

Hartmaniellidae - living fossils among polychaetes

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The jaw apparatus of the Recent eunicoid polychaete *Hartmaniella erecta* is closely similar to those of the Mesozoic species of *Palurites*. It is concluded that the family Hartmaniellidae originated in the late Palaeozoic from an ancestor close to the Paulinitidae and is closely related to Kielanoprionidae. The lineage shows an extremely slow rate of evolution. Hartmaniellids have been abundant during the whole Mesozoic while its Recent representation is only a relic. *Palurites jurassicus* sp. n. is proposed.

Key words: Polychaeta, Eunicida, scolecodonts, phylogeny' fossil, Recent.

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