

AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REVIEW OF ORDOVICIAN ACRITARCHS

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(2 figures & 1 table)

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ABSTRACT. The present work is an attempt to compile all bibliographic references concerning acritarchs described in the Ordovician System. It contains nearly 700 references, including books, publications, unpublished Ph.D. theses, manuscripts, and abstracts from international conferences. The survey of the literature gives a synthesis on the stratigraphical and regional distribution of Ordovician acritarchs known to the present day. Most articles have been published regarding localities in Europe, followed by North America and North Africa. Data from other parts of the world remain patchy. Over 250 acritarch genera are used in the Ordovician, the number of species remains unknown, but probably exceeds 2000.

KEYWORDS: Ordovician, acritarchs.

RESUME. **Index bibliographique annoté des acritarches de l'Ordovicien.** Le présent travail est une tentative de compilation de toutes les références bibliographiques relatives aux acritarches décrits dans les séries de l'Ordovicien. Il contient presque 700 références de livres, d'articles scientifiques, de thèses de doctorat inédites, de manuscrits et de résumés de conférences internationales. Ce recensement de la littérature est accompagné d'une synthèse de la distribution stratigraphique et régionale des acritarches de l'Ordovicien connus à ce jour. Les publications les plus nombreuses concernent des localités d'Europe. Viennent ensuite l'Amérique du Nord et l'Afrique du Nord. Les données des autres parties du monde restent sporadiques. Plus de 250 genres d'acritarches ont été utilisés dans l'Ordovicien. Le nombre d'espèces reste inconnu. Il dépasse probablement 2000.

MOTS-CLES: Ordovicien, acritarches.

ZUSAMMENFASSUNG. **Bibliographischer Index der ordovizischen Acritarchen.** Die vorliegende Arbeit ist ein Versuch der Zusammenstellung aller bibliographischer Daten der ordovizischen Acritarchen. Sie enthält nahezu 700 Referenzen, darunter Bücher, wissenschaftliche Publikationen, unveröffentlichte Doktorarbeiten, Manuskripte und Abstrakte internationaler Tagungen. Der Literaturüberblick gibt eine Synthese der stratigraphischen und regionalen Verbreitung der ordovizischen Acritarchen bis zum heutigen Tag. Die meiste Literatur betrifft europäische Lokalitäten, gefolgt von Nordamerika und Nordafrika. Daten aus anderen Teilen der Welt bleiben sporadisch. Über 250 Acritarchengattungen werden im Ordovizium benutzt, die Zahl der Arten bleibt unbekannt. Sie übertrifft wahrscheinlich 2000.

SCHLÜSSELWÖRTER: Ordovizium, Acritarchen.

1. INTRODUCTION

Acritarchs are diverse and abundant in marine sediments of late Precambrian and Palaeozoic age. They appear in the upper Proterozoic and are the dominant group of palynomorphs in many Lower Palaeozoic rocks where they are widely used for biostratigraphical purposes.

Compared to other biostratigraphically important Ordovician fossil groups, such as trilobites, conodonts, and graptolites, the research on acritarchs is relatively young. The first papers were published in the early 1930's, but the number and importance of publications increased only with the development of the oil industry at the end of the 1950's. Nevertheless, the amount of published data is today so high that it is very difficult, if not impossible, to survey all acritarch literature. The continuous creation of 'new' species and genera, which are unequivocally a redescription of previously erected taxa, is without doubt one of the consequences of the insurmountable amount of published data.

1.1. PREVIOUS BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REVIEWS

To the present a complete acritarch bibliography has not been published. We do not know how many acritarch publications exist. The number of acritarch taxa and species can also be estimated only.

Thirty years ago, Downie & Sarjeant (1964) compiled an annotated bibliography of dinoflagellates and acritarchs, including an index to formations from which these microfossils have been described and an index to the names of taxa erected for both groups. Fifteen years later, Cramer & Diez (1979) summarized in their important survey paper "Lower Palaeozoic acritarchs" the taxonomy, stratigraphy and regional distribution of Early Cambrian to Devonian acritarchs in a review of literature available by mid-1979. They added some 280 acritarch references to Downie & Sarjeant's (1964) list.

The acritarch catalogues of Eisenack *et al.* (1973, 1976, 1979a, 1979b) contained the description of 1217 selected species of acritarchs, tasmanitids and leiospheres distributed in 201 genera. This catalogue series gave an idea of the number of forms described up to the end of the 1970's. Not complete, it was nevertheless very useful and presented a good overview on acritarch research.

More recently, Fensome *et al.* (1990, 1991) published their index to acritarch and prasinophyte

taxa. This index is very helpful because it gives a clear view on (nearly all) acritarch taxa described by the end of the 1980's. It was compiled by using a data base which was initiated in the 1960's by a consortium of oil companies. At the time of publication of the index, this data base contained over 15,000 pre-Quaternary palynological publications. The reference list in Fensome *et al.* (1990) includes only the publications which contain the description of new taxa and/or taxonomical changes. However, for a comprehensive study of the palaeogeographical distribution and the stratigraphical range of each individual acritarch taxa, all references are needed. Therefore, the compilation of a complete bibliography appears necessary.

1.2. AN ORDOVICIAN ACRITARCH INDEX

Tappan & Loeblich (1973) reviewed several fossil groups of the oceanic plankton and figured the acritarch species diversity totalled by geological periods. According to their study, the Ordovician is the period providing the greatest number of acritarch species. In the Cambrian about 150 species were numbered, over 400 acritarch species were described in the Ordovician, over 200 in the Silurian, and over 300 in the Devonian (Tappan & Loeblich, 1973).

Today, twenty years later, the amount of publications, genera, and species is much higher. The present work is an attempt to compile all references concerning acritarchs described in the Ordovician System. It contains nearly 700 references. However, it is certainly not complete. Over 250 acritarch genera are used in the Ordovician (see 2.4.). The number of species remains unknown, but probably exceeds 2000.

The 700 references of the present bibliographical review include books, publications, unpublished Ph.D. theses, manuscripts, and abstracts from international conferences. Some general papers on acritarchs, which do not deal specifically with Ordovician taxa, are also included. Other papers which contain recycled Ordovician acritarchs in younger sediments are also cited.

A series of problems occurred during the compilation of the present review. Not all publications were available prior to publication of this review. Some citations have simply been copied from the reference lists in other publications. Therefore, the references in the present work are not always complete and/or correctly cited, and not always presented in the same style.

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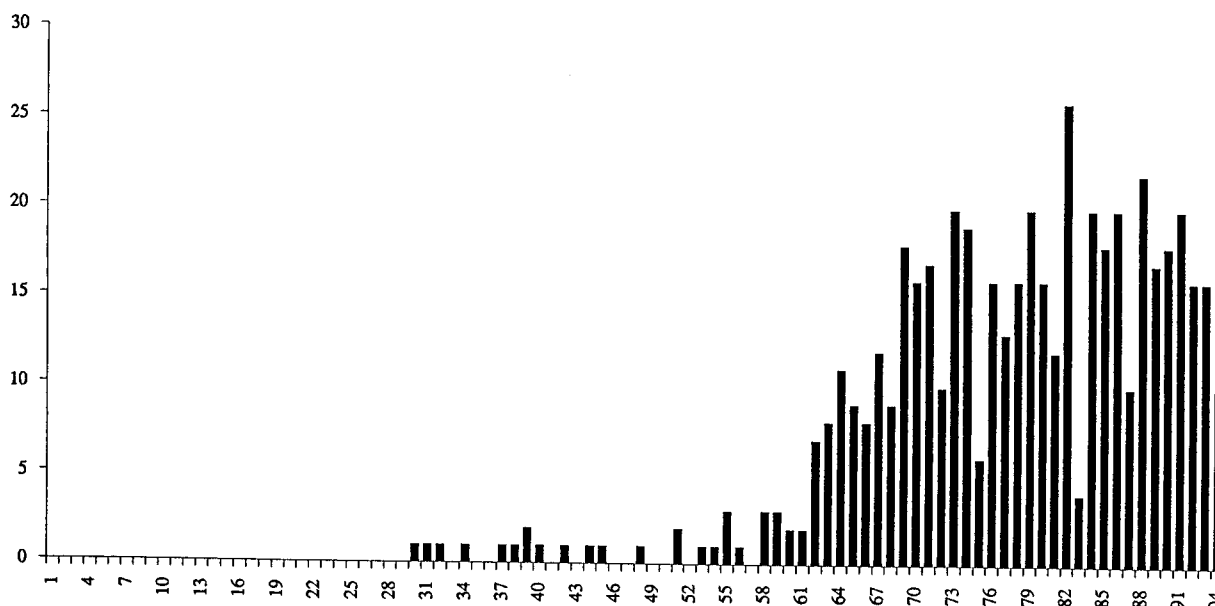


Figure 1. Diagram to show the rate of publication (between 1901 and 1994) of 511 articles concerning Ordovician acritarchs. The literature from the former Soviet Union (about 50 references) is not included.

The literature from the former Soviet Union presents considerable difficulties. As also mentioned in the index by Fensome *et al.* (1990), complete citations are not available for numerous Russian papers. Furthermore, only few papers are translated or contain English summaries. Therefore, the access to these data is difficult. In the present reference list probably only a minor part of Russian literature is cited.

2. SURVEY OF ORDOVICIAN ACRITARCH LITERATURE

2.1. INTRODUCTION - GENERAL PAPERS

Only few survey papers on acritarchs exist. They are cited here because they allow a good overview of the group and they may be of great help to become acquainted with these microfossils.

For the original definition of the "group Acritarcha", the reader is referred to Evitt (1963b). Other definitions are given in Downie *et al.* (1963) and more recently in Fensome *et al.* (1990).

The most recent, important review of the acritarch group is that of Martin (1993). This paper first explains what acritarchs are, and how to find and recognize them. It examines more closely their biological affinities, their life-style, their palaeoecology, and their evolution through geological time, from the Precambrian to the present.

Other important reviews, which give a good overview of the group, are those of Tappan (1980) and Mendelson (1993). A further review by Strother (1996) is published in the A.A.S.P. 25th anniversary publication "Palynology: principles and applications". The important indexes of Downie & Sarjeant (1964), Cramer & Diez (1979), and Fensome *et al.* (1990, 1991) and the catalogue series of Eisenack *et al.* (1973, 1976, 1979a, 1979b) have already been mentioned in the previous paragraph (see 1.1.). Another general paper is Downie's (1984) review of British acritarchs, which contains a good general introduction to acritarch research. Downie (1984) illustrated by line drawings and range charts some 400 of the most important and common species present in British Cambrian to Devonian sections. Short notes and a few line drawings are also given for Precambrian, Carboniferous, Permian, and Mesozoic acritarchs.

The range charts indicated in Downie (1984), as those published in Diez & Cramer (1974, 1977), should be regarded very critically, however. In fact, none of these ranges is precise, because the knowledge of the exact stratigraphical range and geographical distribution of most taxa remains poor. Only a systematic and rigorous revision of acritarch taxonomy, combined with the biostratigraphical control of all occurrences at a world-wide scale, would lead to a better knowledge of the stratigraphical range and geographical distribution of acritarch taxa.

Acritarchs have sometimes made the impossible possible by giving an age for sediments which were considered to be devoid of fossils. This is the reason why most of the articles on Ordovician acritarchs are rather small contributions, essentially focused on the biostratigraphical application of these microfossils. Monographs including a detailed contribution to acritarch systematics are rare. Few investigations have been coupled with research on other fossil groups, such as graptolites or trilobites, from the same samples or sections.

Studies on the palaeoenvironment of the acritarchs are also very rare in the Ordovician. Only two papers have been published: Jacobson (1979) and Wright & Meyers (1981).

Important parts of research on Ordovician acritarchs remain unpublished, such as the results of investigations which are the property of oil companies. The most important data are generally concentrated in Ph.D. and doctoral theses, but these works also remain partly unpublished. Therefore, the following paragraph surveys the Ph.D. and doctoral studies focused on the study of Ordovician acritarchs.

2.2. PH.D. AND DOCTORAL STUDIES

30 Ph.D. or doctoral theses, which are listed in the present index, were concentrated on the research on Ordovician acritarchs. They constitute the most important basis of the present knowledge on the systematics, the stratigraphical ranges, and regional distributions.

Unfortunately, not all results of these investigations are published. Of the 30 theses listed here, 26 were presented at European Universities, three at North American Universities and one in China.

2.2.1. England

The University of Sheffield, England, can be considered as the most prolific research institution of Lower Palaeozoic acritarchs. Under the supervision of Charles Downie, four Ph.D. studies were focused on the Ordovician.

Rasul (1971) investigated the Tremadocian of the Shineton Shales, Shropshire, Welsh Borderland. He published his results in a series of smaller papers reviewing the systematics of some taxa (Rasul, 1974, 1976, 1977) and presenting a zonation based on the most important species (Rasul & Downie, 1974;

Rasul, 1979).

Booth (1979) investigated acritarch assemblages from Arenigian and Llanvirnian sections in north Wales, Shropshire, and the Lake District. His taxonomical (three new genera, seven new species) and biostratigraphical results (five microfloral zones in the British Arenigian-Llanvirnian) remain unpublished.

The results of Molyneux's (1981) micropalaeontological investigations in the Manx Group, Isle of Man, are summarized in a short paper (Molyneux, 1979).

The results of the Ph.D. study of Turner (1979), focused on the acritarchs of the type-Caradocian in the Welsh Borderland, are published in a monograph (Turner, 1984) and three smaller articles (Turner, 1980, 1982, 1985).

Another British Ph.D. study is that of Al-Ameri (1980) who investigated Late Ordovician and Silurian strata from Libya at Kings College, London.

2.2.2. France

The first French thesis ("thèse de troisième cycle") on Ordovician acritarchs was presented at the University of Rennes in June 1967 by Henry. The results of this work concerning Ordovician acritarchs and chitinozoans from the Crozon Peninsula, western Brittany, was published in a large paper (Henry, 1969). At the same institution, Paris (1971) presented a geological study of the area around Menez-Belair, Brittany, including the description of a few Ordovician acritarchs.

Rauscher (1974a) was the first to study the French Ordovician and Silurian sections in detail, investigating acritarchs and chitinozoans from the Ordovician of the Montagne Noire, Normandy, and of the Aquitaine. Cocchio (1981) investigated Ordovician acritarchs from Southern France (Montagne Noire and Pyrenees). These two theses have been published completely.

Elaouad-Debbaj (1981) presented two theses at Rennes University. The first ("thèse de troisième cycle") concerned Ordovician acritarchs from Portugal. In a second thesis ("thèse d'état"), she (1987) investigated Moroccan Ordovician acritarchs and chitinozoans. This work is published in a series of papers (Elaouad-Debbaj, 1984, 1988a, 1988b).

Le Herrise's (1988) research was concentrated on the Silurian of Gotland, Sweden. It also included investigations on acritarchs of the Late Ordovician which are not yet published.

Oulebsir (Rennes, 1992) presented his results of the Algerian Ordovician at Rennes University. Rahmani-Antari (1995) recently defended her investigations on Lower Palaeozoic palynomorphs from Morocco at the University Paris VI.

2.2.3. Belgium

Three theses on Lower Palaeozoic acritarchs have been presented in Belgium. Martin (1968) investigated Ordovician and Silurian sequences in the Brabant Massif and the Condroz Ridge. Vanguetaine (1973) studied the Cambrian and Lower Ordovician of the Ardennes, including the French part of the Rocroi and Givonne Massifs. Servais (1993b) reviewed the biostratigraphy and the systematics of some Ordovician formations of these areas and extended his research to the East into the Rhenish Massif (W-Germany) and the Island of Rügen (NE-Germany).

2.2.4. Germany

Wolf (1980c) investigated Early Ordovician acritarchs from Spain in his doctoral thesis. The results are summarized in two papers (Wolf, 1980a, 1980b). Welsch published the results of his investigations on the Middle Cambrian to Tremadocian acritarchs from North Norway in a monographical paper (Welsch, 1986). Mette (1987) investigated Late Cambrian and Early Ordovician acritarchs from the Sierra Morena, SW-Spain for his Diplom-thesis and published the results in a single paper (Mette, 1989). Eiserhardt (1991a) presented his doctoral thesis as a compilation of publications of numerous smaller papers (Eiserhardt, 1989a, 1989b, 1991b, 1991c) and a monograph (Eiserhardt, 1992) on the Late Ordovician acritarchs from the Öjlemyrflint erratics.

In Eastern Germany, Heuse (1990) investigated the Late Precambrian to Ordovician sequence of the Schwarzburg-Anticline, Thuringia, describing Early (Tremadocian and Arenigian) and Late Ordovician (Ashgillian) assemblages. Sehnert (1991a) reinvestigated the Wippra Unit of the Harz Mountains, where she studied Ordovician to Lower Devonian palynomorphs.

2.2.5. Italy and Spain

At Pisa University, Italy, Di Milia (1988) presented her results on the Cambro-Ordovician Solanas Sandstone, which are published in numerous smaller papers (Tongiorgi *et al.*, 1982a, 1982b, 1984; Albani *et al.*, 1985, 1992; Albani, 1989; Di Milia & Tongiorgi, 1991, 1992, 1993; Di Milia *et al.*, 1993). Ribecai (Pisa, 1988) presented a graduate thesis ("Tesi di Laurea") at the same institute on Late Cambrian and Tremadocian acritarchs from Öland, Sweden. The results of this thesis concerning the Ordovician assemblages are presented in a short paper (Tongiorgi & Ribecai, 1990).

In Spain, Fombella-Blanco (1979b) investigated the Cambro-Ordovician Oville Formation. The results of this thesis and further studies on the same assemblages are published in a series of smaller papers (Fombella, 1978, 1979a; Fombella-Blanco, 1982, 1984, 1986; Fombella-Blanco *et al.*, 1992; Fombella Santos & Cachan Santos, 1992).

2.2.6. United States and Canada

In the United States, Jacobson (1978b) investigated Middle and Upper Ordovician acritarch assemblages in New York State and the Cincinnati region in Ohio and Kentucky. He published his results in two abstracts (Jacobson, 1977a, 1977b) and one paper (Jacobson, 1978a). Colbath's Ph.D. study (1983) on the palaeoecology on palynomorphs from the Upper Ordovician-Lower Silurian of the southern Appalachians, U.S.A., are summarized in a short paper (Colbath, 1989).

In Canada, Duffield (1982) presented her research on Late Ordovician-Early Silurian acritarch biostratigraphy and taxonomy from Anticosti Island, Québec, of which the results are published in two papers (Duffield & Legault, 1981; Duffield & Legault, 1982).

2.2.7. China

The only Ph.D. thesis on Ordovician acritarchs from Asia known to the author of the present review is that of Li Jun (1991) on Early Ordovician acritarchs from SW-China. This research in collaboration with the University in Sheffield is published in four papers (Li Jun, 1987; Li Jun, 1989; Li Jun, 1990a; Li Jun, 1990b).

2.3. A REVIEW ON ORDOVICIAN ACRITARCH LITERATURE

Fig. 1 shows the rates of publication (between 1901 and 1994) of 511 articles concerning Ordovician acritarchs. The literature from the former Soviet Union (about 50 references), the Ph.D. or doctoral theses (30) and the abstracts (about 95) are not included. The first articles were published in the 1930's and 1940's. The publication rate increased in the 1950's and especially in the 1960's. Since the end of the 1960's, between 15 to 20 papers are published per year.

The first publications on Ordovician acritarchs are those from Eisenack in the 1930's. Eisenack's (1930 *et seq.*) research was focused on assemblages from Bohemia, the Baltic area and Germany. In the 1940's, Deflandre (1942 *et seq.*) began his investigations on material from France. Other pioneers in the study of Ordovician acritarchs started their research in the 1950's: Deunff (1951 *et seq.*) on material from Brittany, France; Downie (1958 *et seq.*) on British sections; and Timofeev (1958 *et seq.*) on assemblages from the Soviet Union.

Deunff, Downie and Eisenack are also the authors with the highest number of publications on Ordovician acritarchs. They are followed by Burmann (1965 *et seq.*), who investigated assemblages from the former G.D.R. (eastern Germany); Kalvacheva (1969 *et seq.*) who studied the Bulgarian Ordovician; Martin (1966 *et seq.*), who published detailed taxonomical studies on assemblages from Belgium, France, Canada, Australia, China, etc.; Molyneux (1979 *et seq.*), who published the most recent results from England and Wales; and Vavrdová (1965 *et seq.*), who investigated some Bohemian assemblages during the last 30 years.

In this section, the Ordovician acritarch literature is overviewed on a world-wide scale. The present survey is based on the articles, books, and abstracts published by the end of 1994 which are available to the author. Papers which are in preparation or in press are not considered.

The survey is divided into geographical areas. It begins with the European countries, of which the literature is the most abundant. Then, it summarizes investigations in the former Soviet Union, North Africa, and North America, before listing the data of the other parts of the world.

2.3.1. Western European acritarch literature

a) United Kingdom

About 50 papers and 15 abstracts deal with Ordovician acritarchs from the British Isles. They cover the whole Ordovician, from the Tremadocian to the Ashgillian. Numerous outcrops and boreholes from England, Wales, and Scotland have been investigated. The reader is referred to Downie (1984) and Molyneux (1990) for an overview of the British data. Preservation of Ordovician palynomorphs is generally poor. Only the sequences of Shropshire, in the Welsh Borderland, show a good preservation.

The Tremadoc and Arenig Series are the most extensively studied in Britain. Rasul (1979) established eight informal biozones in the Tremadocian of the Shineton Shales, Shropshire. The Tremadocian/Arenigian boundary beds bear a distinctive acritarch assemblage, named the *trifidum*-flora (Fortey *et al.*, 1991). A succession of eight acritarch assemblages has been described by Molyneux (1987) in the Arenigian of South Wales. The Arenigian of the Skiddaw Group may also yield an acritarch biostratigraphy so that a formal definition of acritarch biozones may soon be possible in the British Tremadocian-Arenigian (Molyneux, 1990).

Data from the Llanvirnian and Llandeilian are poor. While investigations on the Llanvirnian are inadequately documented and partly unpublished (e.g. Booth, 1979), the only good results from the Llandeilian are those from the type area investigated by Turner (1984).

The type-Caradocian was described in detail by Turner (1985). Acritarch biozones have not yet been defined, however. Data on the Ashgillian are very rare. However, preliminary results indicate a biostratigraphical potential that is worth developing (Molyneux, 1990; Barron & Molyneux, 1992).

A few papers concern Ordovician acritarchs which are reworked in younger sediments (e.g. Richardson & Rasul, 1978a; Richardson & Rasul, 1978b; Richardson & Rasul, 1978c; Edwards *et al.*, 1978; Thomas, 1978; McLean, 1990; McLean, 1991). Recycled Ordovician acritarchs have even been used as provenance indicators (e.g. McCaffrey *et al.*, 1992).

b) Ireland

About 10 papers concern the research on Ordovician acritarchs from Ireland. A first short report of few specimens was published by Downie & Tremlett (1968). The following publications were also rather small. For a summary of investigations in the Irish Ordovician, the reader is referred to the survey paper of Smith (1981). Recycled Ordovician acritarchs have been recorded in Carboniferous sediments of subsurface material in County Clare (Clayton *et al.*, 1980).

c) France

After the United Kingdom, France is the country with the most abundant literature on Ordovician acritarchs. About 40 papers are published. The most important part, nearly 20 publications, concerns the Ordovician sequences from Brittany, which were extensively studied by workers from the Universities of Rennes and Brest. The reader is referred to Paris & Le Hérisse (1992) for a good overview on the Paleozoic of Western Brittany including a complete compilation of references on organic-walled microfossils of the Armorican Palaeozoic.

Another series of publications concerns the Ordovician of the Montagne Noire, S-France. Deflandre (1942, 1945) started investigations in this area. In the 1970's, Rauscher (1971, 1974a), Martin (1973), Fournier-Vinas & Donnot (1977), and Fournier-Vinas (1978) investigated in more detail assemblages of the Ordovician of the Montagne Noire sections.

The Massif de Mouthoumet, in the Pyrenees, was the subject of the research of Baudelot & Bessière (1975, 1977) and Cocchio (1981, 1982). Baudelot *et al.* (1976) recorded Ordovician acritarchs from Corsica. Further smaller publications include that from Baudelot & Fournier-Vinas (1984) on the Palaeozoic boreholes of the Aquitaine, SW-France, those from Deflandre & Ters (1966) and Ters & Deflandre (1966) on the Cambro-Ordovician of the Vendée department (W-France), and the paper of Reitz & Wickert (1990) on the Cambro-Ordovician from the Northern Vosges Mountains (E-France).

None of the papers on French Ordovician acritarchs includes biozonations, even at a local scale. Most publications are very small and announce the discovery of acritarchs providing Ordovician age evidence. Preservation is generally moderate to poor.

The most detailed study to which the reader may be referred is still the thesis of Rauscher (1974a).

d) Belgium

Ordovician sediments in Belgium are present in the Brabant Massif, the Condruz Ridge (Bande de Sambre-et-Meuse), and the Ardennes. Preservation of palynomorphs is moderate to very poor. Some of the assemblages are very diverse, however.

Martin (1966, 1967, 1969a, 1969b, 1969c, 1969d, 1974, 1977a; Martin *et al.*, 1970; Martin & Rickards, 1979) first investigated the acritarchs from the Ordovician and Silurian from the Brabant Massif and the Condruz Ridge. Vanguetaine started investigations in the Cambro-Ordovician of the Ardennes, including the southernmost part of the Rocroi Massif in northern France (Vanguetaine, 1974). He also described recycled Ordovician acritarchs in Early Devonian sediments of Belgium (Vanguetaine, 1979; Roche *et al.*, 1986; Steemans, 1989).

Numerous publications have been published since that time, describing Tremadocian, late Arenigian to Llandeilian and Late Ordovician assemblages, of which the exact age is generally not documented by other fossils. For a review of the Belgian Ordovician, including acritarch occurrences, the reader is referred to Servais *et al.* (1993).

e) Germany

The first paper on Ordovician acritarchs from Germany is that of Eisenack (1939) on a poorly preserved assemblage from the Rhenish Massif (Rheinisches Schiefergebirge). 50 years later, this area was reinvestigated by Maletz & Servais (1993), who described assemblages of early Llanvirnian age from the two lowermost formations of the Herscheider Schichten of the Ebbe Anticline.

The most important contribution on German acritarchs is the research in the 1960's and 1970's of Burmann. She investigated Ordovician sediments of the former G.D.R. from the Harz Mountains (e.g. Burmann, 1973d, 1973e, 1973f), the Vogtland area, SE-Germany, and from the Island of Rügen, NE-Germany (e.g. Burmann, 1968, 1970, 1976). Except for the Rügen material, all palynomorphs in Burmann's assemblages are completely fragmented ("mosaikzerlegt") and, therefore, can only be observed in thin sections (e.g. Burmann, 1965, 1969). The

exact localisations and the precise ages of Burmann's samples, which provided the types of some very important Ordovician acritarch taxa, remain unknown to the present day, unfortunately. The type-materials have not been accessible to subsequent workers.

Today, numerous Ordovician sediments of Germany have been investigated. The material is generally poorly preserved. Some of the areas which were studied by Burmann in the 1960's and early 1970's have been reinvestigated. Sehnert (1991a, 1991b) reexamined sections of the Wippra Unit in the Harz Mountains. The Ordovician of Rügen was reinvestigated by Servais and Eiserhardt (Servais & Katzung, 1993; Servais, 1994; Eiserhardt & Servais, 1993, 1994). Heuse's investigations are focused on the Schwartzburg Anticline, Thuringia, E-Germany (Heuse, 1989; Estrada *et al.*, 1994; Heuse *et al.*, 1994a, 1994b; Reitz & Heuse, 1994) and Saxony, E-Germany (Heuse, 1994; Linnemann *et al.*, 1988). Reitz (1991) published a lower Tremadocian assemblage from Bavaria. Paalits & Erdtmann (1993a) reported Ordovician acritarchs of the Görlitz Synclinorium, Saxony. Hammann *et al.* (1989) indicated reworked Ordovician acritarchs in the Lower Devonian of Bavaria.

The study of erratic boulders has a long tradition in Germany. Most of the erratics found in northern Germany come from Scandinavia, for example those found in Lower Saxony and Schleswig-Holstein which come from Öjle Myr (Gotland, Sweden). Such erratics have been the subject of extensive palaeontological research. They have also been treated by acritarch workers, such as Eisenack (e.g. 1944, 1965, 1968a) and Eiserhardt (e.g. 1992).

2.3.2. Central and Eastern European acritarch literature

a) Austria

Four small papers have been published to announce the discovery of Lower Ordovician acritarchs in the Eastern Alps in Austria (Reitz & Höll, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992). All these assemblages are poorly preserved and only briefly described. Reitz & Höll (1989) first published a Tremadocian assemblage from the Untere Wildschönauer Schiefer, which constituted the first evidence for sediments of this age in the Northern Greywacke Zone. Reitz & Höll (1990) attributed another assemblage from the Innsbruck Quartzphyllite Group to the Tremadocian. The acritarchs in Reitz & Höll (1991) from the

Untere Wildschönauer Schiefer were assigned to the Arenigian. Finally, Reitz & Höll (1992) republished and reillustrated some of the acritarchs which were figured in previous papers (Reitz & Höll, 1989, 1991).

b) Bohemia, Czech Republic

For a general understanding of the Czech Ordovician, the reader is referred to Havlicek & Fatka (1992) and Storch *et al.* (1993).

First descriptions of Bohemian Lower Palaeozoic acritarchs are included in some papers of Eisenack (e.g. 1934, 1948). The most extensive research in the Prague Basin in Bohemia, however, was by Vavrdová (1965 *et seq.*). The results of this study are published in over 20 small papers. Vavrdová's studies were focused on the Klabava and the Sarka formations, which were attributed to the Arenigian and the Llanvirnian, respectively. Other levels of the Ordovician sequence of the Prague Basin were also investigated. Some of the acritarch assemblages are well preserved and show a very high diversity. Vavrdová erected numerous new species and genera, which later were recorded from localities all around the world and became of great importance. Most of these taxa have been described from selected levels from few localities, such as "U Starého hradu" close to the hamlet of Klabava near Rokycany and the "Gabriela" mine at Krusna Hora near Beroun. Unfortunately, precise biostratigraphical information on the investigated samples from the Arenigian-Llanvirnian interval in the Prague Basin is not given in Vavrdová's (1965-1993) papers. Therefore, the succession of the described acritarch assemblages published in Vavrdová (1977, 1978, 1986, 1993) remains unclear, making international correlations difficult. Vavrdová (1982a, 1988, 1989) also described assemblages from the Late Ordovician which contain acritarchs which she considered as recycled from the Cambrian and lower parts of the Ordovician.

Other publications on Czech acritarchs are those from Corna (1969, 1970) and Konzalova-Mazancova (1969). More recent studies are those from Fatka and Dufka, who combine acritarch and chitinozoan data with new results on macrofossils, especially graptolites. Fatka (1993) described acritarchs and chitinozoans from the Tremadocian/Arenigian boundary in the Prague Basin. In Fatka *et al.* (1994), new investigations and recent international correlations of the Bohemian graptolite horizons place

the Arenigian/Llanvirnian boundary, i.e. the succession of the Klabava and Sarka formations, in a new light. Dufka & Fatka (1993) described chitinozoans and acritarchs from the Ordovician-Silurian boundary in Bohemia.

c) Poland

The first report on acritarchs from Poland was the paper of Michniak (1959) on palynological investigations in sediments of the Holy Cross Mountains. Further publications on Ordovician acritarchs of this area are those of Jagielska (1962a, 1962b) and Gorka (1967). The latter author also published the most important paper on Polish Ordovician acritarchs (Gorka, 1969). It included a detailed description of assemblages from different parts of Poland from levels of late Tremadocian to late Ashgillian age. Gorka (1969) investigated samples from outcrops of the Kielce area, Holy Cross Mountains, from several boreholes in NE-Poland (East European Platform), and from erratics collected from different localities. The acritarchs from the Middle Ordovician of the boreholes Olsztyn and Strabla (NE-Poland) are described in Gorka (1979) and Gorka (1980), respectively.

The most recent study is that of Stempień (1990). She reinvestigated Ordovician and Silurian sections from the Holy Cross Mountains. While the preservation of the acritarchs of this latter area is generally moderate, those from the western rim of the East European Platform, investigated by Gorka (1969, 1979, 1980) are very well preserved.

d) Hungary

A single paper is published on Hungarian acritarchs of Ordovician age. Albani *et al.* (1985b), following the unpublished report of Bona (1972), recorded poorly preserved acritarchs from the Szabadbattyán borehole in the Bakony Mountains. The assemblage was interpreted as demonstrating a late Arenigian age.

e) Rumania

Very few data are published on Ordovician acritarchs from Rumania. The only papers are those of Beju (1964, 1971, 1972, 1973), who published lists of Ordovician acritarchs of the Moesic Platform.

f) Bulgaria

Kalvacheva (1969-1990) published over 20 papers on a few, very poorly preserved Ordovician acritarch assemblages from Bulgaria. For a summary of her research, the reader is referred to Kalvacheva (1986a). According to this latter study, the Diabase-Phyllitoid Complex and the lowermost part of the Rebrovo Complex (W-Bulgaria) can be attributed to the Arenigian on grounds of acritarch findings, the upper part of the Rebrovo complex bears late Llanvirnian macrofossils and Middle Ordovician acritarchs, while the Cerecel Formation provided Caradocian acritarchs.

More recent investigations on Late Ordovician to Llandoveryan acritarchs from SE-Bulgaria are published in Lakova (1992) and Lakova *et al.* (1992).

2.3.3. Southern European acritarch literature

a) Italy

Numerous small papers have been published to describe Ordovician acritarchs from Italy. The constituents of these assemblages are generally poorly preserved. They were partly described from thin sections only.

The most important part of the publications concerns the Cambro-Ordovician of Sardinia. The Solanas Sandstone of Upper Cambrian to Arenigian age (SW-Sardinia) was extensively studied by workers of Pisa University (Albani, 1989; Albani *et al.*, 1985b, 1992; Di Milia, 1988; Di Milia & Tongiorgi, 1991, 1992, 1993; Di Milia *et al.*, 1993; Tongiorgi *et al.*, 1982a, 1982b, 1984).

A group of workers from Cagliari University focused their acritarch studies on other Sardinian sequences. Their results are published in numerous papers. First, Barca *et al.* (1981) reported upper Tremadocian-basal Arenigian acritarchs from the "Postgotlandiano" sequence of SW-Sardinia. In a subsequent paper, Barca *et al.* (1984) examined Tremadocian acritarchs from the upper part of the Bruncu Maresusus Unit of central Sardinia. Pittau (1985) published a detailed study on the Tremadocian acritarchs of the Arburese Unit (SW-Sardinia). Barca *et al.* (1987) indicated that the uppermost levels of the Cabitza Formation (SW-Sardinia) contains also Tremadocian acritarchs. Finally, new findings of acritarchs in the San Vito Sandstone provided a more precise dating of this unit, which yielded amongst

Middle and Upper Cambrian acritarchs also a Tremadocian assemblage (Barca *et al.*, 1989). Other publications in this area are those of Pittau Demelia & Del Rio (1982), Pittau & Del Rio (1983), and Naud & Pittau Demelia (1985).

A French group of workers from Toulouse University published their acritarch studies in Italy in three short papers. Majesté-Menjoulas *et al.* (1986) dated Cambro-Ordovician sediments of the Peloritani Mountains in Sicily. Boullin *et al.* (1984, 1987) investigated sediments in Calabria (S-Italy), which were attributed to the Cambro-Ordovician. These sediments were placed in relationship with some coeval formations of SW-Sardinia.

Another study in NE-Italy concerned Early Palaeozoic acritarch datings in the basement of the eastern part of the Alpine Belt (Sassi *et al.*, 1984a; Sassi *et al.*, 1984b; Sassi *et al.*, 1984c; Kalvacheva *et al.* 1986; Kalvacheva, 1988). The palynological data are extensively presented in Kalvacheva *et al.* 1986, pointing to a late Early Cambrian to Early Ordovician (Tremadocian) age of the investigated assemblages.

b) Spain

Diez & Gutierrez (1979) compiled all references on Spanish palynological studies published up to 1979. Their list included a single reference on Cambro-Ordovician acritarchs, that of Fombella (1978). Subsequently, a series of further papers have been published.

Fombella published further results on her investigations on the Cambro-Tremadocian Oville Formation (Fombella, 1979a; Fombella-Blanco, 1982, 1984, 1986; Fombella-Blanco *et al.*, 1992; Fombella-Santos & Cachan Santos, 1992).

Diez-Balda & Fournier-Vinas (1981) published a short note on acritarchs from the South of Salamanca. The investigations in the Early and Late Ordovician of Celtiberia (Sierra Morena) of Wolf are published in Wolf (1980a, 1980b) and mentioned in Hafenrichter (1980). The study of the Cambrian and Ordovician acritarchs presented in an abstract by Vanguetaine & Aramburu (1988) remains unpublished. Mette (1989) summarized his investigations on the Lower Palaeozoic rocks of the western Sierra Morena, describing the acritarch microflora of the Tremadoc/Arenig Barriga Shale in detail.

c) Portugal

Three papers have been published on Ordovician acritarchs of Portugal. Henry & Thadey (1971) presented a first short note on Late Ordovician acritarchs from the Serra de Buçaco (central Portugal). This area was investigated in detail by Elaouad-Debbaj (1981) for a doctoral thesis at Rennes University, France. A further publication is the short note on the biostratigraphical application of an acritarch association in the "Xistos com Phyllocytes" in the Barrancos Region, SE-Portugal, by Arriagha e Cunha & Vanguetaine (1988). The assemblage was interpreted as typical of the interval Arenigian-Llanvirnian.

2.3.4. Northern European acritarch literature

a) Sweden

The research on Swedish Ordovician acritarchs was concentrated on sediments from the islands of Öland and Gotland. Most of the Swedish sections yield very well preserved and diversified assemblages.

Eisenack (1930 *et seq.*) started the research in Sweden. He investigated the Ordovician of several countries around the Baltic Sea and published his results in numerous papers. He started his research on erratics collected from the coast of East-Prussia around Königsberg (the present Kaliningrad, western Russia). In subsequent papers, he described erratics and outcrop material from numerous other localities. Some of his publications concern Swedish Ordovician acritarchs from erratics (e.g. Eisenack, 1958) and outcrop material (e.g. Eisenack, 1959, 1968b, 1976).

Another early contribution is the description of spherical bodies from Scånia, South Sweden, described as leiospheres by Regnéll (1955).

Detailed taxonomical investigations from complete sections started with the investigations of Kjellström who investigated first the Grötlingbo borehole in SE-Gotland (Kjellström, 1971a, 1971b). He also investigated localities in Öland (Kjellström, 1972b) and Östergötland, S-Sweden (Johansson *et al.*, 1972; Kjellström, 1976).

Another detailed study on a borehole section from Gotland is that of Gorka (1987) of the Middle Ordovician of the Smedsby Gard drill core.

The recent investigations of workers from Pisa University on the Lower Palaeozoic sequences in Öland include investigations on the Furuhäll and Degerhamn sections, which provided Cambrian and Tremadocian assemblages (Bagnoli *et al.*, 1988; Ribecai, 1988; Tongiorgi *et al.*, 1988; Tongiorgi & Ribecai, 1990), and the Horns Udde, Hälludden, and Hagudden sections, which yield assemblages of Arenigian-Llanvirnian age (Righi, 1991; Ribecai & Tongiorgi, 1992, 1994).

Eiserhardt's (1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1989a, 1989b, 1991a, 1991b, 1992) investigations are focused on the acritarchs of the Late Ordovician Öjlemyrflint, Gotland. Another study in the Upper Ordovician from Gotland is that of Le Hérisse (1988).

Other, smaller contributions on Swedish Ordovician acritarchs are those of Gorbatshev *et al.* (1976), Guy-Ohlson & Lindqvist (1990), and Martin & Kjellström (1973).

b) Norway

The only published data of Norwegian acritarchs of Ordovician age are those of Welsch (1983, 1984a, 1984b, 1986). This author investigated the Middle Cambrian to Tremadocian sequence from the Digermul Peninsula, Finnmark, N-Norway. The Berlogaissa Formation yielded acritarch assemblages of early Tremadocian age.

c) Finland

Eisenack's studies on the Baltic area included also the description of Ordovician acritarchs from erratics collected in S-Finland (e.g. Eisenack, 1962b, 1965).

More recent research is published by Tynni and Uutela. Tynni (1975) first investigated acritarchs in the Ordovician from the Bothnian Sea. The material included Middle Ordovician samples from the Sylen Shoal and Palaeozoic erratics found in Quaternary deposits. In a subsequent paper, Tynni (1982) described Middle Ordovician and to a lesser extent Lower Ordovician assemblages from samples which were collected in Lower Ordovician sandstones from the Åland Islands, Bothnian Sea, and in Lower and Middle Ordovician limestones of borehole material from the Lumparn Bay (SW-Finland). Uutela (1989) reinvestigated erratics of Palaeozoic sediments collected from the coast of southwestern Finland. Her study was based on a total number of 2244 erratics, most of them of Ordovician age.

d) Denmark - Greenland

Investigations on acritarchs from the Danish Ordovician remain unpublished. The single record of Ordovician acritarchs from Greenland is that of Nøhr-Hansen & Koppelhus (1988), who described a few spores with trilete rays from Washington Land, North Greenland. The acritarch assemblage was attributed to the Late Ordovician.

2.3.5. Acritarch literature from the former Soviet Union

Numerous papers have been described from the Ordovician of the former Soviet Union. The present paper includes the references of about 50 publications. These data probably represent only a minor part of the acritarch literature which has been published. Only few papers are available, a minor part of them include an English summary. For most of the references, complete citations were not available.

The references included in this paper indicate that data exist from numerous regions of the former Soviet Union. The most important pioneer studies are those of Timofeev (1958 *et seq.*) who investigated Cambrian and Ordovician sequences from the Baltic region, Siberia, the Ural, Podolia (Ukraine), and the Russian Platform. This latter area was also studied by several other workers, as for example: Umnova (1971, 1974), Chibrikova (1972), Volkova (1984), and Vanderflit & Mikhailova (1992).

A further study on Siberian sections is that of Drobkova & Orlova (1966). Other papers concern material from Bielorussia (e.g. Piskun, 1974; Piskun, 1976), the Moscow Syncline (e.g. Umnova, 1975; Aristova, 1980); the Ural (Vladimirskaia *et al.*, 1956), and Kirghizia (Lopuknin, 1971). The most important data, however, concerns the Baltic States and especially Estonia.

The Baltic States

Eisenack studied not only numerous erratics deposited around the Baltic Sea, but also outcrop material from Scandinavia and the Baltic States. Numerous papers on Ordovician acritarchs from the Baltic area concerned Estonian outcrops (Eisenack, 1951, 1958a, 1959, 1962b, 1962c, 1965, 1967, 1968b, 1970).

Other publications are those from Wetzel (1967), Aristova (1976), and Bockelie & Kjellström (1979).

Timofeev (e.g. 1959) also described Lower Palaeozoic acritarchs from Estonia.

More recently, a series of new investigations has been published. The research of Paalits (Mens *et al.*, 1989; Heinsula *et al.*, 1991; Paalits & Erdtmann, 1993b) and Volkova (1988, 1989, 1993a, 1993b, 1993c, 1993d; Volkova & Mens, 1988; Volkova & Siverzeva, 1991) is focused on the Cambro-Ordovician boundary and the Tremadocian of several Estonian sections. A further important contribution to the knowledge of Ordovician acritarchs from Estonia is the recent investigation of the Rapla borehole by Uutela & Tynni (1991). The authors of this work investigated 99 samples of Arenigian to Llandoveryan age and described numerous (more than 300) species, of which over 130 were considered as new.

Further research from the Baltic States includes the studies of Paskeviciene (1993a, 1993b), who investigated Middle and Upper Ordovician acritarchs of Lithuania and the Kaliningrad region (Russia), and of Jankauskas (1976) who published a short review of the research in the Cambro-Ordovician of the Baltic States.

2.3.6. Acritarch literature from North Africa

a) Morocco

The most important research on North African acritarchs of Ordovician age comes from Morocco. The preservation of the Moroccan material is poor to excellent, depending on the area which is investigated. Some of the Moroccan sequences probably contain some of the best successions for acritarch investigations of the peri-Gondwanan and Gondwanan areas.

The first papers on Moroccan acritarchs of the Ordovician are those of Combaz (1967b, 1968) and Deunff (1968a, 1968b). These authors described briefly some acritarchs from the Tremadocian.

Cramer and coworkers described many Ordovician acritarchs from Morocco, of which most were new taxa. Most of the material came from a few samples from subsurface material of the "upper Arenigian to Llanvirnian" from the Kasba Tadla Basin (Cramer, 1974; Cramer *et al.*, 1974a, 1974b; Cramer & Diez, 1975, 1976a, 1976b, 1977a, 1977b). Some of the sequences of the boreholes which were investigated by Cramer in the 1970's were recently redated by means of chitinozoans by Achab & Soufiane (1993).

Their study indicated a late Arenigian age for the samples investigated by Cramer.

A series of smaller papers describing some other Moroccan assemblages are those of Deunff (1977), Marhoumi *et al.* (1982), Rauscher *et al.* (1982), Desteucq & Fournier-Vinas (1982), and Fournier-Vinas (1985).

More extensive research is that of Elaouad-Debbaj and Rahmani-Antari, who both worked in collaboration with French institutes. Elaouad-Debbaj (1981, 1987) presented her investigations on Moroccan and Portuguese acritarchs and chitinozoans in two theses at Rennes University. Several papers concerning the Moroccan microfossils have been published: Elaouad-Debbaj (1984, 1988a, 1988b), Elaouad-Debbaj & Henry (1980). Rahmani-Antari (Rahmani, 1978, 1979, 1983; Rahmani-Antari, 1990) started her investigations on the Lower Palaeozoic palynomorphs (acritarchs, chitinozoans, spores, ...) in the 1970's and recently presented her Ph.D. at Paris VI University (Rahmani-Antari, 1995).

b) Algeria

Some Algerian sequences also yield very well preserved acritarchs in complete sections. Unfortunately, only minor parts of the results of the investigations by oil companies have been published. An important paper illustrates this situation: Jardiné *et al.* (1974) published in a summarized form the investigations of a French oil company. In the Ordovician, they recognized 8 biozones which were based on the ranges of selected acritarchs and chitinozoans. 160 acritarch species were listed but the paper included only the description of the new taxa and a short description of the biozones.

Other smaller contributions on Algerian material are those of Deunff (1961, 1964), Baudelot & Géry (1979) and Baudelot *et al.* (1981). More recently, Oulebsir (1992) presented his research on Ordovician chitinozoa (and acritarchs) at Rennes University.

c) Lybia

The situation in Lybia is similar. Only a few papers are available. Deunff & Massa (1975) published a first short note on three Ordovician formations attributed respectively to the Tremadocian, the Arenigian, and the Llanvirnian-Llandeilian. More recent investigations are those of Molyneux & Paris (1985), Molyneux (1988), and Hill & Molyneux

(1988). In these articles, Late Ordovician acritarchs from NE-Lybia are described and several assemblage biozones are established.

Al-Ameri (1980) presented his investigations focused on the Lybian Silurian at Kings College, London. This study included also the description of acritarchs of the Late Ordovician.

d) other African literature

Information from other African countries is nearly non-existent. Bär (1977) and Bär & Riegel (1980) described acritarchs of latest Ordovician to earliest Silurian age from Ghana, western Africa. Fielding (1992) announced first results of her investigations at the Ordovician-Silurian boundary from the Cedarberg Mountains in South-Africa at the 8th International Palynological Congress.

2.3.7. North American acritarch literature

a) United States of America

Over 30 papers and abstracts on Ordovician acritarchs from the United States of America are published. The earliest contribution is that of Hedlund (1960) and Wilson (e.g. Wilson & Hedlund, 1962).

However, the first important and detailed research was that of Alfred Loeblich Jr. and his wife Helen Tappan in the late 1960's and 1970's. Their studies were focused on the Middle Ordovician Bromide Formation of Oklahoma and the Upper Ordovician Dillsboro and Eden formations of Indiana. The results are published in numerous papers (Loeblich & Tappan, 1969; Loeblich, 1970a, 1970b; Loeblich & Tappan, 1971a, 1971b; Tappan & Loeblich, 1971; Loeblich & Tappan, 1976, 1978).

Other investigations of the early 1970's are those of Nygreen (1970) on material from Oklahoma and of McGregor & Cramer (1971) from samples of Manitoba.

Jacobson (1978b) and Colbath (1983) presented their Ph.D. theses in the late 1970's and early 1980's. Jacobson's investigations concerned mainly Middle and Upper Ordovician rocks from New York State, Ohio, and Kentucky (Jacobson, 1977a, 1977b, 1978a, 1979). The acritarch research of Colbath was concentrated on the Upper Ordovician of Indiana and on Upper Ordovician and Lower Silurian sections in the southern Appalachians (Colbath, 1979, 1980,

1981, 1986b, 1989).

Two papers focus on the study of the palaeoenvironment of Ordovician acritarchs. Both works concern material from the United States: Jacobson's (1979) study from rocks from New York State, Ohio, and Kentucky and the paper of Wright & Meyers (1981) on subsurface material from Kansas.

Miller published a series of small papers on Ordovician acritarchs from several states, including material from Indiana, Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas (Miller, 1982; Miller & Wicander, 1982; Miller, 1988; Barker & Miller, 1990; Derby *et al.*, 1991; Miller, 1991).

Other investigations were presented at the 6th and 8th IPC, respectively, and concern material from Florida (Dorning & Hutter, 1984) and Michigan (Wicander, 1992).

b) Canada

A very important early paper is that of Staplin *et al.* (1966). The specimens described in this article which come from the "Middle Ordovician" Trenton Formation are actually of Late Ordovician age (Jacobson, 1987). Except for the publication of Nautiyal (1966), most of the other papers are much younger.

Martin investigated some Canadian Ordovician sequences in detail. Her investigations concern sections from Newfoundland (Dean & Martin, 1978; Martin, 1978, 1980b; Martin & Dean, 1981; Martin, 1982), Québec and Ontario (Martin, 1977b, 1980a, 1983), and Alberta (Dean & Martin, 1982; Martin, 1984, 1992). Parsons & Anderson (1991) announced some modifications of the existing zonal schemes based on further material from Newfoundland.

Legault was involved in another series of publications. She first investigated acritarchs and chitinozoans of Late Ordovician age from Orphan Knoll, Labrador Sea (Legault, 1982). Duffield & Legault (1981, 1982) investigated Upper Ordovician and Lower Silurian rocks from Anticosti Island, Québec, where Fielding (1992) investigated the Ordovician-Silurian boundary as well. Bunner & Legault (1988, 1989) and Gamarra & Legault (1991) published results of the Middle Ordovician Gull River and Bobcaygeon formations and of the Simcoe group of southern Ontario.

Jacobson & Achab (1984, 1985) also investigated the Late Ordovician of Anticosti Island. Mac Lean *et al.* (1986) and Miller & Williams (1988a, 1988b) analysed the bedrock of Hudson Strait in the North West Territories.

2.3.8. South American acritarch literature

Only few data on South American acritarchs have been published. They concern material from Argentina, Brazil, and Colombia.

Bultynck & Martin (1982) described some Early Ordovician acritarchs from the Argentinian Cordillera. Ottone *et al.* (1992) described in some detail the Lower Ordovician palynomorphs from the Acoite Formation from NE-Argentina. Three further, smaller papers are those of Volkheimer *et al.* (1980) and Melendi & Volkheimer (1982a, 1982b).

Padilha de Quadros (1986a, 1986b, 1988) described in three papers a poorly diversified assemblage attributed to the Arenigian-Llanvirnian. According to the author, this assemblage is the first record of Ordovician microfossils from Brazil.

Théry (1985) and Théry *et al.* (1986) published the single record of Ordovician acritarchs from Colombia. This assemblage is also mentioned in Pimentel *et al.* (1992).

2.3.9. Acritarch literature from Asia

a) China

Most of the data on Ordovician acritarchs from Asia come from China. Over 20 papers have been published, most of them in Chinese journals. The publication of the results started only in the 1980's.

The Cambrian-Ordovician boundary section in Dayangcha, Jilin Province (NE-China), proposed to serve as an international stratotype, provides also acritarchs which were described or mentioned in three papers (Yin Leiming, 1985, 1986; Chen *et al.*, 1988).

Several papers from different authors concern the well preserved and highly diversified assemblages of the Arenigian of the Dawan Formation in the Hubei Province, SW-China. Zhong Guofang (1981) presented a first report of these acritarchs, followed by Lu Li-chang (1987). More recent and current research is that of Tongiorgi and coworkers (Tongiorgi *et al.*, 1992), Brocke (1992), and Yin

Leiming (1994). Other studies from SW-China are investigated from assemblages of Arenigian levels of the Meitan Formation, Guizhou Province (Li Jun, 1987) and the Jiuxi Formation, Hunan Province (Li Jun, 1990a, 1990b).

An Early Ordovician assemblage from Central China was investigated by Xing Yusheng (1980). It comes from the Dachengsi Formation of Emeishan, Sichuan Province. Assemblages from Early and Middle Ordovician successions of the Yunnan Province, southern China, were described by Fang Xiaosi (1968a, 1986b) and Gao Lianda (1991).

Late Ordovician acritarchs are recorded in the Changwu Formation of Jiangshan, Zhejiang Province, SE-China (He Sheng-ce & Yin Leiming, 1993). Fielding (1992) announced the results of investigations at the Ordovician-Silurian boundary in the Leijisatun section, Guizhou Province, SW-China.

Ordovician acritarchs from the Shaanxi Province in northern China are studied by Hu Yungxu (1986) and Fu Jiayuan (1986). Li Zaiping (1982) investigated a northern Chinese assemblage of the Machiakou Formation in the Hebei Province. This assemblage was attributed to the Llanvirnian. A further paper on acritarchs from northern China is the contribution of Martin & Yin Leiming (1988), who investigated Early Ordovician assemblages in the Jilin Province.

b) India

A few papers report Ordovician acritarchs from India. Only two were available to the author prior of publication of this index. Prasad & Maithy (1986) recognized *Saharidia* from Krol-e-Beds in the Mussoorie Syncline. Viswanathia *et al.* (1984) described acritarchs from southern Indian dolomites of the Katageri Formation, Badami Group. They were assigned to the Ordovician-Silurian. Although Cambrian to Silurian acritarchs are reported from the Himalaya, the presence of Ordovician specimens is not clearly documented.

c) Pakistan

Recently, the first record of Ordovician acritarchs from northern Pakistan has been published (Tongiorgi *et al.*, 1994; Le Fort *et al.*, 1994). This material is referred to a late early Arenigian to early late Arenigian interval.

d) Iran

Bozorgnia (1973) first reported a few acritarchs from the Alborz Mountain range in northern Iran.

More recently, Ghavidel-Syooki (1990, 1992, 1993) reported Ordovician acritarch assemblages from several areas of northern and south-western Iran. Ghavidel-Syooki (1990) described six biozones from the Chal-i-Sheh area, south-western Iran. The biozones were based on acritarchs and miospores, three of them were attributed to the Ordovician: zone II to the lower Tremadocian; zone III to the Tremadocian-lower Arenigian; zone IV to the upper Arenigian-Llandoveryan. In Ghavidel-Syooki (1992), three other zones are described from northern Iran: zone I is attributed to the lower Tremadocian; zone II to a middle to upper Tremadocian interval; zone III to the lower Arenigian. In Ghavidel-Syooki (1993) the assemblages from the Chal-i-Sheh area are reorganized in three acritarch assemblage zones of (I) uppermost Cambrian to lowermost Tremadocian, (II) Tremadocian, and (III) the uppermost Tremadocian age.

e) Turkey

Three papers are available on Turkish Ordovician acritarchs. Erkmen (1979) investigated Lower Palaeozoic acritarchs from SE-Turkey, indicating a "Caradoc-Arenigian" age for the Bedinan Formation, including "reworked Tremadoc" acritarchs.

In Dean & Martin (1992) and Dean *et al.* (1993), new data are given for Tremadocian, Arenigian, and Ashgillian acritarchs of southern Turkey.

f) Arabia, Jordan, and Oman

A few further papers have been published from other countries of the Asian continent. McClure (1988) described briefly the occurrence of chitinozoans and acritarchs in the Ordovician-Silurian portion of the North-West Arabian Palaeozoic stratigraphic section. Three papers are available on material from Jordan. Keegan *et al.* (1990) described five palynozones defined from the Ordovician of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. These zones were attributed to Tremadocian, Llanvirnian, early Ashgillian-Caradocian, and Ashgillian intervals. Basha (1987, 1990) reported some few acritarchs from boreholes of southern and eastern Jordan, respectively.

A short report on acritarchs from Oman is given in Lovelock *et al.* (1981). In this paper, the assemblages investigated from the Amdeh Formation are attributed to an Early to Middle Ordovician age.

2.3.10. Acritarch literature from Australia

Compared with other areas or with other fossil groups, Ordovician acritarchs have been neglected in Australia. Only four papers have been published. Much more data are needed to understand the biostratigraphy and the palaeobiogeography of the acritarchs in this area, which provides magnificent exposures of thick Ordovician strata across hundreds of kilometers.

In a first paper, focused on chitinozoans, Combaz (1965) reported very briefly the occurrence of two acritarchs from core samples from the Georgina Basin, Queensland, East Australia. A further study was published by Combaz & Péniguel (1972) who investigated some boreholes of the Canning Basin, western Australia. This study was also focused on chitinozoans. The acritarchs were only briefly described.

Two other papers were concentrated on the study of acritarchs. Playford & Martin (1984) described in some detail an acritarch assemblage of a late Arenigian to Llanvirnian (or ?Llandeilian) interval. According to Playford & Martin (1984), this assemblage exhibits little similarity with assemblages from elsewhere. Playford & Wicander (1988) investigated in detail a well-preserved acritarch assemblage from the Lower Ordovician Coolibah Formation from a borehole in the south-eastern Georgina Basin, Queensland.

3. AN INDEX TO ORDOVICIAN ACRITARCH GENERA

The acritarch index of Fensome *et al.* (1990, 1991) gives a very good, nearly complete overview on all acritarch taxa (genera, species, and infraspecific taxa), including all taxa known to the authors by the 1st January 1990. For each individual taxon, Fensome *et al.* (1990) indicated the stratigraphical level from which the type-material was described.

The present list of Ordovician acritarch genera (see Appendix) is based on the index of Fensome *et al.* (1990, 1991) and on the Ordovician acritarch literature mentioned in the present work. Since the 1st January 1990, some further genera have been erected

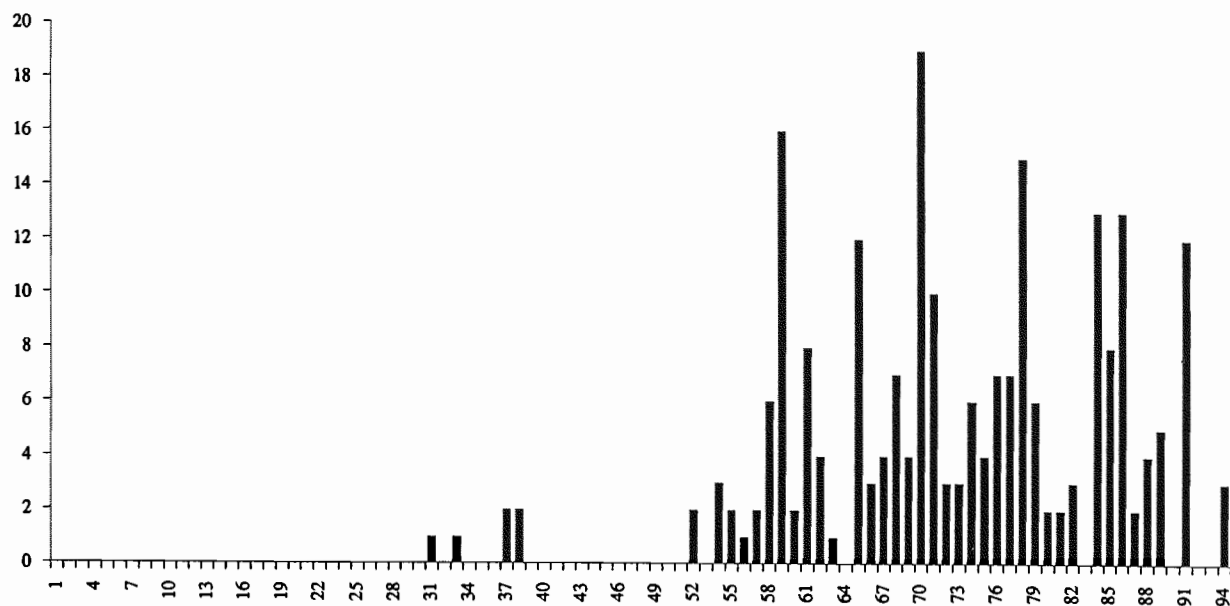


Figure 2. Diagram to show the rate of publication (between 1901 and 1994) of 258 acritarch genera described or cited in the Ordovician Series.

and are included in the present list. Some other genera described earlier were not mentioned in the index of Fensome *et al.* (1990) and are also added. Finally, 22 genera from the present list were not included in the "Fensome" index.

Some genera and species from the (Late) Cambrian and from the (Early) Silurian are also present in the Ordovician. They are included in the present index as well, so that it contains all genera which have been described or are present in Ordovician sediments.

In total, 258 genera are cited in the nearly 700 articles (published by the end of 1994) which are known to the author of the present review. The number of acritarch species used in the Ordovician can only be estimated here. It probably exceeds 2000. Fig. 2. indicates the rates of publication (between 1901 and 1994) of all acritarch genera used in the Ordovician. According to this diagram, the description of new genera diminishes slightly since the mid-1970's. The description of "new" taxa is still continuing, however.

From the over 250 genera, nearly a third (77 genera) remain monospecific. About 30 of them are invalidly published or illegitimate. Some other genera are "waste-baskets" and include numerous (sometimes more than 100) species: *Acanthodiacrodium*, *Baltisphaeridium*, *Micrhystridium*, *Multiplisphaeridium*, *Veryhachium*; just to name the most important.

The amount of taxa is today so enormous and insurmountable that we are approaching taxonomical chaos. It is difficult, if not impossible, to get or to keep an overview on acritarch literature. The description of new taxa is continuing. Acritarch workers commonly erect specimens as new taxa, simply because they have never seen them before, ignoring (not necessarily intentionally) the previously published literature. This continuous description of "new" taxa, which are unequivocally a redescription of previously erected forms only increases the confused state of acritarch taxonomy instead of clarifying the systematics.

Today, it is indeed very difficult to force one's way through the jungle of acritarch literature.

4. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This compilation of publications was only possible with the help of numerous colleagues. I would especially thank M. Vanguetaine (Liège) who provided his collection of articles which constituted the basis of this review. A. Laurant (Unité de Documentation des Sciences de la Terre, Liège) helped finding out articles and reviews from all over the world. Other workers allowed me a look to their collection of reprints: F. Martin (Brussels), Ch. Downie (Sheffield), B. Erdtmann (Berlin), O. Fatka (Prague), A. Le Hérisse (Brest), S. Molyneux (Keyworth/Nottingham), M. Tongiorgi (Pisa); just to name a few. I also thank all colleagues who sent me informations and reprints. Grateful acknowledgment

is expressed especially to R. Brocke (Berlin) and I. Paalits (Tartu, Estonia) for helping in finding articles concerning China and the former Soviet Union. Xu Shaoshun (Beijing) helped in the understanding of Chinese literature. Many thanks to Chris Berry (Cardiff) who made the corrections of the English text. M. Vanguetaine and O. Fatka accepted to review the manuscript. This is a contribution of the Europe-Africa Regional Team of IGCP n° 410.

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Manuscript received on 12.02.1995 and accepted for publication on 14.03.1995.

6. APPENDIX

Table 1. Index to Ordovician acritarch genera.

#: genus not included in the index of Fensome *et al.* (1990).

genera	first author	date	remarks	
<i>Abacum</i>	Fombella	1978	monospecific genus	
<i>Acanthodiacrodium</i>	Timofeev	1958		
<i>Acantholigotriletes</i>	Alyushinskii	1957	orth. var. of <i>Acantholigotriletum</i>	
<i>Acantholigotriletum</i>	Timofeev	1959	invalid genus	
<i>Acanthorytidodiacrodium</i>	Timofeev	1959	invalid genus	
<i>Acanthozonodiacrodium</i>	Timofeev	1959	invalid genus	
<i>Acrosphaeridium</i>	Uutela & Tynni	1991		#
<i>Actinotodissus</i>	Loeblich & Tappan	1978		
<i>Actipilion</i>	Loeblich	1970	monospecific genus	
<i>Adorfia</i>	Burmann	1970		
<i>Adornofusa</i>	Loeblich & Tappan	1978	monospecific genus	
<i>Akomachra</i>	Colbath	1979		
<i>Ammonidium</i>	Lister	1970		
<i>Ampullula</i>	Righi	1991	monospecific genus	#
<i>Annulum</i>	Fombella	1978		
<i>Anomaloplaisium</i>	Tappan & Loeblich	1971		
<i>Aranidium</i>	Yankauskas	1975		
<i>Arbusculidium</i>	Deunff	1968		
<i>Archaeodiscina</i>	Naumova	1961		
<i>Archaeohystrichosphaeridium</i>	Timofeev	1959		
<i>Arcosphaeridium</i>	Uutela & Tynni	1991		#
<i>Aremoricanium</i>	Deunff	1955		
<i>Arkonia</i>	Burmann	1970		
<i>Aryballomorpha</i>	Martin & Yin	1988		
<i>Asketopalla</i>	Loeblich & Tappan	1969	monospecific genus	
<i>Athabascaella</i>	Martin	1984		
<i>Attritasporites</i>	Combaz	1967		
<i>Aureotesta</i>	Vavrdova	1972	monospecific genus	
<i>Axisphaeridium</i>	Eisenack	1967		
<i>Bacisphaeridium</i>	Eisenack	1962	monospecific genus	
<i>Baiomeniscus</i>	Loeblich	1970		
<i>Baltisphaera</i>	Burmann	1970		
<i>Baltisphaeridium</i>	Eisenack	1958		
<i>Baltisphaerosum</i>	Turner	1984		
<i>Barakella</i>	Cramer & Diez	1977		
<i>Beromia</i>	Vavrdova	1986		
<i>Bisbullatum</i>	Fang	1986		#
<i>Bothroligotriletes</i>	Timofeev	1958	invalid genus	
<i>Bresca</i>	Fombella	1978	monospecific genus	
<i>Bubomorpha</i>	Yin Leiming	1985	monospecific genus	
<i>Buedingiisphaeridium</i>	Schaarschmidt	1963		
<i>Caldariola</i>	Molyneux & Rushton	1988	monospecific genus	
<i>Carinatosphaeridium</i>	Eiserhardt	1984	monospecific genus	
<i>Celtiberium</i>	Fombella	1977		
<i>Cheleutochroa</i>	Loeblich & Tappan	1978		
<i>Chlamydosphaeridia</i>	Eisenack	1971		

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<i>Cleithronetrum</i>	Loeblich & Tappan	1978	monospecific genus	
<i>Comasphaeridium</i>	Staplin et al.	1965		
<i>Comptaluta</i>	Tappan & Loeblich	1971		
<i>Cordobesia</i>	Pöthe de Baldis	1977		
<i>Cornuferifusa</i>	Jacobson & Achab	1985	monospecific genus	
<i>Corollasphaeridium</i>	Dean & Martin	1982		
<i>Coronitesta</i>	Uutela & Tynni	1991		#
<i>Coryphidium</i>	Vavrdova	1972		
<i>Costatilobus</i>	Playford	1977		
<i>Cristallinium</i>	Vanguestaine	1978		
<i>Cyclosphaeridium</i>	Uutela & Tynni	1991	monospecific genus	#
<i>Cymatiogalea</i>	Deunff	1961		
<i>Cymatiosphaera</i>	Wetzel	1933		
<i>Dactylofusa</i>	Brito & Santos	1965		
<i>Dasydiacrodium</i>	Timofeev	1959		
<i>Dasydorus</i>	Playford & Martin	1984	monospecific genus	
<i>Dasyrytidodiacrodium</i>	Timofeev	1959	invalid genus	
<i>Dateriocradus</i>	Tappan & Loeblich	1971		
<i>Deunffia</i>	Downie	1960		
<i>Dichotisphaera</i>	Turner	1984	monospecific genus	
<i>Dicommopalla</i>	Loeblich	1970		
<i>Dicrodiacrodium</i>	Burmann	1968		
<i>Dictyodiscus</i>	Playford & Martin	1984	monospecific genus	
<i>Dictyotidium</i>	Eisenack	1955		
<i>Diexallophasis</i>	Loeblich	1970		
<i>Diornatosphaera</i>	Downie	1958		
<i>Disparifusa</i>	Loeblich	1970		
<i>Domasia</i>	Downie	1960		
<i>Duplicisphaeridium</i>	Gorka	1980	monospecific genus	
<i>Elektroriskos</i>	Loeblich	1970		
<i>Elenia</i>	Volkova	1984	monospecific genus	
<i>Eliasum</i>	Fombella	1977		
<i>Enneadikosocheia</i>	Colbath	1979	monospecific genus	
<i>Eponula</i>	Vavrdova	1986		
<i>Ericanthea</i>	Cramer & Diez	1977		#
<i>Estiastra</i>	Eisenack	1959		
<i>Eupoikilofusa</i>	Cramer	1970	illegitimate genus	
<i>Evittia</i>	Brito	1967		
<i>Excultibrachium</i>	Loeblich & Tappan	1978		
<i>Favosphaeridium</i>	Timofeev	1959		
<i>Ferromia</i>	Vavrdova	1978	monospecific genus	
<i>Filisphaeridium</i>	Staplin et al.	1965		
<i>Focusphaera</i>	Padilha de Quadros	1986	monospecific genus	
<i>Fractoricoronula</i>	Colbath	1979		
<i>Frankea</i>	Burmann	1970		
<i>Galyxiella</i>	Golub & Volkova	1985		#

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<i>Glaucotesta</i>	Vavrdova	1982	monospecific genus	
<i>Goniomorpha</i>	Yin Leiming	1986	monospecific genus	
<i>Goniosphaeridium</i>	Eisenack	1969		
<i>Gorgonisphaeridium</i>	Staplin et al.	1965		
<i>Gyalorhettium</i>	Loeblich & Tappan	1978		
<i>Hapsidopalla</i>	Playford	1977		
<i>Helosphaeridium</i>	Lister	1970		
<i>Hemisphaeridium</i>	Hemer & Nygreen	1967		
<i>Hoegkintia</i>	Dorning	1981		
<i>Holothuriadeigma</i>	Loeblich	1970		
<i>Hystrichotriangulatum</i>	Andreeva	1966		
<i>Impluviculus</i>	Loeblich & Tappan	1969		
<i>Izhoria</i>	Golub & Volkova	1985	monospecific genus	
<i>Jandiatubaites</i>	Padilha de Quadros	1986	monospecific genus	
<i>Joehvisphaera</i>	Uutela & Tynni	1991	monospecific genus	#
<i>Kladothecidium</i>	Vavrdova	1986		
<i>Kundasphaera</i>	Uutela	1989	monospecific genus	#
<i>Labyrinthosphaeridium</i>	Uutela & Tynni	1991		#
<i>Lacunosphaeridium</i>	Uutela & Tynni	1991		#
<i>Ladogella</i>	Golub & Volkova	1985	monospecific genus	
<i>Latoporata</i>	Naumova & Umnova	1975		
<i>Leioarachnium</i>	Andreeva	1966	monospecific genus	
<i>Leiofusa</i>	Eisenack	1938		
<i>Leioligotriteles</i>	Timofeev	1958	invalid genus	
<i>Leiomarginata</i>	Naumova	1961		
<i>Leiosphaera</i>	Eisenack	1938		
<i>Leiosphaeridia</i>	Eisenack	1958		
<i>Leiosphaeridium</i>	Staplin	1961	invalid genus	
<i>Leiovalia</i>	Eisenack	1965		
<i>Leprototypa</i>	Colbath	1979	monospecific genus	
<i>Likropalla</i>	Colbath	1979		
<i>Liliosphaeridium</i>	Uutela & Tynni	1991	monospecific genus	#
<i>Limaites</i>	Padilha de Quadros	1986	monospecific genus	
<i>Lobotheca</i>	Vavrdova	1986	monospecific genus	
<i>Loeblichia</i>	Playford & Wicander	1988	monospecific genus	
<i>Lophodiacrodium</i>	Timofeev	1958		
<i>Lopholigotriteles</i>	Alyushinskii et al.	1957	orth. var. of <i>Lopholigotriteletum</i>	
<i>Lopholigotriteletum</i>	Timofeev	1959	invalid genus	
<i>Lophomarginata</i>	Naumova	1969	invalid genus	
<i>Lophorytidodiacrodium</i>	Timofeev	1959		
<i>Lophosphaeridium</i>	Timofeev	1959		
<i>Lophozonodiacrodium</i>	Timofeev	1959	invalid genus	
<i>Lua</i>	Martin & Yin Leiming	1988	monospecific genus	
<i>Lunulidia</i>	Eisenack	1958		
<i>Lusatia</i>	Burmann	1970		

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<i>Lusitanium</i>	Elaouad-Debbaj	1981	monospecific genus	
<i>Macroptycha</i>	Timofeev	1973		
<i>Marrocanium</i>	Cramer et al.	1974	monospecific genus	
<i>Melikeriopalla</i>	Tappan & Loeblich	1971		
<i>Meridinium</i>	Vavrdova	1989	monospecific genus	#
<i>Miaplacidus</i>	Fombella	1978	monospecific genus	
<i>Michystridium</i>	Deflandre	1937		
<i>Microconcentrica</i>	Naumova	1961		
<i>Monocrodium</i>	Pittau	1985	monospecific genus	
<i>Moyeria</i>	Thusu	1973		
<i>Multiplicisphaeridium</i>	Staplin	1961		
<i>Nanocyclopia</i>	Loeblich & Wicander	1976		
<i>Navifusa</i>	Combaz et al.	1967		
<i>Nexosarium</i>	Turner	1984	monospecific genus	
<i>Nodusosphaeridium</i>	Uutela	1989	monospecific genus	#
<i>Nothoidium</i>	Loeblich & Tappan	1976	monospecific genus	
<i>Nucellosphaeridium</i>	Timofeev	1966		
<i>Ocridoligotriteles</i>	Timofeev	1958	illegitimate genus	
<i>Ocridoligotriteletum</i>	Timofeev	1959	orth. var. of <i>Ocridoligotriteles</i>	
<i>Octogonium</i>	Martin	1974	monospecific genus	
<i>Ooidium</i>	Timofeev	1957		
<i>Ordovicidium</i>	Tappan & Loeblich	1971		
<i>Orthosphaeridium</i>	Eisenack	1968		
<i>Orygmatosphaeridium</i>	Timofeev	1959		
<i>Ovulum</i>	Yankauskas	1975		
<i>Ovum</i>	Eisenack	1931		
<i>Pachysphaeridium</i>	Burmann	1970		
<i>Palaeohystrichosphaeridium</i>	Eiserhardt	1986		
<i>Palaiosphaeridium</i>	Rasul	1977		
<i>Palaiosphaeridium</i>	Gorka	1980	illegitimate genus	
<i>Paniculaferum</i>	Miller	1991	monospecific genus	#
<i>Papilliferum</i>	Yin Leiming	1994		#
<i>Passalosphaera</i>	Playford & Wicander	1984	monospecific genus	
<i>Petaloferidium</i>	Jacobson	1978		
<i>Peteinosphaeridium</i>	Staplin et al.	1965		
<i>Pheoclosterium</i>	Tappan & Loeblich	1971	monospecific genus	
<i>Picostella</i>	Cramer et al.	1974	monospecific genus	
<i>Pirea</i>	Vavrdova	1972		
<i>Poikilofusa</i>	Staplin et al.	1965		
<i>Polonosphaeridium</i>	Gorka	1987		
<i>Polyancistrodorus</i>	Loeblich & Tappan	1969		
<i>Polyedrina</i>	Padilha de Quadros	1986	monospecific genus	
<i>Polyedryxium</i>	Deunff	1954		
<i>Polygonium</i>	Vavrdova	1966		
<i>Priscogalea</i>	Deunff	1961		
<i>Priscotheca</i>	Deunff	1961		

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<i>Protoleiosphaeridium</i>	Timofeev	1956		
<i>Protosphaeridium</i>	Timofeev	1966	illegitimate genus	
<i>Pseudolunulidia</i>	Brito & Santos	1965		
<i>Pterocystiopsis</i>	Deflandre	1937		
<i>Pterospermella</i>	Eisenack	1972		
<i>Pterospermopsis</i>	Wetzel	1952		
<i>Pulvinosphaeridium</i>	Eisenack	1954		
<i>Pytinomorpha</i>	Playford & Wicander	1988	monospecific genus	
<i>Quadrulobus</i>	Tappan & Loeblich	1971		
<i>Raplasphaera</i>	Uutela	1989		#
<i>Retisphaeridium</i>	Staplin et al.	1965		
<i>Revinotesta</i>	Vanguetaine	1974		
<i>Rhachosarium</i>	Tappan & Loeblich	1971	monospecific genus	
<i>Rhiptosocherma</i>	Loeblich & Tappan	1978	monospecific genus	
<i>Rhopaliophora</i>	Tappan & Loeblich	1971		
<i>Rugulidium</i>	Cramer et al.	1974		
<i>Safirotheca</i>	Vavrdova	1989	monospecific genus	#
<i>Saharidia</i>	Combaz	1967		
<i>Schismatosphaeridium</i>	Staplin et al.	1965		
<i>Schizodiacrodium</i>	Burmann	1968		
<i>Solisphaeridium</i>	Staplin et al.	1965		
<i>Staplinium</i>	Jansonius	1962		
<i>Stellechinatum</i>	Turner	1984		
<i>Stelliferidium</i>	Deunff et al.	1974		
<i>Stelomorpha</i>	Yin Leiming	1994	monospecific genus	#
<i>Stenozonoligotriletes</i>	Timofeev	1958	invalid genus	
<i>Stenozonoligotriletum</i>	Timofeev	1959	orth.var. of <i>Stenozonoligotriletes</i>	
<i>Stephanodiacrodium</i>	Vavrdova	1986	monospecific genus	
<i>Strablosphaeridium</i>	Gorka	1980	monospecific genus	
<i>Striatotheca</i>	Burmann	1970		
<i>Sulcatosphaeridium</i>	Umnova and Yakovlev	1970	invalid genus	
<i>Sylvanidium</i>	Loeblich	1970		
<i>Symplassosphaeridium</i>	Timofeev	1959		
<i>Synsphaeridium</i>	Eisenack	1965		
<i>Synsphaeridium</i>	Timofeev	1966	illegitimate genus	
<i>Taeniosphaeridium</i>	Uutela & Tynni	1991		
<i>Tariccroidium</i>	Pittau	1985		
<i>Tasmanites</i>	Newton	1875		
<i>Tectitheca</i>	Burmann	1968		
<i>Tenuirica</i>	Playford & Wicander	1988	monospecific genus	
<i>Tetradinium</i>	Vavrdova	1973	illegitimate genus	
<i>Tetraniveum</i>	Vavrdova	1976	illegitimate genus	
<i>Timofeevia</i>	Vanguetaine	1978		
<i>Tongzia</i>	Li Jun	1987	monospecific genus	
<i>Trachydiacrodium</i>	Timofeev	1959		
<i>Trachyoligotriletes</i>	Timofeev	1958		

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<i>Trachyoligotriletum</i>	Timofeev	1959	orth. var. of <i>Trachyoligotriletes</i>	
<i>Trachyrytidiacrodium</i>	Timofeev	1959		
<i>Trachysphaeridium</i>	Timofeev	1959		
<i>Trachyzonodiacrodium</i>	Timofeev	1959	monospecific genus	
<i>Tranvikium</i>	Tynni	1982	monospecific genus	
<i>Trematoligotriletum</i>	Timofeev	1959		
<i>Trematosphaeridium</i>	Timofeev	1959		
<i>Tretosohyrtana</i>	Colbath	1979		
<i>Tricholigotriletum</i>	Timofeev	1959	invalid genus	
<i>Trichosphaeridium</i>	Timofeev	1969		
<i>Trilobatum</i>	Fang	1986	monospecific genus	#
<i>Tunisphaeridium</i>	Deunff & Evitt	1968		
<i>Tylotopalla</i>	Loeblich	1970		
<i>Uncinisphaera</i>	Wicander	1974		
<i>Uniporata</i>	Naumova	1969	invalid genus	
<i>Uranidium</i>	Jacobson & Achab	1985	monospecific genus	
<i>Vavososphaeridium</i>	Timofeev	1959		
<i>Vavrdovella</i>	Loeblich & Tappan	1976	monospecific genus	
<i>Velatasphaera</i>	Miller & Williams	1988	monospecific genus	
<i>Veryhachium</i>	Deunff	1954		
<i>Villosacapsula</i>	Loeblich & Tappan	1976		
<i>Virgatasporites</i>	Combaz	1967		
<i>Vogtlandia</i>	Burmann	1970		
<i>Vulcanisphaera</i>	Deunff	1961		
<i>Wilsonastrum</i>	Jansonius	1962	monospecific genus	
<i>Winwaloeusia</i>	Deunff	1977		
<i>Yichangia</i>	Yin Leiming	1994	monospecific genus	#
<i>Zonoidium</i>	Timofeev	1957		
<i>Zonosphaeridium</i>	Timofeev	1959	invalid genus	