

Trilobites from the latest Frasnian Kellwasser Crisis in North Africa (Mrirt, central Moroccan Meseta)

Raimund Feist

Acta Palaeontologica Polonica 47 (2), 2002: 203-210

Latest Frasnian trilobites are recorded for the first time from North Africa. They occur in oxygenated limestones between the Lower and Upper Kellwasser horizons at Bou Ounabdou near Mrirt, central Moroccan Meseta. The faunas are very close to the contemporaneous associations in European sections both by their taxonomic composition and by patterns of evolutionary behavior towards eye reduction. Two new taxa are described: *Gondwanaspis mirtensis* gen. et sp. nov., which is the last known representative of the Odontopleuridae before its extinction at the base of the Upper Kellwasser horizon, and *Pteroparia ziegleri maroccanica* subsp. nov., a geographical variant of the nominal subspecies from Sessacker in the Rhenish Slate Mountains.

Key words: Trilobita, Frasnian, Morocco, Kellwasser crisis, biogeography.

Raimund Feist [rfeist@isem.univ-montp2.fr], Institut des Sciences de l'Evolution, Université Montpellier 2, 34095 Montpellier, France.

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.