

REVISION OF SILURIAN NAUTILOID CEPHALOPODS FROM THE CARNIC ALPS FROM VARIOUS MUSEUM COLLECTIONS

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Various projects are presently in progress on the Silurian Nautiloid fauna of the Carnic Alps the purpose of the investigations being to obtain as much data as possible (taxonomic, biostratigraphic, palaeoecologic and taphonomic) to contribute to a more extensive study of the Silurian Cephalopod biofacies with regard to the paleogeographical setting of the Carnic Alps during the Silurian. This biofacies has been traced along the northern Gondwana margin from the Montagne Noire, Sardinia, Carnic Alps, Bohemia and Siberia.

A detailed taxonomic and biostratigraphical study of the fauna based on newly collected material from this area within good stratigraphic constraints therefore is essential. However, it is also appropriate to redescribe the old collections under the new classification system based both on internal and external features thus avoiding incorrect citations of species distributions. Most of these collections consist of material collected during the original field mapping of the area in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.

M. Gortani and P. Vinassa de Regny were the main workers who described the Silurian fauna from the Italian Carnic Alps (1908, 1909, 1910, 1913). The nautiloid material contained in the collections of the University of Bologna where M. Gortani was Professor of Geology have been revised (Gnoli *et al.* in press) and additional material from the University of Pisa and Turin is here presented. Among the species and genera represented are *Plagiostomoceras*, *Hemicosmorthoceras*, *Leurocycloceras*, *Kionoceras*, *Murchisoniceras?*, *Michelinoceras*. Unfortunately exact locality and therefore stratigraphic data are sometimes missing.

References

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