Book review

SCHULTZ, O., 2003. Bivalvia neogenica (Lucinoidea-Mactroidea). Catalogus Fossilium Austriae 1(2), pp. i-x, 381-690, 1 fig., pls 57-95. Verlag der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, Wien (ISBN 3-7001-3180-X). Price € 146.-

The second part (of three) of this catalogue was published with an attractive blue cover similar to the one of part 1. The first 10 pages are devoted to additions (pp. v-viii) and corrections (p. ix) and 23 supplemental references (p. x) to the first volume. Many of the corrections concern changes in the ending acea to -oidea for superfamilies, as made mandatory in the 1999 issue of ICZN rulings.

From page 381 onwards the systematic part is continued, following the Treatise of Invertebrate Paleontology (1969, 1971). In this part the families Lucinidae (pp. 381-435), Thyasiridae (pp. 435-439), Ungulinidae (pp. 439-444), Chamidae (pp. 444-454), Erycinidae (pp. 454-458), Kelliidae (pp. 458-461), Leptonidae (pp. 461-463), Montacutidae (pp. 463-466), Galeommatidae (pp. 466-467), Sportellidae (pp. 468-470), Carditidae (pp. 470-503), Astartidae (pp. 503-507), Crassatellidae (pp. 507-510), Cardiidae (pp. 510-642), Mactridae (pp. 642-674), Cardiliidae (pp. 674-675) and Mesodesmatidae (pp. 675-690) are treated in the same detail as far as synonymy and geographical/stratigraphical distribution are concerned.

Especially the extensive listing and illustration of all those interesting occurrences of largely endemic Central Paratethyan cardiids is very useful. The plates, b/w photographs, are of the same excellent quality as in the first part. For some groups of smaller species (Erycinidae, Leptonidae, Montacutidae, etc.) one could have wished a higher magnification to clarify details, especially so for the hinges.

Considering the enormous number of names and synonyms it may be hoped and expected that the concluding volume 3 will contain a very extensive index, facilitating the tracing of any name in this voluminous catalogue.

Again I feel the need to express my admiration to Dr Schultz for his valuable contribution to European palaeontology. If we could ever have such a catalogue for the gastropods as well!

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