Meded. Werkgr. Tert. Kwart. Geol.	vol. 18(3)	pp. 127-131	1 pl.	Rotterdam, September 1981
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ELASMOBRANCHII FROM LIMONITIC SANDSTONE OF SIADĻO GÓRNE NEAR SZCZECIN, POLAND

by

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Bosch, M. van den. Elasmobranchii from limonitic sandstone of Siadlo Górne near Szczecin, Poland. - Meded. Werkgr. Tert. Kwart. Geol., 18(3): 127-131, 1 pl., Rotterdam, September 1981.

From an erratic block of limestone of Siadlo Górne, Poland, some 20 teeth of Elasmobranchii were collected.

A comparison with Oligocene faunas from the Netherlands and Belgium indicates that the age of this sandstone agrees with the lower part of the Brinkheurne Member/Ratum Member in the eastern part of the Netherlands and the Nuculaclay near Tongeren in Belgium. The sandstone is slightly younger than the Berg Sands s.s. in the Tongeren area.

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On the request of Mr A.W. Janssen of the Rijksmuseum van Geologie en Mineralogie at Leiden a stratigraphical correlation of an Elasmobranch association from Poland, with Oligocene deposits in the Netherlands and Belgium is attempted. The fauna was collected by Mr A.W. Janssen in September 1979 at Siadjo Górne (Poland, wojw. Szczecin), in the western bank of a former railway cut, in an erratic block of limonitic sandstone. Initially this sandstone was regarded as so-called 'Stettiner Gestein' (Janssen, 1980). This latter author, after a preliminary study of the mollusc fauna, found similarities between the Siadjo Górne fauna and the Nucula Clay in Belgium.

The fauna was concentrated by manual preparation and sieving on a 0.4 mm mesh of the entire sample. So, the collecting method enables a comparison with other faunas (van den Bosch, 1978).

In this way the following material was collected:

Odontaspis acutissima (Ag.)	7 specimens	= 35%
Cetorhinus sp gill-raker	1 specimen	5%
Galeorhinus latus (Storms)	3 specimens	15%
Carcharhinus elongatus (Leriche)	1 specimen	5%
Squalus alsaticus (Andreae)	5 specimens	25%
Squatina angeloides van Beneden	1 specimen	5%
Raja heinzelini Steurbaut & Herman	1 specimen	5%
Raja sp dermal spine	1 specimen	5%
	20 specimens	100%

(Because of the small number of specimens the percentages given are approximate)

Most striking in fact is, that the number of species in this sample of only some kg is already rather large. The ratios between the numbers of specimens of O. acutissima, G. latus and S. alsaticus compared with the small number of Rajidae point to a correlation with the lower part of the Brinkheurne Member, possibly including the Ratum Member (Rupelian) in the eastern part of the Netherlands (van den Bosch, 1980). A higher age seems improbable; the slightly older fauna from the Berg Sands s.s. near Tongeren in Belgium is different (van den Bosch, in press). In somewhat younger deposits of the Rupelian Squalus alsaticus is strongly dominating. A correlation with the Belgian Nucula Clay is obvious, but is difficult to demonstrate because of the restricted number of specimens known from this deposit.

It is clear that the limonitic sandstone of Siadlo Górne does not belong to the 'Stettiner Gestein'. This 'Stettiner Gestein' belongs to a younger Rupelian deposit. The conclusions of Janssen (1980) and Gaemers (1981) on respectively the molluscs and the otoliths of the same limonitic sandstone, are in agreement with the results of the Elasmobranch fauna.

Summarizing, the conclusion is that the fauna from the limonitic sandstone from Siadlo Górne in Poland, as described here, correlates with the lower part of the Brinkheurne Member/Ratum Member in the eastern part of the Netherlands, possibly with the Nucula Clay of Belgium, viz. the lower part of the Boom Clay Formation (= non Boom Clay Member, N.A.M. & R.G.D., 1980).

[This paper is an adaptation of an internal report (10.3.80) of the R.G.M.]

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EXPLANATION OF THE PLATE

(Bar length represent actual size!)

- 1 Odontaspis acutissima (Ag.), right upper anterior tooth, exterior view, RGM 176 624.
- 2 Cetorhinus sp., fragmentary juncture of gill-raker, RGM 176 625.
- 3 Galeorhinus latus (Storms, 1894), right upper lateral tooth, exterior view, RGM 176 626.
- 4 Carcharhinus elongatus (Leriche, 1910), fragment of left lower lateral tooth, RGM 176 627.
- 5 Squalus alsaticus (Andreae, 1892), anterior tooth, exterior view, RGM 176 628.
- 6 Squatina angeloides van Beneden, 1873, lateral tooth, exterior view, RGM 176 629.
- 7 Raja heinzelini Steurbaut & Herman, 1978, tooth, backside, RGM 176 630.
- 8 Raja sp., dermal spine, lateral view, RGM 176 631.

All specimens are kept in the collections of the Rijksmuseum van Geologie en Mineralogie, Leiden (RGM registration numbers). All specimens from limonitic sandstone of Siadlo Górne, Poland.

