

Gradual evolution of the Early Cretaceous marine gastropod *Rissoina* lineage in central Poland

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The evolutionary changes of the Early Cretaceous (Valanginian) marine gastropod *Rissoina* (*Buvignieria*) sp. from Wąwał (central Poland) show a pattern typical of the Ancient Lake Concept. Its morphology is stable during period of unstable conditions and starts to change gradually when the environment becomes stable. The linear character of the evolutionary changes of *Rissoina* sp. and lack of evolution among co-occurring gastropods suggests that the rate of evolution was controlled by intrinsic factors, not the environment.

Key words: Gradual evolution, gastropods, Cretaceous, Ancient Lake Concept, *Rissoina*, *Buvignieria*

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