

Early Cretaceous ammonites and dinoflagellates from the Western Tatra Mountains, Poland

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The first Early Cretaceous (Valanginian–Hauterivian) ammonite fauna from the lower part of the Kościeliska Marl Formation (Wściekły Żleb Member) of the Lower Sub-Tatric (Krížna) Nappe, in the Lejowa Valley of the Tatra Mountains are described. The fauna is precisely placed in the succession and consists of five species: *Olcostephanus densicostatus*, *Spitidiscus* cf. *cankovi*, *Criosarasinella* cf. *subheterocostata*, *Crioceratites primitivus*, and *Crioceratites coniferus* and additionally an aptychus *Didayilamellaptychus seranonis*. Remarkable are the valves of anomiid bivalves attached to body chamber of large size heteromorph ammonite *C. primitivus*. Moreover, a variety of stratigraphically important organic-walled dinoflagellate cysts are recovered from this locality. Dinoflagellates: *Cymosphaeridium validum*, *Circulodinium vermiculatum*, and representatives of *Bourkidinium* define the Upper Valanginian–Lower Hauterivian *Sentusidinium* sp. A Dinocyst Subzone of the *Cymosphaeridium validum* Zone. The character of deposits, the palynofacies, and associations of dinoflagellate cysts indicate a calm marine outer neritic environment.

Key words: Ammonoidea, Anomiidae, Dinoflagellata, Valanginian, Hauterivian, Western Carpathians.

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