



A new record of the Late Cretaceous cirripede *Eoverruca hewitti* (Verrucomorpha, Proverrucidae) from southern Poland

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Abstract

Isolated valves of proverrucid cirripedes (Thoracica, Verrucomorpha) from upper lower Campanian strata exposed at Jeżówka, near Wolbrom (southern Poland), are shown to be conspecific with the type (and sole) species of the genus *Eoverruca*, *E. hewitti* Withers, 1935. This species was first recorded from the upper Santonian (*Marsupites testudinarius* Zone, *Uintacrinus* Band in Withers's terminology) at East Harling, Norfolk and at Wattisfield, Suffolk (eastern England). To our knowledge, there have been no subsequent records of this taxon. In general, proverrucids are rare fossils, with but a handful of species known to date from the upper Turonian to upper Maastrichtian (and possibly lower Paleocene) of northwest Europe (Rügen, Germany; eastern England; the Liège-Limburg Basin in northeast Belgium and southeast Netherlands; present record from southern Poland). In part, this undoubtedly reflects collection failure; because of diminutive size, valves of *E. hewitti* have probably been frequently overlooked. In addition, the species may have had special ecological requirements, and thus be restricted to particular facies types. The present material originates almost exclusively from glauconite-rich levels just below a hardground, with none or very few other cirripede species associated.

Key words: Cirripedia, Verrucomorpha, Proverrucidae, *Eoverruca hewitti*, Campanian, Cretaceous, southern Poland, palaeoecology

Introduction

When erecting the genus *Eoverruca*, with type species *E. hewitti*, Withers (1935: 338) had 64 isolated valves from the 'Middle Senonian' of chalk pits at East Harling, near Thetford (Norfolk), and at Wattisfield, east of Bury St Edmunds (Norfolk, eastern England), at his disposal. On the basis of valve types recognised (carina, rostrum, fixed and movable scutum, fixed and movable tergum and lateral valves), he was able to reconstruct this genus (Withers, 1935: figs 37, 38), which he assigned to the Verrucidae Darwin, 1854. As noted by Withers (1935: 31–33), the genus, and sole species, was confined to the 'Middle Senonian'. It was characterised by having, 'at least two latera on one side, but the carina and rostrum are but slightly asymmetrical, and in this they are not so far removed from the pedunculate type as is *Proverruca*. On the other hand the fixed scutum and tergum have developed interlocking ribs, and in this it is in advance of *Proverruca*. All the valves have a remarkable resemblance to those of the primitive sessile form *Pycnolepas*, and they differ so much from *Proverruca* that it is evident that *Eoverruca* must have come from a different stock to that of *Proverruca*.' Withers