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Middle Triassic ammonoids from Silesia, Poland

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A description of new ammonoid specimens (*Acrochordiceras* aff. *damesi*, cf. *Acrochordiceras* sp. indet., *Discoptychites* cf. *dux*, ?*Paraceratites* sp., cf. *Balatonites* sp. indet., *Beneckeia buchi*) from the Lower Muschelkalk (Anisian, Middle Triassic) of Silesia (southern Poland) is presented. The detailed stratigraphic position of the new finds is given. The description is supplemented with a list of all species of ammonoids found hitherto in Silesia, which was a southern part of the Germanic Basin during the Anisian. *Beneckeia* and *Noetlingites* were typical of epicontinental seas and usually appeared in the early part of transgressions. Other ammonoids entered from the Tethys into the epicontinental sea of the Germanic Basin during the maxima of transgressions. Some of them (balatonitids, paraceratitids, bulogitids, *Discoptychites* and probably *Acrochordiceras*) were successful colonizers which established their own populations in the Germanic Basin and evolved towards morphologies typical of epicontinental seas. Other (*Beyrichites* sp., *Paraceratites* binodosus, and `*Trachyceras*' sp.) are regarded as unsuccessful immigrants or empty shells drifted post-mortem from the Tethys.

Key words: Ammonoids, Triassic, Anisian, Muschelkalk, Silesia, Poland, *Acrochordiceras*, *Discoptychites*, *Balatonites*, *Beneckeia*, *Paraceratites*.

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