Józef Grzybowski:
the founder of Applied Micropalaeontology

of Applied Micropalaeontology: The School of Józef Grzybowski (with a taxonomic
1. 336 pp., 18 reproductions of the original plates, 22 text-figures, 17 plates. Alden
Geological Society of Poland, ul. Oleandry 2a, 30-063 Kraków, Poland); £ 29.95.

It is not a coincidence that Grzybowski Foundation Special Publication no. 1 is focused on
Grzybowski's contribution to the world micropalaeontology. Józef Grzybowski (1869–1922)
was the first to apply microfossils to correlate subsurface strata. He published four mono-
graphs of microfossils from the Carpathian flysch describing over a hundred new species of
Cretaceous and Tertiary foraminifera.

The book gives us an introduction by Stanisław Czarnecki which sets the scene of
Grzybowski's pioneering studies. This delightful introduction makes one appreciate under
what difficult conditions Grzybowski undertook his task of monographing the Foraminifera
of the Carpathian Flysch. The following, main part of the book presents the first English
translations of the six classic monographs of microfossils from the Carpathians written by
Grzybowski and his co-workers W. Friedberg and M. Dylaźanka. The editors took great care
in translating these papers – correcting printing mistakes in the originals, and adding
numerous footnotes in the translated text. The footnotes provide useful updates to the
systematic taxonomy of the species described from the Carpathian Flysch.

The final part contains a revision by M.A. Kaminski and St. Geroch of type foraminifera
housed in the Grzybowski Collection and a geological overview by Andrzej Ślączka of the type
localities in the Outer Carpathians. For the purpose of taxonomic stability, the authors of the
revision designated 43 lectotype specimens from the Grzybowski Collection and, emended
some Grzybowski's taxa. The type specimens of all species are well illustrated using light
microscopy. The review represents an important original contribution to the taxonomy of
cosmopolitan deep-water agglutinated foraminifera, and most importantly makes Grzybow-
ski's work available to the world micropalaeontological community. This book is undoubt-
edly an excellent handy reference volume of interest to any researcher working on Alpine-Carpa-
thian flysch, deep-sea sediments, or with the taxonomy of agglutinated foraminifera.

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