

Fossil freshwater sponges: Taxonomy, geographic distribution, and critical review

Roberto Pronzato, Andrzej Pisera, and Renata Manconi

Acta Palaeontologica Polonica 62 (3), 2017: 467-495 doi:<https://doi.org/10.4202/app.00354.2017>

Sponges are one of the most ancient animal phyla with about 8850 living species and about 5000 described fossil taxa. Most sponges are marine and live at all depths of all oceans. Freshwater bodies (lakes, rivers) are inhabited only by a small minority of species, ca. 240 (