

The problematic early Cambrian fossil *Tumulduria incomperta* represents the detached ventral interarea of a paterinid brachiopod

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The organophosphatic early Cambrian (Terreneuvian, Cambrian Stage 2) fossil *Tumulduria incomperta* has been problematic ever since its original description in 1969. Comparison of abundant specimens from the Lower Cambrian of Siberia with co-occurring brachiopod valves show that *T. incomperta* represents the central portion of the ventral interarea of a paterinid brachiopod similar to *Cryptotreta neguertchenensis*, and that the domed central portion of typical *Tumulduria* specimens represents the ridge-like pseudodeltidium of the interarea.

Key words: Brachiopoda, problematica, Tommotian Stage, Terreneuvian, Cambrian, Siberia.

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