TABULATE CORALS FROM THE TOURNAISIAN OF THE CRACOW AREA, POLAND

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Tabulate corals from the Tournaisian of the Cracow area are very rare and due to this they have been poorly recognised. There are only two papers about Tournaisian tabulate faunas.

The investigated material (10 incomplete coralla) comes from exposures located ca. 30 km northwest from Cracow, in the vicinity of Krzeszowice. Carbonate platform deposits occur there; most of them represent intertidal environments. Only one unit – the spiculitic limestone (Upper Tournaisian, G. cuneiformis Zone) represents intra-shelf deposits. This lithosome contains numerous fossils, including bryozoans, brachiopods, chetetids and corals (rugose and tabulate). A small assemblage of Tabulata has been recognised in these beds, including three taxa representing the Favositida: Michelinia tenuisepta (Philips), Roemeripora nowinskii Zapalski and Roemeripora sp., and two species representing the Syringoporida: Verolites polonicus Nowiński & Zapalski and Pleurosiphonella cf. virginica (Nelson).

The investigated fauna reveals some similarities with the fauna from Belgium and Transcaucasia described previously, it also contains, however, endemic elements.