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Cover illustration

The Cover shows a sauropod trackway from the Upper Jurassic Reuchenette Formation in Lommiswil (Solothurn), in the northwestern part of the Swiss Jura mountains. The substrate, a biomicrite with birds-eyes is a dried-up mudflat. The steeply inclined (45°) tracklayer measures approximately 5000 m² and displays 550 footprints and nine trackways. The trackway which runs from the right to the left shows oval pes impressions (length 100 cm) and horseshoe-like manus prints. The footprint length indicates a hip height between 4 and 5 m, the estimated speed of 3 km/h points to a slowly walking animal (Photo: Ch. A. Meyer).

Zum Titelbild

Das Umschlagbild zeigt eine Sauropodenfährte aus der Reuchenette Formation im Oberjura von Lommiswil (Kt. Solothurn) im nordwestschweizer Jura. Das Substrat, ein «birds-eyes»-führender Biomikrit ist eine trockengefallene Karbonatwattfläche. Die 45° Grad geneigte Fährtenfläche umfasst rund 5000 m² und enthält insgesamt 550 Trittsiegel, neun deutliche Fährten sind zu erkennen. Die von rechts nach links verlaufende Fährte zeigt ovale Hinterfüßeindrücke (Länge 100 cm) und hufeisenförmige Eindrücke der Vorderfüße. Aufgrund der Fusslänge ergibt sich eine Schulterhöhe von 4–5 m, die Schrittlänge lässt eine Geschwindigkeit von 3 km/h errechnen (Foto: Ch. A. Meyer).

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Photo de couverture

La photo de couverture montre des traces de sauropodes dans la Formation de Reuchenette (Jurassique sup.) à Lommiswil (Canton de Soleure) dans le NW du Jura suisse. Le substratum est formé par un banc de micrite à «birds-eyes» dont le toit correspond à un estran carbonaté exondé. La dalle à traces de sauropodes affleure sur environ 5000 m², avec un pendage de 45°. On y observe 550 empreintes de pattes antérieures en forme de fer à cheval. La longueur des pieds permet de conclure à une hauteur au garrot de 4 à 5 m, selon la longueur des pas la vitesse de déplacement était de 3 km/h. (Photo Ch. A. Meyer).

Foto di copertina

La figura in copertina mostra una pista di impronte di sauropodi dalla formazione Reuchenette (Giurassico superiore) a Lommiswil (Solothurn) nella regione nord occidentale delle montagne del Jura svizzero. Il substrato, una biomicrite a «birds-eyes» rappresenta una piana di fango disseccata. Lo strato, molto inclinato (45°), misura circa 5000 m² e comprende 550 impronte e nove piste. La pista che va da destra a sinistra mostra dei calchi ovali delle zampe posteriori (lunghezza 100 cm) e delle impronte a forme di zoccolo delle zampe anteriori. Dalla lunghezza delle impronte si deduce un'altezza dei fianchi tra i 4 e 5 m e la velocità stimata sui 3 km/h indica animali a passo lento.

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