

Eridostraca a new suborder of ostracods and its phylogenetic significance

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Acta Palaeontologica Polonica 06 (1), 1961: 29-102

This paper reports the results of investigations on the structure and texture of multilamellar ostracod carapaces and of comparative studies on the microstructure of the shell in Leperditidae Jones and Healdiidae Harlton. The writer's inferences are that the multilamellar ostracod carapace has been derived from Conchostraca (Phyllopoda) with concentric growth lines. The consequent result is the separation of the group Eridoconchinae Henningsmoen into a distinct suborder - the Eridostraca. A new genus, *Aberroconcha*, has been established in this suborder and two species from the Middle Devonian of Poland are redescribed as new: *Aberroconcha plicata* and *A. devonica*. Moreover, one new species of *Eridoconcha* Ulrich & Bassler, equally of Devonian age, is described: *Eridoconcha granulifera*. A concept of the diphyletic origin of ostracods is postulated, based on the morphology and microstructure of their carapace.

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