

Latest Famennian brachiopods from Kowala, Holy Cross Mountains, Poland

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Latest Famennian (UD–VI, “Strunian”) brachiopod fauna from Kowala (Kielce Region, Holy Cross Mountains, Poland)

consists of eighteen species within 6 orders, eleven of them reported in open nomenclature.

Characteristic taxa include: *Schellwienella pauli*, *Aulacella interlineata*, *Sphenospira julii*, *Novaplatisrostrum sauerlandense*, *Hadyrhyncha* sp., *Cleiothyridina struniensis*. New morphological details of *Schellwienella pauli*, *Sphenospira julii*, and *Aulacella interlineata* are provided. The described latest Famennian brachiopod fauna is distinctly richer than that from underlying upper Famennian deposits (11 species within 4 orders). Majority of species from Kowala seem to have been adapted to deep water settings and/or poor nutrient availability. The stratigraphic separation between *Planovatisrostrum* in the UD–III to UD–V and *Novaplatisrostrum* in the UD–VI observed in Sauerland and in Thuringia is valid also in the Holy Cross Mountains. This is the first comprehensive report of a relatively diversified latest Famennian brachiopod fauna from surface outcrops of Poland.

Key words: Brachiopoda, Late Devonian, Famennian, Strunian, Holy Cross Mountains, Poland.

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