

A new type of colony in Silurian (upper Wenlock) retiolitid graptolite *Spinograptus* from Poland

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The new retiolitid species, *Spinograptus tubothecalis*, is described from the *Colonograptus praedeubeli* and *C. deubeli* biozones from two localities in Poland: a borehole on the East European Platform and the Holy Cross Mountains. This was a recovery phase after the severe Silurian *Cyrtograptus lundgreni* Event. The new species has a unique, previously undescribed form of finite rhabdosome. Unlike the species *Spinograptus reticulolawsoni* and *S. lawsoni*, in which the finite rhabdosomes taper distally, its rhabdosome is parallel-sided with the two distal thecae developed as isolated tubes without genicular processes, with a small appendix between them. The new species also has preserved membranes of the sicula, thecae and ancora sleeve, similar to a few species of *Spinograptus* from the lower Homerician. *Spinograptus tubothecalis*, like *Spinograptus clathrospinosus* and *S. spinosus*, has paired reticulofusellar genicular processes on the pre-thecal ventral orifices, similar to but shorter than thecal processes. Transverse rods, a rare character in post-*Cyrtograptus lundgreni* Event retiolitids occur in the new species in rudimentary form.

Key words: Graptoloidea, Retiolitidae, *Spinograptus*, finite colony, Silurian, Poland.

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