

***Fusiteuthis polonica*, a rare and unusual belemnite from the Maastrichtian**

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A specimen of *Fusiteuthis polonica*, from the basal Maastrichtian of the "Saturn" chalk pit at Krons Moor in northwest Germany, is described. It came from the uppermost part of the *Belemnella lanceolata* Zone, ca. 9.5 m above the base of the Maastrichtian as defined on belemnites. *Fusiteuthis* was very rare, but widely distributed. Single occurrences are known from northwest Germany, Poland and Crimea. It has been recorded only from the lowest and uppermost parts of the Maastrichtian; the longevity of this genus was thus slightly less than 6 myr. *Fusiteuthis* belongs to the Upper Cretaceous belemnite family Belemnitellidae.

Key words: Belemnitellids, *Fusiteuthis*, taxonomy, Maastrichtian, northwest Germany.

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