

Cretaceous Radiolaria from Niedzica Succession of the Pieniny Klippen Belt in Polish Carpathians

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Three radiolarian-rich intervals have been recognized in the late Cretaceous marls of the Niedzica Succession in the Polish part of the Pieniny Klippen Belt, Carpathians. Associated planktonic foraminifers show that they correspond to major transgressive events in the latest Albian, at the Cenomanian/Turonian boundary, and in the late Ttrronian. The abundance of radiolarians seems to be related to increased silica content in the sediment (protecting their skeletons against the alkaline environment of the limestone) and presumably in the sea water. Forty three species of Radiolaria identified in the strata show generally wide ranges from the late Albian to Coniacian. Some of the first or last occurrences correspond to those in Japan and southern Europe.

Key words: Pieniny Klippen Belt, Cretaceous, Radiolaria, biostratigraphy.

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