

Cosmopolitan Early Jurassic marine gastropods from west-central Patagonia, Argentina

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A new, relatively diverse gastropod fauna is reported from the Chubut province of west-central Patagonia. The gastropod association at the “El Córdoba” fossiliferous locality (Lower Toarcian of Osta Arena Formation) consists of three new species: the eucyclid *Amberleya? espinosa* sp. nov. and two procerithiids *Cryptaulax damboreneae* sp. nov. and *Cryptaulax nulloi* sp. nov. Other members of the association are the ataphrid *Striatoconulus* sp., discohelcid *Colpomphalus?* sp., and an undetermined zygopleurid. Knowledge on Early Jurassic gastropods from South America and other southern continents is reviewed to show that the taxonomic composition of the El Córdoba association strongly resembles other gastropod associations of this age (even those from Europe), suggesting a wide distribution of cosmopolitan genera.

Key words: Gastropoda, Osta Arena Formation, Toarcian, Jurassic, Chubut, Patagonia, Argentina.

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