Rivista Italiana di Paleontologia e Stratigrafia
(*Research in Paleontology and Stratigraphy*)
vol. 123(3): 475-485. **November 2017**

A REAPPRAISAL OF THE ITALIAN RECORD OF THE CRETACEOUS PACHYCORMID FISH *PROTOSPHYRAENA* LEIDY, 1857

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SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

Calcareous nannofossil analysis of sample CDL 782

The sample was prepared from unprocessed material as smear slides and examined using a light microscope at 1250x magnification. A count of the calcareous nannofossil assemblage was carried out in a predetermined area of about 7-9 mm^2 (four vertical transects; modified after Gardin & Monechi, 1998). The results of the analysis are reported below.

The sample contains a few common calcareous nannofossils in a poor state of preservation, showing marked dissolution. The genus *Watznaueria* (a dissolution resistant taxon) is dominant in the calcareous nannofossil assemblage. In particular, the genus *Watznaueria* is represented by 91 specimens. The rest of the assemblage includes: *Braarudosphaera bigelowii* (1), *Cribrosphaerella ehrenbergii* (1), *Diloma galei* (1), *Discorhabdus* sp. (2), *Eiffellithus eximius* (2), *Eiffellithus turriseiffelii* (1), *Eiffellithus* sp. (1), ***Lithastrinus septenarius* (1),** *Lithraphidites carniolensis* (1), *Lucianorhabdus quadrifidus* (1+3cf.), *Quadrum gartneri* (3), *Prediscosphaera* sp. (4), *Retecapsa angustiforata* (8), *Tranolithus orionatus* (1+ 2cf.), *Zeugrhabdotus embergeri* (1), *Zeugrhabdotus* sp.(1).

Biozone and Age of Sample

The presence of ***Lithastrinus septenarius*** indicates the calcareous nannofossil Zones UC9-UC11 of Burnett (1999). The absence of *Micula staurophora* would permit us to further constrain the specimen to the UC9 Zone, however paleoenvironmental controls could have excluded *Micula staurophora*. Therefore, we prefer to assign the sample to Zones UC9-UC11 of Burnett (1999). On this basis, the age of CDL 782 corresponds to the late Turonian-Coniacian, and ranges from 76.82 Ma to 85.56 Ma according to Gradstein et al. (2012).

References

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