

Lower Triassic footprints from the Świętokrzyskie (Holy Cross) Mountains, Poland

Ryszard Fuglewicz, Tadeusz Ptaszyński, and Kazimierz Rdzanek
Acta Palaeontologica Polonica 35 (3-4), 1990: 109-164

A tetrapod footprints assemblage from the Middle Buntsandstein labyrinthodontid beds, NE Świętokrzyskie Mts, appears to be the oldest known from the Triassic of Europe. It comprises 8 taxa: cf. *Capitosauroides* sp., *Chirotherium hauboldi* sp.n., *Isochirotherium sanctacrucense* sp.n., *Isochirotherium* sp., *Brachychirotherium kuhni* Demathieu et Haubold, 1982, *Symptichnium chirotherioides* sp.n., *Rhynchosaurooides brevidigitatus* sp.n. and *R. polonicus* sp.n. Footprints are preserved chiefly as casts on the sole surfaces, rarely as imprints on the upper surfaces of sandstones. Skin textures of chirotheriids have been noticed. Formation and preservation of prints as well as their relationship to facies are discussed. Mode and direction of movement of trackmakers and general characteristics of the environment in which their activity took place are reconstructed. Age and tectonic framework of the labyrinthodontic beds formation are briefly discussed.

Key words: tetrapods, footprints, parataxonomy, taphonomy, stratigraphy, Lower Triassic, Poland.

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.