

Pirenella moravica (M. HOERNES)
(Mollusca, Gastropoda) in the Eggenburgian
in South Moravia and Lower Austria

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The species *Cerithium moravicum* M. HOERNES was originally described by M. HOERNES (1856) from the Miocene strata at Znaim (Znojmo) in South Moravia, Czechoslovakia. The topotypes were collected by P. PARTSCH and later on by C. M. PAUL (1898) at the valley of the river Leska near the Steidl Porcellan factory in Znojmo. New researches during 1960–1990 proved the occurrence in the sandy, nearly and rhyolite tuffitic series of the Uppermost Eggenburgian in the boarder area of Znojmo. Besides this species was found in the same strata many localities and boreholes along the ancient crystalline coast of the Bohemian Massif from Znojmo to Brno.

From the Lower Austria the identical shells of *Pirenella moravica* occur in brackish strata underlying the lignitic coals at Langau–Riegersburg (ZAPFE 1953, STEININGER, RÖGL, HOCHULI, MULLER, 1989). These strata with an assemblage of brackish molluska (*Pirenella*, *Crassostrea*, *Polymesoda*) are correlatable with the Uppermost Eggenburgian in Moravia. The overlying coal deposits at Langau should be younger – Ottnangian – mainly on the paleofloristic data (HOCHULI, 1978).

The origin of the species should be possible to explain by genetic splitting from *Pirenella hornensis* (SCHAFFER) from the basal Eggenburgian at Mold-Dreieichen, or more probably by immigration during the peak transgression cycle of the Eggenburgian. In the case of the immigration from the Western Paratethys some *Pirenellae* species from the Rhône Basin and Atlantic bioprovince are coming in consideration.

The stratigraphically younger descendants, described in Paratethys as *Pirenella moravica* (from Ottnangian to Badenian) as the nominal species or different subspecies (e. g. *P. m. dionysii* or *P. m. variabilis*) have perhaps the weak genetic connection with the nominal species from the Eggenburgian.