

New data on the Berriasian Stage of the Crimea

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OTTO RETOWSKI (1893) described numerous ammonites *Hoplites occitanicus* (Pict.) from the Feodosia City region (Eastern Crimea), but their exact locality and stratigraphic position remained unknown. T.N. BOGDANOVA, E.D. KALACHEVA and I.I. SAY (1999) have been revised *Hoplites occitanicus* from the Retowski's collection. They described *Tirnovella occitanica* species and confirmed the presence of the *Occitanica* Zone in the Berriasian of Feodosia. Any attempt to find again *Tirnovella occitanica* in the Eastern Crimea was not successful. During the summer of 2016, E.YU. and E.E. BARABOSHKIN and A.Y. GUZHIKOV studied Berriasian section in "Zavodskaya Balka" quarry on the northern margin of Feodosia. As a result, the unknown part of the section was described. The studied section is of ~20 m in thickness of rhythmically alternated carbonate mudstones and muddy limestones, which are slightly deformed and shifted by faults. All rocks are intensively bioturbated (Bioturbation index=6) by *Chondrites*, *Planolites*, *Thalassinoides*, *Alcynidiopsis*, *Rhizocorallium* (BARABOSHKIN et al., 2016). It contains a number of ammonites, including large shells (D = 70-80 mm), which were identified as *Tirnovella occitanica*. The preservation style of these ammonites and their size suggest that *Hoplites occitanicus* were collected by O. RETOWSKI at the same locality in Feodosiya. The *Tirnovella occitanica* Zone assemblage contains also *Berriasella privasensis*, *Bochianites*, *Ptychophylloceras* and *Euphyllloceras*.

The section was characterized by oriented paleomagnetic samples from 21 levels. Magnetic properties of these samples are very similar to ones from the overlying *Boissieri* Zone (ARKADIEV et al., 2015; GUZHIKOV et al., 2014). The characteristic components of NRM of reversal polarity are of good quality in all studied samples. Unfortunately, the section contains unexposed interval of indeterminable thickness between *Occitanica* and *Boissieri* Zones. Despite of this, a large magnetic zone of reversal polarity can be confidently identified as an analog M17r magnetic Chron.

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