora are among the 'animal-like' protistans, they have been treated as Animalia for the purposes of nomenclature (e.g., Mayr 1969) and thus clearly are subject to the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN 1999, Articles 1–2). The names are thus both available homonyms. As there exists no synonym for the junior homonym, we hereby replace *Phascolodon* Simpson, 1925 with the substitute name *Phascolotheridium*, gen. n., in accordance with the Code (ICZN 1999, Articles 52, 60). The intent of Simpson's original name was to reflect close similarity to *Phascolotherium* Owen, 1838 (a related but geologically older mammal). The substitute name retains the spirit of this intent, and assumes the diminutive form to reflect that it is smaller than *Phascolotherium* (see Simpson 1925, 1928).

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