

New Early Jurassic gastropods from west-central Patagonia, Argentina

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A new gastropod fauna is reported from Chubut province of west–central Patagonia. Members of Trochoidea, Pseudomelanoidea, Campaniloidea, and Nerinoidea are recorded from the Early Jurassic (Late Pliensbachian–Early Toarcian) of Mulanguiñeu Formation. The gastropod fauna consists of two new species: the pseudomelaniid *Pseudomelania feruglioi* sp. nov. and the proterculid *Anulifera chubutensis* sp. nov. Other members of the association are *Pseudomelania* sp.; the ampullospirids *Globularia* cf. *catanlilensis*, *Globularia* sp., and *Naricopsina?* sp.; the nerineids *Nerinea?* sp. 1 and *Nerinea?* sp. 2; the trochids *Lithotrochus humblodtii*, *Lithotrochus* cf. *rothi*, and two indeterminable trochids species. An analysis of diversity was made considering all gastropod fauna recovered so far from five fossiliferous localities sampled in west–central Patagonia. The preliminary results of this study suggests that the Jurassic marine sequences of west central Chubut province are dominated by gastropods of Eucyclidae, Pseudomelaniidae, Procerithiidae, and Ampullinidae groups. However, the rarefaction curves of particular marine gastropod faunas in the Jurassic of Patagonia are still far from saturation requiring further collecting effort.

Key words: Gastropoda, Mulanguiñeu Formation, Pliensbachian, Toarcian, Chubut, Patagonia, Argentina.

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