



the
elasmotherium



Extinct: ~50,000 B.C.

Elasmotherium is an extinct genus of rhinoceros, comprising of three known species spread across Eurasia. One of the most debated topics surrounding this species are its horns, which many believe is the origin of the popular unicorn myth. Elasmotherium was at least twice the size of modern rhinos, and its extinction was most likely caused by a changing habitat and human hunting.

Diet

Elasmotherium ate grass and starchy roots on river banks and lakes. Their teeth were designed to ensure protection from abrasives such as sand.

Habitat

Elasmotherium preferred to graze along river banks and could be found on plains throughout Europe and Asia.

Features

Elasmotherium could grow to a massive size at around 2 metres high and weighing up to 5 tonnes. Its most distinctive feature was a single horn on the forehead that could grow at least two metres tall.