

First record of chambered hexactinellid sponges from the Palaeozoic

Martin Nose, Radek Vodrážka, Luis-Pedro Fernández, and Isabel Méndez-Bedia

Acta Palaeontologica Polonica 59 (4), 2014: 985-996 doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.4202/app.2012.0112>

A new chambered hexactinellid sponge, *Casearia devonica* sp. nov., is described from the Lower Devonian of northern Spain (Cantabrian Mountains). The fossil represents the first evidence of chambered hexactinellid sponges from the Palaeozoic and the oldest representative of the order Hexactinosida. *Casearia devonica* sp. nov. occurred within small metre-sized mud mounds that developed in deeper water below the storm wave base.

Key words: Hexactinellida, Hexactinosida, chambered sponges, mud mounds, Devonian, Northern Spain.

Martin Nose [m.nose@lrz.uni-muenchen.de], SNSB-Bavarian State Collection of Palaeontology and Geology Munich, GeoBio-CenterLMU, Richard-Wagner-Str. 10, 80333 München, Germany; Radek Vodrážka [Radek.Vodrazka@seznam.cz], Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Institute of Geology, Rozvojová 269, 16502 Praha 6, Czech Republic; Luis-Pedro Fernández [lpedro@geol.uniovi.es] and Isabel Méndez-Bedia [imbedia@geol.uniovi.es], Departamento de Geología, Universidad de Oviedo, c/Arias de Velasco s/n, 33005-Oviedo, Spain.

This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (for details please see creativecommons.org), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.