

***Agastograptus*, a synonym of *Plectograptus* (Retiolitidae, Graptolithina)**

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Acta Palaeontologica Polonica 47 (3), 2002: 459-467

Agastograptus robustus Obut and Zaslavskaya, 1983, the type species of the genus *Agastograptus* is herein recognized as a species of *Plectograptus*. Large proximal lateral orifices are one of the significant characters of *Plectograptus*. *P. robustus* differs from the type species, *Plectograptus macilentus* Törnquist, 1887, in possessing paired apertural processes. Other species of *Agastograptus* have been assigned to three different genera: *Spinograptus*, *S. clathrospinosus* (Eisenack, 1951), *S. munchi* (Eisenack, 1951), *Neogothograptus*, *N. balticus* (Eisenack, 1951), and *Cometograptus*, *C. nevadensis* (Berry and Murphy, 1975). The main diagnostic feature used for *Agastograptus*, the spinoreticular paired apertural processes, is recognized as a species feature, characteristic mostly for *Spinograptus*, whereas the generic features are the arrangement of the proximal end, ventral walls, and ancora sleeve of the rhabdosome. Therefore the genus *Agastograptus* is a synonym of *Plectograptus*.

Key words: Graptolithina, Retiolitidae, *Agastograptus*, Silurian, taxonomy

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