

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910785228203321
Autore	Laurin Michel
Titolo	How vertebrates left the water [[electronic resource] /] / Michel Laurin
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berkeley, : University of California Press, c2010
ISBN	1-282-79024-2 9786612790249 0-520-94798-3
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (217 p.)
Disciplina	596.13/8
Soggetti	Vertebrates - Evolution Evolution
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Translation of: Systematique, paleontologie et biologie evolutive moderne : l'exemple de la sortie des eaux chez les vertebres. 2008.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Preface -- 1. How Can We Reconstruct Evolutionary History? -- 2. How Can We Reconstruct Evolutionary History? -- 3. Paleontological Context -- 4. Vertebrate Limb Evolution -- 5. Diversity of Paleozoic Stegocephalians -- 6. Adaptations to Life on Land -- 7. Synthesis and Conclusion -- Glossary -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	More than three hundred million years ago-a relatively recent date in the two billion years since life first appeared-vertebrate animals first ventured onto land. This usefully illustrated book describes how some finned vertebrates acquired limbs, giving rise to more than 25,000 extant tetrapod species. Michel Laurin uses paleontological, geological, physiological, and comparative anatomical data to describe this monumental event. He summarizes key concepts of modern paleontological research, including biological nomenclature, paleontological and molecular dating, and the methods used to infer phylogeny and character evolution. Along with a discussion of the evolutionary pressures that may have led vertebrates onto dry land, the book also shows how extant vertebrates yield clues about the conquest of land and how scientists uncover evolutionary history.

