

**UPPER JAWS OF PLACENTICERATIDAE FROM THE KARST PLATEAU  
(UPPER CRETACEOUS, SLOVENIA)**

**Summesberger Herbert<sup>(1)</sup>, Jurkovsek Bogdan<sup>(2)</sup>, Kolar-Jurkovsek Tea<sup>(2)</sup>**

<sup>(1)</sup> Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, <sup>(2)</sup> Geological Survey of Slovenia, Ljubljana, Slovenia

The black laminated Tomaj Limestone (Campanian, Late Cretaceous) of the Trieste - Komen Plateau represents a short period of reducing conditions within rudistid dominated platform carbonates. Due to extraordinary preservation and careful collecting lower jaws and shells of Placenticeratidae from the villages Dobravlje and Kazlje were described by the authors in 1996, prints of non preserved softparts and a possible crop content in 1999. Two specimens which are interpreted as upper jaws are found separated from lower jaws and from shells. As there are no other ammonites recorded from the Tomaj limestone it is highly likely that also the upper jaws are belonging to Placenticeratidae of the *milleri-bidorsatum* group (1996). The better specimen preserved in a black substance is totally flattened. It shows a bilaterally symmetric beak-like structure with a faintly elongated tip. The flanks are spatulalike with a median ridge, apparently for stabilising and muscular attachment. The total length is about 12 mm, the width at the anterior part about 11 mm. Measurements are fitting to those given by the authors in 1996 for the lower jaws. The attempt to a reconstruction of the jaws of Placenticeratidae leads to a "horny" beak, the lower jaw strengthened by a thin layer of calciumcarbonate, the tips covered by a black shiny substance (? conchioline). Ammonite jaw apparatuses of this type are described from *Scalarites* (TANABE, HIRANO & KANIE 1980) and from *Damesites* (TANABE 1983).

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