

Contribution to the systematics and phylogeny of Amphiastraeina (Scleractinia)

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Amphiastraeina are connected with their presumed ancestors,
Permian Polycoeliidae, by a transitional link - Triassic corals of the family
Pachythecalidae Cuif, 1975. During the early Jurassic they differendiated
into a few phylogenetic lines and developed certain structural patterns of
corallites homeomorphic with those of Rugosa, which had not been,
however, recognized in their ancestral group (lonsdaleoid
septa/dissepiments, gemmation). Four families are
recognized: Amphiastraeidae Ogilvie, Donacosmiliidae Krasnov emend.
Roniewicz, Carolastraeidae Eliasova, and Intersmiliidae Melnikova &
Roniewicz, fam.n. The earliest Amphiastraeina are described from the
?Hettangian-Sinemurian through the Bajocian and the Callovian of
South-East Pamir. One new genus, *Prodonacosmilia* Melnikova is distinguished.

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