



CARNIVORE REMAINS FROM CASTILLEJO DEL BONETE (TERRINCHES, CIUDAD REAL)

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Castillejo del Bonete (Terrinches, Ciudad Real, Spain) is an archaeological site located on the southern edge of the Iberian Plateau, to the north of the Sierra Morena mountain range. This site was a funerary place used between 4416 and 3515 years cal. BP according to radiocarbon dating on charcoal and human bones. It is a Chalcolithic-Bronze Age structure composed of a cave monumentalized with corridors and tumuli associated with funerary remains and votive deposits. The record of this site consists of bone remains, pottery, lithic and bone industry. The faunal assemblage is mainly comprised of domestic (*Ovis aries*, *Capra hircus*, *Bos taurus*, *Sus domesticus* and *Canis lupus familiaris*) and wild fauna (*Cervus elaphus*, *Oryctolagus cuniculus* and *Meles meles*). Here, we analyse the carnivore sample from Castillejo del Bonete. The assemblage includes 29 remains, of which 16 (MNI=4) have been identified as domestic dogs. The dogs' sample principally consists of fragmentary hemimandibles and maxilas, but also includes postcranial remains (tibia and metapodial bones). We compare it with modern dogs and wolves and metrics analyses indicate that these fossils are smaller than modern sample. Two remains show cut marks, so consumption cannot be discarded. The other 13 remains (MNI=2) are attributed to the European badger based on morphometric studies. The badgers' sample consists of postcranial (humerus, phalanges, metapodial bones) and cranial remains. Metric analyses fall within the average range of the Iberian badgers' population. The presence of this animal could indicate that, at that moment, the cave was no longer used as a burial site.

