

Cretaceous fossils of Saxony, part 2 (Cenomanian-Coniacian Elbtal Group, Saxony, Germany)

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The fossiliferous lower Upper Cretaceous (Cenomanian to middle Coniacian) strata of the Elbtal Group of Saxony are a classical field of geoscientific research since the early 19th century but many fossil groups have not been revised since the early surveys. Thus, a modern revision has been initiated (monograph series “Kreide-Fossilien in Sachsen”). Part 2 (NIEBUHR & WILMSEN, 2016) deals with the following groups:

Cheilostome bryozoans (Silviu Martha, Birgit Niebuhr & Joachim Scholz): in the 19th century H.B. GEINITZ and A.E. REUSS altogether described 33 cheilostome bryozoans from the Upper Cenomanian and mid-Upper Turonian of Saxony, including 18 new species. The revision confirms 23 species. The genus *Hillmeropora* and five species are new. Scaphopoda (Birgit Niebuhr): four scaphopod species have been recorded which all belong to the genus *Dentalium*. Nautilids (Markus Wilmsen): eight nautilid species in four genera have been documented from the Upper Cenomanian to Upper Turonian. Representatives of the largely smooth-shelled genera *Eutrephoceras* and *Angulithes* predominantly occur in offshore Pläner and marl facies while ribbed forms of the genera *Cymatoceras* and *Deltocymatoceras* also have been recorded from nearshore sandy deposits. Crinoids (Birgit Niebuhr & Bruno Ferré): five crinoid genera are recorded – *Bourgueticrinus*, *Nielsenicrinus?*, *Glenotremites*, *Semiometra* and *Roveacrinus*. Roveacrinids have mass occurrences in the rocky shore facies of the Dölzschen Formation (upper Upper Cenomanian). Asteroids (Birgit Niebuhr & Ekbert Seibert): twelve sea-star species occur, five of which are known by completely preserved beautiful internal moulds from quader sandstones, overall representing the Astropectinidae, Stauranderasteridae, Goniasteridae and an inferred new family. *Manfredaster praeulbiferus* and *Calliderma lindneri* are described as new species; *Comptoniaster michaelisi* gets a new replacement name. Bony fishes (Martin Licht et al.): eight osteichthyan genera have been ascertained to occur in the Cretaceous of Saxony: the actinopterygians *Anomoeodus*, *Pycnodus* (Pycnodontiformes), *Ichthyodectes* (Ichthyodectiformes), *Osmeroides* (Elopiformes), *Pachyrhizodus* (incertae sedis), *Cimolichthys*, *Rhynchoderctis*, *Enchodus* (Aulopiformes) and *Hoplopteryx* (Beryciformes). These fishes occupied various trophic niches from durophagous to large fish predators. Reptiles (Sven Sachs et al.): reptilian fossils are rare. Remains from the Dölzschen Formation are fragmentary and cannot be safely identified. However, better-preserved material from the Strehlen and Weinböhl Limestone reveals the presence of at least two different plesiosaurian families (Elasmosauridae and ?Polycotylidae) as well as different marine turtles of the family Protostegidae. Ichnofossils (Birgit Niebuhr & Markus Wilmsen): the taxonomic revision of the trace fossils of the Elbtal Group of Saxony resulted in the recognition of 28 ichnotaxa which can be classified in simple, unbranched, branched, horizontal concentric and three-dimensionally coiled traces as well as traces defined by their filling, spreiten structures and coprolites. An ichnofacies zonation for the Elbtal Group is presented.

GEINITZ, H.B., 1871–1875. Palaeontographica, **20** (I), I.1–I.319.

GEINITZ, H.B., 1872–1875. Palaeontographica, **20** (II): I–VII, II.1–II.245.

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