

Report on the 4th International Workshop of the Lower Cretaceous Cephalopod Team (IGCP-Project 362)

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Rawson, P.F., Ph.J. Hoedemaeker, M.B. Aguirre-Urreta, E. Avram, M. Ettachfini, S.R.A. Kelly, J. Klein, E. Kotetishvili, H.G. Owen, P. Ropolo, M.R.A. Thomson, M. Wippich & Z. Vasícek. Report on the 4th International Workshop of the Lower Cretaceous Cephalopod Team (IGCP-Project 362). — Scripta Geol., Spec. Issue 3: 3-13, 7 figs., Leiden, December 1999.

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Keywords: Ammonites, Correlation, Lower Cretaceous.

The Working Group proposes only one modification to its current zonation of the Mediterranean Region, the addition of a *cristatum* Subzone in the lower part of the *inflatum* Zone (upper Albian). But in the light of newly published research it highlights levels/areas where further work is required, especially to resolve conflicting zonal schemes. It also proposes a 'Tethyan Province' zonation for the middle Albian. Alternative correlations for the Boreal/Tethyan Valanginian to Barremian stages are tabulated, one based on ammonite evidence alone, the other with additional biostratigraphical data coupled with sequence stratigraphy and magnetostratigraphy.

Contents

Introduction	3
Zonation of the Mediterranean Region	4
Tethyan/Boreal correlation	7
Aptian/Albian correlations	8
References	12

Introduction

The Lower Cretaceous Cephalopod Team originated as a group of specialists collaborating to establish an ammonite zonation for the Mediterranean Region of Tethys on behalf of IGCP Project 262 (Tethyan Correlation). An initial zonation was agreed at the first workshop, in Digne, France (11-15 July 1990), and published later that year (Hoedemaeker & Bulot, 1990). The second workshop, in Mula, SE Spain (2-5 July 1992) modified some aspects of the zonal scheme (Hoedemaeker et al., 1993). Papers originating from the first two workshops were published in *Mémoire HS 20 of Géologie Alpine*.

When IGCP Project 262 finished, the Cephalopod Team joined the replacement Project 362 (Tethyan-Boreal Cretaceous) and began to focus also on correlation with Boreal areas. A third workshop was held in Piobbico, Italy (5-8 July 1994). There it was agreed that no changes should be made to the team's Mediterranean zonation (Hoedemaeker et al., 1995). The proceedings were published as volume 51 of the *Memorie descrittive della Carta Geologica d'Italia* (1995). Most of the papers focused on

Tethyan faunas but Rawson (1995) reviewed the Boreal pre-Aptian sequences of NW Europe and proposed a Tethyan-Boreal correlation for the Valanginian to Barremian stages.

Most of our members also belong to appropriate Stage Working Groups of the Cretaceous Subcommission of IUGS, of which Peter Rawson is Chairman. The Subcommission held its second International Symposium on Cretaceous Stage Boundaries in Brussels, Belgium, in September 1995 and the proceedings were published the following year (Rawson et al., 1996).

All this activity has focused attention on many outstanding problems and stimulated much new research. This provided the background to our fourth Workshop, held in London, England, from 8-14 September, 1997. Sadly, illness prevented our Chairman, Philip Hoedemaeker, from attending the meeting. Twelve members attended from 9 countries; Argentina, Czech Republic, France, Georgia, Germany, Morocco, The Netherlands, Romania, and the United Kingdom. We were also delighted to welcome Dr Raymond Casey for our discussions on the Aptian and Albian. The range of expertise represented embraced areas from the Arctic (Spitsbergen and East Greenland), through NW Europe and Tethys to South America and the Antarctic. The papers in this volume reflect this.

Below we summarise the main conclusions of our discussions on zonation and correlation.

Zonation of the Mediterranean Region

No changes are proposed to the zonation published after our second workshop, with the exception of an additional subzone in the Albian. The zonation is summarised in Fig. 1. However, further modification will become necessary in the light of current and projected research, as indicated below:

Valanginian

The lower Valanginian zonation will need to be reconsidered when Bulot publishes the detailed evidence for his proposed *stephanophorus* and *inostranzewi* Zones (see Bulot, 1995). A summary is published in Bulot & Thieuloy (1995).

The upper Valanginian *trinodosum* and *callidiscus* Zones in our initial zonation were replaced later by the *pachydicranus* Zone (Hoedemaeker et al., 1993). This should be reinvestigated; some members believe we should go back to the former scheme (see also Bulot & Thieuloy, 1995).

Several 'horizons' additional to those shown in our chart have been recognised in slightly conflicting schemes produced by Bulot, Thieuloy and co-workers on the one hand (e.g. Thieuloy et al., 1990; Bulot & Thieuloy, 1995) and Atrops & Reboulet (e.g. 1993, 1995) on the other. The two versions are summarised in Fig. 2. Our Working Group will try to secure agreement on a unified scheme before modifying our chart.

Hauterivian

The recent proposals of Hoedemaeker (1995) and Hoedemaeker & Leereveld

STAGES		ZONES	SUBZONES	HORIZONS
ALBIAN	upper	S. (S.) <i>dispar</i>	S. (S.) <i>dispar</i>	
			S. (F.) <i>blancheti</i>	
		M. <i>inflatum</i>	D. <i>cristatum</i>	
	middle	E. <i>lautus</i>		
		E. <i>loricatus</i>		
		H. <i>dentatus</i>	H. <i>spathi</i> L. <i>lyelli</i>	
	lower	D. <i>mammillatum</i> L. <i>tardefurcata</i>		
APTIAN	upper	H. <i>jacobi</i>		
		A. <i>nolani</i>	D. <i>nodosocostatum</i>	
	middle	P. <i>melchioris</i>		
		E. <i>subnodosocostatum</i>		
	lower	D. <i>furcata</i>		
		D. <i>deshayesi</i>		
		D. <i>weissi</i>		
BARREMIAN	upper	D. <i>tuarkyricus</i>		
		M. <i>sarasini</i>		H. <i>ridzewskyi</i>
		I. <i>giraudi</i>		
	lower	H. <i>feraudianus</i>		
		H. <i>sartousiana</i>		
		A. <i>vandenheckii</i>		
HAUTERIVIAN	upper	H. <i>caillaudianus</i>		
		S. <i>nicklesi</i>		N. <i>pulchella</i>
		S. <i>hugii</i>		
	lower	P. <i>angulicostata</i> auct.	P. <i>cattulloi</i> P. <i>angulicostata</i> auct.	
		B. <i>balearis</i>		
		"P. <i>ligatus</i> "		
S. <i>sayni</i>			C. <i>cruasense</i>	
VALANGILNIAN	upper	L. <i>nodosoplicatum</i>		
		C. <i>loryi</i>		O. (J.) <i>jeannoti</i> C. <i>loryi</i>
		A. <i>radiatus</i>		
		N. (T.) <i>pachydicranus</i>		N. (T.) <i>callidiscus</i> C. <i>furcillata</i> O. (O.) <i>nicklesi</i>
	lower		H. <i>trinodosum</i>	
		S. <i>verrucosum</i>		
		B. <i>campylotoxus</i>		
BERRIASIAN	upper	T. <i>pertransiens</i>		
		T. <i>otopeta</i>		
	middle	F. <i>boissieri</i>	T. <i>alpillensis</i> B. <i>picteti</i> M. <i>paramimounum</i> D. <i>dalmasi</i> B. <i>privasensis</i> T. <i>subalpina</i>	
		T. <i>occitanica</i>		
	lower	B. <i>jacobi</i>		

Fig. 1. Zonal scheme for the Mediterranean Lower Cretaceous (after Hoedemaeker et al., 1995, with the addition of the *cristatum* Subzone).

(1995) to modify the zonation of the *Pseudothurmannia* beds are summarised in Fig. 3. The team recommends:

(a) that more research be initiated on the French Hauterivian, especially on the Upper Hauterivian (with special emphasis on the *Pseudothurmannia* beds);

(b) that E. Avram, F. Cecca, M. Company, Ph. Hoedemaeker and Z. Vášíček form a *Pseudothurmannia* Working Group to agree on a unified scheme.

Bulot & Thieuloy (1992-1995)		Atrops & Reboulet (1992-1995)		
Zones	Biohorizons	Zones	Biohorizons	
<i>nodosoplicatum</i>	<i>collignoni</i>	<i>nodosoplicatum</i>	<i>bargemensis</i>	
	<i>variegatus</i>		<i>nodosoplicatum</i>	
<i>loryi</i>	<i>jeannoti</i>	<i>loryi</i>	<i>jeannoti</i>	
	<i>loryi</i>		<i>loryi</i>	
<i>radiatus</i>	<i>buxtorfi</i>	<i>radiatus</i>		
	<i>castellanensis</i>			
<i>callidiscus</i>		<i>callidiscus</i>		
	<i>callidiscus</i>			<i>callidiscus</i>
<i>trinodosum</i>	<i>furcillata</i>	<i>trinodosum</i>	<i>subheterocostata</i>	
	<i>nicklesi</i>		<i>furcillata</i>	
			<i>companyi</i>	
<i>verrucosum</i>	<i>peregrinus</i>		<i>verrucosum</i>	<i>peregrinus</i>
	<i>pronecostatum</i>	<i>pronecostatum</i>		
	<i>verrucosum</i>	<i>neocomiensis</i>		
				<i>verrucosum</i>
<i>inostranzewi</i>		<i>campylotoxus</i>	<i>platycostatus</i>	
			<i>biassalensis</i>	
			<i>fuhrri</i>	
<i>stephanophorus</i>	<i>campylotoxus</i>			<i>quadristrangulatum</i>
	<i>subcampylotoxus</i>			
	<i>hirsutus</i>	<i>hirsutus</i>		
<i>pertransiens</i>		<i>pertransiens</i>		
<i>otopeta</i>	<i>thieuloyi</i>			
	<i>otopeta</i>			

Fig. 2. Valanginian and lower Hauterivian ‘horizons’; alternative schemes.

Barremian

New research on the Spanish and French Barremian has resulted in alternative zonal schemes by Company et al. (1995), Hoedemaeker (1995), Hoedemaeker & Leereveld (1995), and Vermeulen (1996). These are calibrated against the Cephalopod Team’s scheme in Fig. 4. The team recommends further collaborative work to produce a consolidated zonation. It recognises that in the shallow water environments of the Mediterranean area pulchelliids are generally more common than contemporaneous holcodiscids and could provide a better and more widely applicable guide for much of the Barremian.

Ropolo et al. (this volume) have reinvestigated the Barremian/Aptian boundary deposits at La Bédoule, SE France, demonstrating a distinctive *Pseudocrioceras* level above *sarasini* Zone faunas and immediately beneath a *Deshayesites* fauna characteristic of the basal Aptian *tuarkyricus* Zone.

IGCP-Project 262 (at Mula, 1993) & 362 (piobbico, 1995)		Bulot et al., 1993		Hoedemaeker, 1995 Hoede- maeker & Leereveld 1995
Zones	Horizons	Zones	Horizons	Zones
<i>P. angulicostata</i>	<i>P. catulloi</i>			<i>P. catulloi</i>
	<i>P. anguli- costata</i> auct.			<i>P. ohmi</i>
<i>P. (B.) balearis</i>				<i>P. (B.) balearis</i>
<i>“P. ligatus”</i>		<i>P. ligatus</i> (non sensu subsequent literature)		<i>P. ligatus</i>
<i>S. sayni</i>			<i>S. mimica</i>	<i>S. sayni</i>
	<i>C. cruasense</i>	<i>S. sayni</i>	<i>S. cruasense</i>	

Fig. 3. Zonal schemes for the upper Hauterivian *Pseudothurmannia* beds.

Aptian

The team noted that Dr Raymond Casey is presently revising the zonation of the English Aptian, based on abundant new material from the Isle of Wight.

Albian

The team accepted a proposal by E. Kotetishvili and H. Owen that a *Dipoloceras* (*D.*) *cristatum* Subzone should be inserted at the base of the *inflatum* Zone.

Tethyan/Boreal correlation

Berriasian

Across the Jurassic/Cretaceous boundary and throughout the Berriasian Stage, Boreal and Tethyan ammonites faunas are very distinct and there is little overlap, rendering correlation extremely difficult. The team has yet to focus on this problem, some aspects of which are summarised by Zakharov et. al (1995). This paper indicates that Russian workers now accept that the lower Berriasian is approximately equivalent to the upper Volgian rather than being represented by a major hiatus in the Boreal area.

Valanginian-Barremian

The provisional correlations summarised by Rawson (1995) at our third workshop are shown on Fig. 5 here. The correlations are based on evidence from Tethyan ammonites that invaded Boreal areas and Boreal ammonites that penetrated the Tethyan seas. At present there is no evidence from ammonites alone that the correlations need modifying, and some additional evidence supports certain correlations:

(a) *Prodichotomites* cf. or aff. *complanatus* occurs in the *verrucosum* Zone in the Czech Republic (Z. Vasíček).

IGCP 262 (at Mula, 1993) & 362 (at Piobbico, 1995)		Company et al., 1995		Hoedemaeker, 1995; Hoed. & Leer., 1995; Delanoy, 1997		Vermeulen, 1996		Angles
Zones	Horizons	Zones	Horizons	Zones	Horizons	Zones	Horizons	bed
	<i>T. ridzewskyi</i>			<i>M. sarasini</i>				
<i>M. sarasini</i>					<i>L. puzosianum</i>			177
<i>I. giraudi</i>				<i>I. giraudi</i>	<i>H. emerici</i>			172?
					<i>I. giraudi</i>			168
<i>H. feraudianus</i>				<i>H. feraud.</i>	<i>E. magnini</i>			166
					<i>H. feraudianus</i>			164
				<i>G. sartousiana</i>				
<i>G. sartousiana</i>					<i>C. limentinum</i>	<i>G. sart.</i>	# <i>G. provincialis</i>	
							<i>G. sartousiana</i>	160-2
<i>A. vandenheckii</i>		# <i>E. barremense</i>		# <i>A. vandenheckii</i>			<i>H. sayni</i>	
		# <i>A. vandenheckii</i>						147-3
	cf.					<i>C. darsi</i>		
<i>H. caillaudianus</i>	* <i>M. moutonianum</i>			\$ <i>H. caillaudianus</i>		\$ <i>C. darsi</i>		125
	*					* \$		
	* <i>K. compressissima</i>					<i>K. compressissima</i>		115
	% <i>H. fallax</i>							
	<i>N. pulchella</i>			<i>K. nicklesi</i>		% <i>N. pulchella</i>		109-3
<i>K. nicklesi</i>	<i>K. nicklesi</i>					<i>K. nicklesi</i>		95
						<i>P. colombiana</i>		89
<i>A. hugii</i>	<i>A. hugii</i>			<i>A. hugii</i>		<i>P. mazuca (= chalmasi)</i>		75
						<i>A. hugii</i>		72

Fig. 4. Alternative zonations for the Barremian stage of the Mediterranean region.

+ = *Holcodiscus fallax*; * = *H. caillaudianus*; # = *Heinzia (Gerhardtia) provincialis*; \$ = *Moutoniceras moutonianum*.

(b) *Breistrofferella castellanensis* occurs in the upper part of the *amblygonium* Zone in NW Germany (Stadthagen), together with the first *Acanthodiscus* (J. Klein), and *Breistrofferella* also occurs in the *noricum* Zone of the Mittelland Canal ('Ammonite indet.' in Kemper, 1992, pl. 39, fig. 3). These records support the **approximate** correlation of the *amblygonium* and *noricum* Zones with the *radiatus* Zone.

(c) the *peregrinus* horizon is recognised in Spain, at the same level as in France (J. Klein, pers. commun., 1997).

(d) *Spinocrioceras*, first recorded from N Germany, is now known from Spain (Hoedemaeker & Leereveld, 1995), France (Delanoy & Féraud, 1995), Italy (Cecca & Landra, 1994), and the Caucasus (Rawson, 1995).

(e) *Parancyloceras* occurs high in the Barremian in Romania, though it is not possible to distinguish between the *giraudi* and *sarasini* Zones there (E. Avram).

However, although the primary concern of our Working Group is with ammonites, Hoedemaeker has produced an alternative correlation chart (Fig. 6) incorporating additional biostratigraphical data (21 first and last appearances of dinoflagellates and nannofossils) together with sequence stratigraphic and magnetostratigraphic correlations.

Aptian/Albian correlations

Aptian

The strong dichotomy between Boreal and Tethyan Realms during Berriasian to

ZONE		SUBSTAGE	
West European Province		West Mediterranean region	
bidentatum		sarasini giraudi	UPPER BARREMIAN
stolleyi		feraudianus	
pingue / innexum		sartousiana	
denckmanni		vandenheckii	
elegans		caillaudianus	LOWER BARREMIAN
fissicostatum		nicklesi	
rarocinctum		hugii	
variabilis	disco-		
marginatus	falcatus	angulicostatus	UPPER HAUTERIVIAN
gottschei		balearis	
speetonensis / staffi		ligatus	
inversum		sayni	
		nodosoplicatum	LOWER HAUTERIVIAN
regale		loryi	
noricum		radiatus	
amblygonium			
densicostatus			UPPER VALANGINIAN
		callidiscus Hor.	
tuberculata		furcillata Hor.	
bidichotomoides			
triptychoides		nicklesi Hor.	
crassus		peregrinus Hor.	
polytomus			
hollwedensis			LOWER VALANGINIAN
hapkei		campylotoxus	
clarkei			
multicostatus			
pavlowi			
involutum		pertransiens	
heteropleurum			
robustum		otopeta	

Fig. 5. Provisional correlation of the Tethyan/Boreal Valanginian to Barremian ammonite zones (after Rawson, 1995).

Tethyan-Boreal correlation of ammonite zones: Berriasian-Barremian Stages (calibration with dinoflagellate cyst of which the first and last occurrences are common to both realms)				
Dinoflagellate cysts FO's and LO's	Tethyan (sub)zones/horizons		Boreal zones	Substages
<i>H. tenuiceras</i> ↑	Sarasini	Ridzewsky	Bidentatum	upper Barremian
			Stolleyi	
	Giraudi			
	Feraudianus		(Rude)	
<i>G. fastigata</i> ↓	Sartousiana		Pingue/innexum	
<i>P. parvispinum</i> ↑			Denckmanni	
<i>O. operculata</i> ↑	Vandenheckii		Elegans	lower Barremian
<i>S. terrula</i> ↓				
<i>N. vetusculum</i> ↓	Caillaudianus		Fissicostatum	
<i>K. fasciatum</i> ↓	Nicklesi	Pulchella		
				upper Hauterivian
<i>E. phragma</i> ↓	Hugii		Raricinctum	
	Ohmi	Catulloi		
<i>Bourkidinium</i> ↑		Ohmi	Variabilis	
<i>B. jaegeri</i> ↓				
<i>A. eilema</i> ↓	Balearis		Margaritatus	
				lower Hauterivian
<i>S. terrula</i> ↑	Ligatus		Gottschei	
<i>C. oceanica</i> ↑				
	Sayni	Cruasense	Speetonensis	
<i>A. eilema</i> ↑			Inversum	upper Valanginian
	Nodosoplicatum			
			Regale	
<i>N. vetusculum</i> ↑	Loryi	Jeannoti		
		Loryi	Noricum	
<i>M. staurota</i> ↑	Radiatus			
		Callidiscus	Amblygonium	upper Valanginian
	Pachydicranus		Densicostatus	
		Furcillata	Tuberculata	

Fig. 6. Alternative correlation of the Tethyan/Boreal Valanginian to Barremian stages (Hoedemaeker, new). Continued on p. 11

D. globulus O. tentorium O. complex K. fasciatum O. diluculum	↑	Pachydicranus	Furcillata	(Ivanowi)	upper Valanginian	Ryazanian <
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Aeg. = Aegocrioceras



Hiatus between two zones

European Province		Tethyan Province
Zone	Subzone	Zone
<i>Euhoplites lautus</i> <i>Euhoplites lonicatus</i> <i>Hoplites dentatus</i>	<i>Hoplites spathi</i> <i>Lyelliceras lyelli</i>	<i>Oxytropidoceras</i> spp. <i>Lyelliceras lyelli</i>

Fig. 7. European and Tethyan zonation of the middle Albian.

Barremian times had broken down by the Aptian (Hoedemaeker, 1990; Rawson, 1995). Thus the Aptian zonation shown in Fig. 1 is widely applicable across Europe and other areas, subject only to slight modification for regional species.

In NW Europe and East Greenland the appearance of the first deshayesitid ammonite, *Prodeshayesites*, is taken to mark the base of the Aptian. There is a problem in the recognition of the *Prodeshayesites* level in the Mediterranean region, where some records of this genus should be referred to *Deshayesites* and others to the Late Barremian *Martelites* (Ropolo et al., this volume).

True *Prodeshayesites* may not occur in the Mediterranean area: its level may be represented either by a break in the sequence or by the highest part of what is now still considered to be the Barremian sequence.

Albian

As for the Aptian, the 'Mediterranean' scheme is widely applicable across the European Province (Owen, this volume). The lower and upper Albian zonations apply to most of the world. But for the middle Albian the team recognises a 'Tethyan Province' zonation, with a *lyelli* Zone (= *lyelli* Subzone of the European Province) at the base, overlain by a zone of *Oxytropidoceras* spp. representing the remainder of the middle Albian (Fig. 7).

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