

Natural assemblages of *Palmatolepis* from the Upper Devonian of the northern Urals

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Two bedding-plane assemblages from the Upper Devonian (lower Famennian, Upper *triangularis* Zone) of the Evtropiny Noski section on the Unya River in the northern Urals are of extraordinary significance for the controversial question of the structure of the *Palmatolepis* apparatus. The assemblages indicate that some species of *Palmatolepis* were characterized by nothognathellan (Pb), palmatodellan (M), smithiform (Sc), falcodontan (Sb), and asymmetrical (Sb) and symmetrical (Sa) scutulan elements, in addition to the platform (Pa) element. Thus, earlier views based on fused clusters and statistical analysis are reinforced by the discovery and description of the Unya River specimens. *Palmatolepis* is used as the generic name, because *Palmatodella* is a nomen dubium.

Key words: conodonts, apparatus reconstruction, Devonian.

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