

***Phlycticrioceras clarki* COLLIGNON 1966 and *Neoselwynoceras paradoxum* COLLIGNON 1966, two pathologic ammonites from the Upper Cretaceous of Madagascar**

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(With 1 plate)

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Abstract

Two Upper Cretaceous ammonites from Madagascar *Phlycticrioceras clarki* COLLIGNON and *Neoselwynoceras paradoxum* COLLIGNON 1966 are pathologic. „*Phlycticrioceras clarki*“ is a *Pseudoxybeloceras*. One of four rows of tubercles is pathologically suppressed but still visible. „*Neoselwynoceras paradoxum*“ is a *Texanites*. The left ventrolateral row of clavi moved towards the median line of the venter and substitutes the missing keel.

Zusammenfassung

Zwei Oberkreideammoniten von Madagaskar *Phlycticrioceras clarki* COLLIGNON 1966 und *Neoselwynoceras paradoxum* COLLIGNON 1966 sind pathologisch. „*Phlycticrioceras clarki*“ ist ein *Pseudoxybeloceras*. Eine von vier Knotenreihen ist pathologisch unterdrückt aber noch sichtbar. „*Neoselwynoceras paradoxum*“ ist ein *Texanites*. Die linke ventrolaterale Clavi-Reihe ist gegen die ventrale Medianlinie verschoben und ersetzt den fehlenden Kiel.

Two Upper Cretaceous ammonites from Madagascar described as new species, one as a new genus, by COLLIGNON in 1966 are pathological specimens. It is desirable that they should be removed from consideration for taxonomic or distributional purposes.

*Neoselwynoceras paradoxum* COLLIGNON (1966, p. 133, pl. 513, fig. 2072), refigured by WIEDMANN (1979 in HERM, KAUFFMAN & WIEDMANN, p. 45, pl. 8, figs. 8 B, C; text. figs. 7, 9), was based on a single specimen from the Upper Santonian Zone of *Pseudoschloenbachia umbulazi*. Reexamination shows that what was interpreted as a siphonal keel is situated slightly left of the median line (Plate 1, fig. 1) while the siphonal lobe of the suture is slightly to the right of the median line. There are four rows of tubercles on the left side of the shell; the fifth row, the outer ventrolateral clavi, has migrated almost to the median line of the venter.

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replacing the missing keel. The suture, as WIEDMANN recognised is typical to *Texanitinae*.

Thus *Neoselwynoceras* must be regarded as a synonym of *Texanites*. The species is in my opinion specifically unidentifiable and *paradoxum* should be treated as a *nomen dubium*. *Phlyctioceras clarki* COLLIGNON (1966, p. 83, pl. 489, fig. 1972) was also based on a single specimen from the Upper Santonian *Pseudoschloenbachia umbulazi* Zone. It was placed in *Phlyctioceras* because it appeared to have three ventral rows of tubercles, one on the median line. In fact the middle row is in some distance from the median line and there is a fourth row of nearly invisible tubercles on the middle of one flank.

The specimen seems to be a *Pseudoxybeloceras* with one of the four rows of tubercles pathologically reduced. It probably belongs to *P. (P.) quadrinodosum* (JIMBO 1894) or *P. (P.) amapondense* (van HOEPEN 1921).

Both these specimens are in the Collignon collection at the Centre des Sciences de la Terre, Université de Bourgogne, Dijon, France, the help of whose authorities I gratefully acknowledge. I also am deeply indebted to an unknown british (?) referee. Financial support was given by the IGCP.

#### References

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#### Explanation

##### Plate 1

Fig. 1: *Texanites* sp. indet. Coll. Collignon 2072 (Dijon). Ventral region exposing the displacement of the secondary "keel" and the siphonal lobe. × 1.

Fig. 2: *Texanites* sp. indet. Coll. Collignon 2072 (Dijon). View of the adapical end of the body chamber, showing the last suture. × 1.

Fig. 3: *Pseudoxybeloceras* sp. indet. Coll. Collignon 1972 (Dijon). View showing the existence of four rows of tubercles. × 1.

Fig. 4: *Pseudoxybeloceras* sp. indet. Coll. Collignon 1972 (Dijon). Lateral view showing the reduced row of lateral tubercles. × 1.