ACTA PALAEONTOLOGICA POLONICA

Morphology and ontogeny of the Cambrian edrioasteroid echinoderm *Cambraster cannati* from western Gondwana

Samuel Zamora, Colin D. Sumrall, and Daniel Vizcaïno
Acta Palaeontologica Polonica 58 (3), 2012: 545-559 doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.4202/app.2011.0152

A review of the Cambrian edrioasteroid echinoderm *Cambraster cannati* is made based on new collections from the Iberian Chains (NE Spain) and Montagne Noire (France). New morphological data include a completely articulated oral area and details of ambulacra. Specimens ranging from 4 to 26 mm in diameter provide detailed information concerning the full ontogeny. Important changes through ontogeny mainly affect the marginal ring and the plating pattern of the aboral surface. Comparison with other species of *Cambraster* indicates that the aboral surface of *Cambraster tastudorum* from Australia shows strong resemblance to juvenile specimens of *C. cannati*. *Cambraster cannati* was attached directly to the substrate and inhabited relatively high energy, offshore environments from the west margin of Gondwana. Abnormalities in the skeleton are described for the first time in a Cambrian edrioasteroid.

Key words: Echinodermata, Edrioasteroidea, palaeobiology, Spain, France.

Samuel Zamora [samuel@unizar.es], Department of Palaeontology, The Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD, UK; Colin D. Sumrall [csumrall@utk.edu], Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996, USA; Daniel Vizcaïno [daniel.vizcaino@wanadoo.fr] 7 rue J.-B. Chardin, Maquens, 11090 Carcassonne, France.

Full text (1,812.3 kB)