ACTA PALAEONTOLOGICA POLONICA

New evidence on the taphonomic context of the Ediacaran *Pteridinium*

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Acta Palaeontologica Polonica 56 (3), 2011: 641-650 doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.4202/app.2010.0060

New material collected from the Kliphoek Member of the Nama Group (Kuibis Subgroup, Dabis Formation) on Farm
Aar, southern Namibia, offers insights concerning the morphology of the Ediacaran organism *Pteridinium*. *Pteridinium*
fossils previously described as being preserved in situ have been discovered in
association with scour–and–fill structures indicative of transport. Additionally, two *Pteridinium*
fossils have been found within sedimentary dish structures in the Kliphoek Member. A
form of organic surface with a discrete membrane–like habit has also been recovered
from Farm Aar, and specimens exist with both *Pteridinium* and membrane–like
structures superimposed. The association between *Pteridinium* fossils and
membrane–like structures suggests several possibilities. *Pteridinium* individuals may have been
transported before burial along with fragments of microbial mat; alternately they may have been enclosed
by an external membranous structure during life.

Key words: *Pteridinium*, Petalonamae, Vendobionta, taphonomy, palaeoecology, Kliphoek Member, Nama Group, Ediacaran.

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