

Přídolí graptolites in the Amêndoa-Carvoeiro Synform (SW border of the Central Iberian Zone, Portugal): biostratigraphical relevance

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The Přídolí graptolite *Neocolonograptus parultimus* was identified in the central part of the Amêndoa-Carvoeiro Synform, in the southern border of the Portuguese Central Iberian Zone (CIZ), a domain of the Iberian Massif. The fauna is inside a microconglomeratic sandstone level in the upper part of the Chão do Brejo Member, the middle part of the Bando dos Santos Formation (BS Fm), assumed to be of Přídolí–Lochkovian age (Romão 2000). The upper levels of this formation (Bando Member) have yielded trilobite, gastropod and brachiopod faunas of Lochkovian age (Romão 2000).

The new palaeontological data represent the first confirmed occurrence of Přídolí graptolites in the Portuguese CIZ and the second in conjunction with the Spanish part of this zone (Piçarra *et al.* 1998). Previous Přídolí "*Pristiograptus*" *ultimus* data have been identified in the Amêndoa-Carvoeiro Synform and further north in the Buçaco Syncline (Delgado 1908; Romariz 1962). This fauna recently reviewed, save one specimen, proved to be composed of undetermined species of *Pristiograptus*, *Monograptus* and *Colonograptus* (Piçarra and Sequeira 2010).

The upper Silurian succession of the Amêndoa-Carvoeiro Synform is more precisely known now. It is composed of: 1) a 40 m thick sequence of thin-bedded siltstones and fine quartzite alternations of Přídolí age or older (Corga Member, lower part of the BS Fm; Romão 2000); and 2) a regressive sequence of bioturbated sandstones and quartzites (Chão do Brejo Member), about 30 m thick, which contains the Přídolí graptolites, in the upper beds, and might include also the Silurian/Devonian boundary.

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