

Colonial volvocales (Chlorophyta) from the Upper Devonian of Poland and their palaeoenvironmental significance

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First fossil representatives of the modern fresh-water algae from the family Volvocaceae - *Eovolvox silesiensis* gen. et sp. nov. - have been discovered in the Frasnian *Amphipora*-calcisphaere limestone of Upper Silesia, Poland. The abundant appearance of these algae indicates a very low salinity gradient of the depositional environment, probably close to that of modern eutrophic lacustrine conditions. The algae have been preserved due to rapid carbonate permineralization during preburial and/or early burial stage.

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