Early Devonian scolecodonts from Podolia, Ukraine

Hubert Szaniawski and Daniel Drygant

One of the most fossiliferous and thickest sections of the marine Lower Devonian deposits was, for the first time investigated for the content of polychaete jaws (= scolecodonts). They are represented by elements of five genera and at least nine species but are not abundant and mostly fractured. Only a fraction of the specimens are sufficiently well preserved to allow genus and species-level identification. However, in some of them even the microstructure of the jaw wall can be observed. Over 90% of the determinable specimens are represented by the jaws of paulinitids which mostly belong to three species known from the Silurian of the Baltic region. Additionally, mochtyellids, atraktoprionids, skalenoprionids and, in the lower part of the sequence, polychaetaspids have been recorded. Two new species are established—Polychaetaspis kozlowskii sp. nov. and Atraktoprion podolicus sp. nov. Status of the genera Oenonites Hinde, 1879 and Kettnerites is discussed. Lectotype of the first is not determinable to the species level, while holotype of the type species of the second is probably missing and not determinable after the original illustration.

Key words: Polychaeta, scolecodonts, taxonomy, Lochkovian, Pragian, Silurian, Devonian, Podolia.

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