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Upper Cretaceous (Turonian) Hymenoptera (Insecta) from Orapa, Botswana: an updated review

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A survey of the approximately 2200 pieces of rock with insect fossils obtained from the Orapa diamond mine in Botswana, and dating from about 91 Mya, was done by the authors in 2002. All arthropods on those blocks bearing at least one hymenopteron (68) were identified to the lowest level possible, and estimates of the faunal composition were derived. Those results were published in 2003, and several papers detailing and describing particular taxonomic groups of Hymenoptera, and comparing them with assemblages of comparable age from other parts of the world, have since appeared. Although different at the lower taxonomic levels, various higher taxa in the Orapa Hymenoptera fauna are remarkably similar to those in the other best-investigated fauna, from the Russian Far East. This paper reviews our current knowledge, identifies further taxa for detailed study, and briefly contextualises the diversity of other arthropods found.