

Biodiversity of Sarmatian Foraminifera of the Eastern Paratethys

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ABSTRACT. Three important stages were distinguished in the development of Sarmatian foraminifera of the Ponto-Caspian basin of Eastern Paratethys: the early, which reflects the process of formation of foraminiferal assemblages; the middle – the time of their maximum diversification; the late, when almost all groups of foraminifera disappeared. All three stages are characterized by peculiar foraminiferal assemblages, whose distribution was controlled by different bionomic conditions in the separate regions of the huge Sarmatian basin. © 2011 Bull. Georg. Natl. Acad. Sci.

Key Words: Sarmatian, micropaleontology, foraminifera, Paratethyan.

The orogenic processes, which took place in the Late Konkian led to drastic changes in marine biota during the Sarmatian [1]. A restriction of the connections between the Paratethys and the open ocean occurred at the beginning of this time. In particular the connection with the Indo-Pacific disappeared [1, 2]. The Late Konkian basin was replaced by the large, brackish isolated Sarmatian basin, which had temporary connection with the Mediterranean Sea (Fig. 1).

The Sarmatian Sea occupied the territory from the Alps to the Aral Sea and was composed of basins with different bionomic conditions: Pannonian, Dacian, Euxinic and Caspian basins. The Pannonian basin was connected to the Dacian basin via the Trans-Carpathian strait, and the Dacian basin was connected to the Black Sea basin, and from there, to the Caspian Sea. The Euxine Sea in the southwest was surrounded by the large Aegean Sea [3].

For the first time the Sarmatian stage of the Central Paratethys was established by Suess [4] which later was divided into three substages from the base to the top [5, 6]: Volhynian, Bessarabian and Khersonian. At present on the territory of Western and Central Paratethys

Sarmatian “*sensu stricto*” [7] that corresponds to Volhynian and Lower Bessarabian is distinguished, while Sarmatian “*sensu lato*” of the Eastern Paratethys corre-



Fig. 1. Outline of the Paratethys-Mediterranean region during the Late Miocene (according to Rögl, 1998).

Table 1.

Stratigraphic scheme of Middle and Late Miocene interval.

Berggren et al., 1995		Rögl, 1998	Nevesskaya et al., 1986 Trubikhin, 1989	
Time (Ma)	Mediterranean Stages	Central Paratethys	Eastern Paratethys	
10 14	▲ Tortonian 11.0 Serravallian ▼	▲ Pannonian Sarmatian s.s. Badenian ▼	▲ Meotian Sarmatian s.l. Konkian	Upper (Khersonian) Middle (Bessarabian) Lower (Volhynian)

sponds to the Volhynian, Bessarabian and Khersonian substages (Table 1).

The study of foraminiferal assemblages is essential for understanding the paleoenvironmental and paleogeographical evolution of the Eastern Paratethys in the Sarmatian. In the Eastern Paratethys only some species of some genera of foraminifera from Veselianskian (Upper Konkian) basin continued into the Sarmatian. However, during this time they underwent strong morphological changes. This prevents a reliable identification of their ancestors. The evolution of the Sarmatian foraminifers in the Ponto-Caspian basin was accomplished in three stages: (1) during the first stage Lower Sarmatian foraminiferal assemblages were established, (2) during the second stage they reached their maximum diversification and (3) in the final stage almost all the groups of Foraminifera except some of the most euryhaline species disappeared in the Eastern Paratethys. The three stages are characterized by peculiar foraminiferal assemblages (Plate 1; 2) controlled by different environmental conditions in the different basins [8-13].

The cause for the drastic changes in the marine biota during the Sarmatian basin is still being debated. According to Kolesnikov [3], a large amount of freshwater possibly drained from rivers, whose mass prevailed over the mass of evaporate moisture, discharging into the Eastern Paratethys in the Early Sarmatian. The isolation of the basin and the flow of the large amount of freshwater caused a strong decrease in salinity.

A more recent study of Piller & Harzhauser [14] suggests that brackish water conditions in the Sarmatian basin of Paratethys were not constant. The Sarmatian may be subdivided into at least two stages: a short Early Sarmatian period of normal marine, probably mixohaline

conditions in marginal areas, and a longer Late Sarmatian period of normal marine, occasionally hypersaline conditions. Their interpretation is based on the normal marine fauna and flora (which as a whole include foraminifera, molluscs, serpulids, bryozoans, dasycladaceae, corallinean algae and diatoms), present in the Sarmatian deposits of the Central Paratethys.

In the opinion of the authors of this article, such supposition is subject to discussion, because the volume of deposits of Sarmatian basins of Eastern Paratethys, the composition of fossil fauna and flora and the process of their development were quite different from the picture obtaining in Central Paratethys [9, 11, 12].

According to the data of Maissuradze and Koiava [9, 12], the Early Sarmatian is characterized by two phases: (1) In the lower part of the Early Sarmatian foraminiferal assemblages are characterized by *Quinqueloculina*, *Sinuloculina*, *Varidentella*, *Affinetrina*, *Nonion*, *Elphidium*, *Criboelphidium*, *Porosonion*, *Parellina* and *Ammonia*. *Bolivina*, *Discorbis*, *Bulimina*, *Glabratella*, *Cibicides* and *Fissurina* are relatively rare (Table 2a; 2b; 2c). Their morphology does not differ noticeably from that displayed by their Middle Miocene ancestors. These forms are also characterized by small sizes, and sometimes, transparent walls. (2) Assemblages from the upper part of the Early Sarmatian are characterized by a reduced diversity because of the disappearance of *Bolivina*, *Discorbis*, *Glabratella*, *Cibicides*, *Caucasina* (Table 2a; 2b; 2c). Nevertheless, a large number of genera survived and adapted to the new environment. They are characterized by a strong intraspecific variability and a potential for speciation.

The Middle Sarmatian can be subdivided into 3 phases: (1) The lower phase is characterized by foraminiferal assemblages very different from those observed in the Early Sarmatian. New genera such as *Dogielina*, *Meandroloculina*, and *Sarmatiella*, contributed a considerable number of new species. Foraminifers of these assemblages are characterized by large size. (2) The richest assemblages of endemic foraminifera are characteristic of the middle phase of the Middle Sarmatian, when the number of individuals and new species and their size reaches a maximum. (3) The last phase of the Middle Sarmatian is distinguished for a decrease in the abundance of foraminiferal genera, species and individuals. Because of the worsening of bionomic conditions the only very few representatives of the most euryhaline families survived: *Nonion*, *Elphidium*, *Porosonion*, *Ammonia* and very seldom *Affinetrina*, and *Varidentella*. Among them *Porosonion* is characterized by a large size and additional ornamentations on very coarse walls of tests [9, 11, 12].

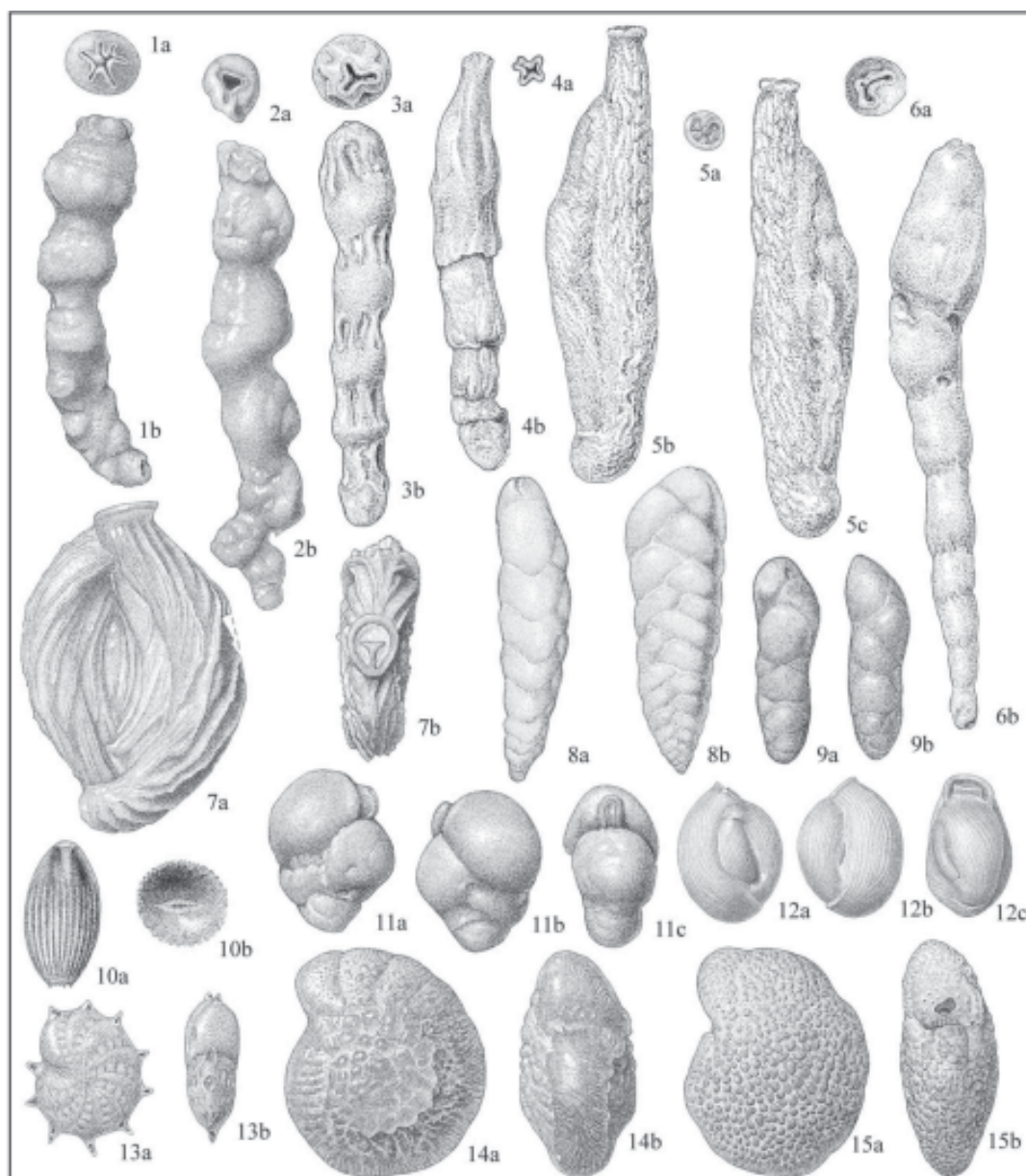


Plate 1. Sarmatian foraminifera. **1a-b** *Meandroloculina minor* Bogdanowicz, outcrop Ochkhauri village, a x 47, b x 65; **2a-b** *Meandroloculina gracilis* Bogdanowicz, outcrop Ochkhauri village, a x47, b x65; **3a-b** *Sarmatiella costata* Bogdanowicz, outcrop Djikhashkari village, a x 45, b x 65; **4a-b** *Articulina kalickii* Bogdanowicz, outcrop Djikhashkari village, a x 45, b x 65; **5a-c** *Dogielina sarmatica* Bogdanowicz, outcrop Djikhashkari village, a,b x 45, c x 65; **6a-b** *Sarmatiella subtilis*, Bogdanowicz, outcrop Djikhashkari village, a x 45, b x 65; **7a-b** *Spiroloculina okrajantzi* Bogdanowicz, outcrop river Chanistskali, x 45; **8a-b** *Bolivina* aff. *dilatata* (d'Orbigny), outcrop river Chanistskali, x 45; **9a-b** *Bulimina* aff. *elongata* (D'Orbigny), outcrop village Ochkhauri, x 65; **10a-b** *Oolina cubanica* (Bogdanowicz), outcrop Ochkhauri village, x 100; **11a-c** *Meandroloculina dentifera* (Bogdanowicz & Maissuradze), outcrop Ochkhauri village, x 45; **12a-b** *Varidentella reussi* costulata Maissuradze,Koiava&Spezzaferri, outcrop Ochkhauri village, x 45; **13a-b** *Elphidium aculeatum* (d'Orbigny), outcrop Djigali village, x 47; **14a-b** *Porosononion hyalinum* Bogdanowicz, outcrop river Chanistskali, x 45; **15a-b** *Porosononion aragviensis*, Djanelidze, outcrop Ochkhauri village, x 35. All specimens from West Georgia.

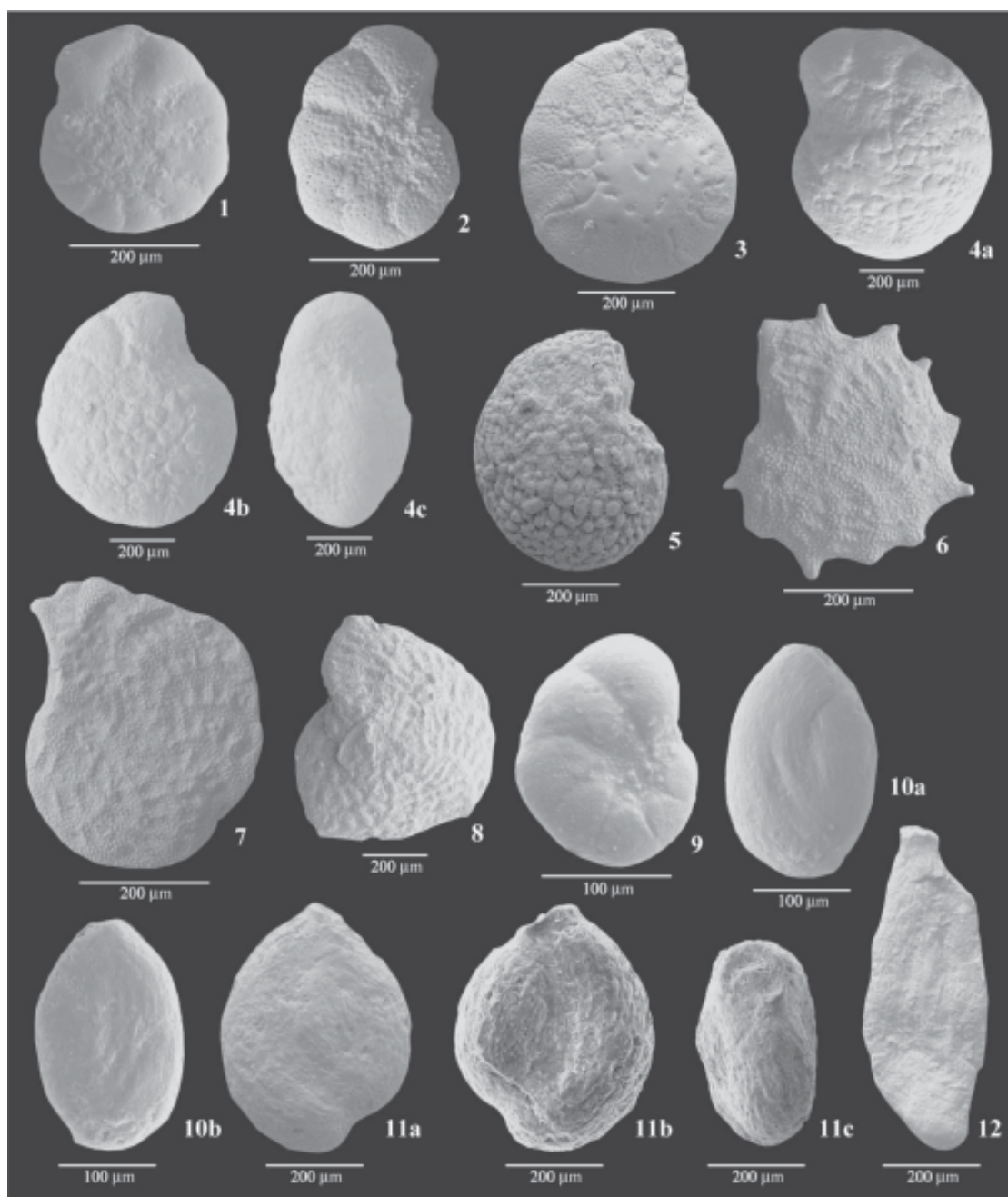


Plate 2. Sarmatian foraminifera. **1.** *Porosononion* aff. *guriensis* O. Djanelidze, oil well Karas-1; **2.** *Porosononion granosum* (d'Orbigny); **3.** *Porosononion hyalinum* (Bogdanowicz), oil well Mtsarekhevi-74. **4a-c.** *Porosononion subgranosum* (Egger), oil well Karas-1; **5.** *Porosononion aragviensis* (O. Djanelidze), outcrop city of Mtskheta; **6.** *Elphidium aculeatum* (d'Orbigny), outcrop river Russiani; **7.** *Elphidium fichtelianum* (d'Orbigny), outcrop river Russiani; **8.** *Elphidium regina* (d'Orbigny), oil well Vashliani-10; **9.** *Nonion* aff. *bogdanoviczi* Voloshinova, oil well Vashliani-10; **10a-b.** *Affinetrina guriana* (O. Djanelidze), oil well Karas-1; **11a-c.** *Varidentella* aff. *reussi* (Bogdanowicz), outcrop river Satskhenisi; **12.** *Dogielina sarmatica* Bogdanowicz, oil well Vashliani-2. All specimens from East Georgia.

Table 2a.

Distribution of Sarmatian foraminifera of the Euxine-Caspian basins.

Species	Age	Geographic Distribution				
		WGEO	EGEO	UKR	MDA	WPC
<i>Quinqueloculina oblonga</i> Didkowsky	N ₁ s ₂			•	•	
<i>Q. grosniensis</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ s ₂		•	•	•	
<i>Q. laticostata</i> Didkowsky	N ₁ s ₂			•	•	
<i>Q. longuscola</i> Didkowsky	N ₁ s ₂			•		
<i>Q. collaris</i> (Gerke&Issaeva)	N ₁ s ₁	•	•	•	•	•
<i>Q. minakovae ukrainica</i> Didkowsky	N ₁ k			•		
<i>Q. arkuata</i> (Didkowsky&Gudina)	N ₁ s ₂			•	•	
<i>Q. sinzovi</i> Didkowsky	N ₁ s ₂			•	•	
<i>Q. sokolovi</i> Didkowsky	N ₁ s ₂			•	•	
<i>Cycloforina karreri</i> Reuss	N ₁ s ₁ - N ₁ s ₂	•	•	•	•	•
<i>C. karreri ovate</i> Serova	N ₁ s ₂			•		
<i>C. perlucida</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ s ₂		•			•
<i>C. costata</i> d'Orbigny	N ₁ s ₁			•		
<i>C. odessae</i> Didkowsky	N ₁ s ₂			•		
<i>C. fluviata</i> Vengilinsky	N ₁ s ₁ - N ₁ s ₂			•	•	
<i>C. stomata</i> Luczkowska	N ₁ s ₂		•			
<i>C. badenensis</i> (d'Orbigny)	N ₁ s ₂		•			
<i>C. contora</i> (d'Orbigny)	N ₁ s ₂		•			
<i>C. rotunda</i> (Gerke)	N ₁ s ₁ - N ₁ s ₂			•		
<i>C. complanata</i> (Gerke&Issaeva)	N ₁ s ₂	•	•	•	•	•
<i>Articulina problema</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ s ₁ - N ₁ s ₂	•	•	•	•	•
<i>A. sarmatica</i> (Karrer)	N ₁ s ₁		•	•		•
<i>A. tamanica</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ s ₁	•	•	•		•
<i>A. bidentata costata</i> Didkowsky	N ₁ s ₂		•	•	•	
<i>A. glabra</i> (Cushman)	N ₁ s ₂			•	•	
<i>A. monodentata sarmatica</i> Didkowsky	N ₁ s ₁ - N ₁ s ₂			•	•	
<i>A. apsheronica</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ s ₂	•	•	•	•	•
<i>A. paradoxalis</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ s ₂	•	•	•	•	•
<i>A. kalickii</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ s ₂		•	•	•	•
<i>A. stelligera</i> Didkowsky	N ₁ s ₁ - N ₁ s ₂			•		
<i>A. volhynica</i> Didkowsky	N ₁ s ₂			•		
<i>A. voloshinova</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ s ₁ - N ₁ s ₂	•	•			•
<i>Articulina articuloides</i> (Gerke&Issaeva)	N ₁ s ₁	•	•	•		•
<i>Flintina tutkowskii</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ s ₂	•		•		•
<i>F. volhynica</i> Didkowsky	N ₁ s ₂			•	•	
<i>F. schweyeri</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ s ₂		•	•		•
<i>Sarmatiella costata</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ s ₂		•	•	•	•
<i>S. moldowiensis</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ s ₂	•	•	•	•	•
<i>S. prima</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ s ₂	•		•		•
<i>S. subtilis</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ s ₂		•	•	•	•
<i>Dogielina sarmatica</i> Bogdanowicz&Voloshinova	N ₁ s ₂	•	•	•	•	•
<i>D. kaptarenko</i> Bogdanowicz&Didkowsky	N ₁ s ₂	•		•	•	•
<i>Sinuloculina consobrina</i> (d'Orbigny)	N ₁ k - N ₁ s	•	•	•	•	•
<i>S. consobrina sarmatica</i> (Gerke)	N ₁ s ₁	•	•	•	•	•
<i>S. angustioris</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ s ₂	•	•	•	•	•
<i>S. nitens</i> (Reuss)	N ₁ s ₁ - N ₁ s ₂	•	•	•	•	•
<i>S. delicatula</i> Kolesnikova	N ₁ s ₂	•	•	•		•
<i>S. consobrina plana</i> Voloshinova	N ₁ s	•	•	•	•	•
<i>Miliolinella</i> ex. gr. <i>circularis</i> (Bornemann)	N ₁ s ₁ - N ₁ s ₂		•	•		•

WGEO - Western Georgia; EGEO - Eastern Georgia; UKR - Ukraine; MDA - Moldova; WPC - Western Precaucasus; E₁ - Rec. - Paleocene to Recent; E₂ - Rec. - Eocene to Recent; E₁ - N₂ - Paleocene to Pliocene; E₂² - N₁s₂ - Late Oligocene to Middle Sarmatian; N₁ - Miocene; N₁ - Rec. - Miocene to Recent; N₁k - Konkian; N₁k - N₁s - Konkian to Sarmatian; N₁k - N₁s₁ - Konkian to Upper Sarmatian; N₁s - Sarmatian; N₁s₁ - Upper Sarmatian; N₁s₁ - N₁s₂ - Upper and Middle Sarmatian; N₁s₂ - Middle Sarmatian; N₁s₂-Rec. - Middle Sarmatian to Recent.

Table 2b.

Distribution of Sarmatian foraminifera of the Euxine-Caspian basins.

Species	Age	Geographic Distribution				
		WGEO	EGEO	UKR	MDA	WPC
<i>Meandroloculina litoralis</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ S ₂	•	•	•	•	•
<i>M. bogatschovi</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ S ₂		•	•		•
<i>M. minor</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ S ₂		•	•	•	•
<i>M. aculeata</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ S ₂		•	•		•
<i>M. gracilis</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ S ₂	•	•	•		•
<i>M. schirwanensis</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ S ₂	•		•		•
<i>M. conicocamerale</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ S ₂	•	•	•		•
<i>M. dentifera</i> Bogdanowicz&Maissuradze	N ₁ S ₂		•			•
<i>Affinetrina guriana</i> (O. Djanelidze)	N ₁ k - N ₁ s	•	•	•	•	
<i>A. cubanica</i> (Bogdanowicz)	N ₁ s	•		•		•
<i>A. ucrainica ucrainica</i> (Serova)	N ₁ s			•		
<i>A. ucrainica siwashica</i> (Didkowsky)	N ₁ s ₁ - N ₁ s ₂			•	•	•
<i>A. ucrainica sarmatica</i> (Didkowsky)	N ₁ s ₂		•	•	•	
<i>A. voloshinovae voloshinovae</i> (Bogdanowicz)	N ₁ s ₂	•	•	•	•	•
<i>A. voloshinovae timenda</i> (Chutzieva)	N ₁ s ₂		•	•		•
<i>A. voloshinovae caudata</i> (Bogdanowicz)	N ₁ s ₂	•	•	•		•
<i>A. voloshinovae brevidentata</i> (Bogdanowicz)	N ₁ s ₂		•	•		•
<i>A. voloshinovae eldarica</i> Maiss., Koiava&Spezzaferri	N ₁ s ₂	•	•			
<i>A. voloshinovae pectiniformis</i> (Bogdanowicz)	N ₁ s ₂		•			•
<i>A. fasseta</i> (Didkowsky)	N ₁ s ₂			•	•	
<i>A. perelegantissima</i> (Bogdanowicz)	N ₁ s ₂			•	•	•
<i>A. prava</i> (Didkowsky)	N ₁ s ₂			•		
<i>A. pseudoinflata</i> (Didkowsky)	N ₁ s ₂			•		
<i>A. pseudoukrainica</i> (Didkowsky)	N ₁ s ₂			•		
<i>Varidentella reussi</i> (Bogdanowicz)	N ₁ s ₁ - N ₁ s ₂	•	•	•	•	•
<i>V. reussi costulata</i> Maissuradze, Koiava&Spezzaferri	N ₁ s ₂	•	•			•
<i>V. luczkowskiae</i> Maissuradze, Koiava&Spezzaferri	N ₁ s ₂	•	•			•
<i>V. floriformis</i> (Bogdanowicz)	N ₁ s ₂		•			•
<i>V. echinata</i> (Maissuradze)	N ₁ s ₂	•				
<i>V. sartaganica</i> (Krasheninnikov)	N ₁ s ₂	•	•			•
<i>V. nanae</i> (Maissuradze)	N ₁ s ₂	•				
<i>V. nanae megrelica</i> (Maissuradze)	N ₁ s ₂	•				
<i>V. trebujenica</i> (Didkowsky et Gudina)	N ₁ s ₂				•	•
<i>Spiroloculina okrajantzi</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ s ₁ - N ₁ s ₂	•	•	•	•	•
<i>S. kolesnikovii</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ s ₂	•				•
<i>S. aff. okrajantzi</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ s ₂		•			
<i>Spirolina acuminata</i> Didkowsky	N ₁ s ₂			•	•	
<i>S. bogdanowiczii</i> Didkowsky	N ₁ s ₂			•	•	
<i>S. elliptica</i> Didkowsky	N ₁ s ₂			•	•	
<i>S. irregularis</i> Didkowsky	N ₁ s ₂			•	•	
<i>S. litoralis litoralis</i> Didkowsky	N ₁ s ₂			•	•	
<i>S. litoralis krykovi</i> Didkowsky	N ₁ s ₂				•	
<i>S. litoralis evolutica</i> Didkowsky	N ₁ s ₂				•	
<i>S. sarmatica</i> Didkowsky	N ₁ s ₂				•	
<i>S. peneroploides peneroploides</i> Didkowsky	N ₁ s ₂				•	
<i>S. peneroploides spiroloides</i> Didkowsky	N ₁ s ₂				•	
<i>Peneroplis orbiculatus</i> Didkowsky	N ₁ s ₂				•	
<i>P. sarmaticus</i> Didkowsky	N ₁ s ₂				•	
<i>Neopeneroplis sarmaticus</i> Didkowsky	N ₁ s ₂ -Rec.				•	

WGEO - Western Georgia; EGEO - Eastern Georgia; UKR - Ukraine; MDA - Moldova; WPC - Western Precaucasus; E₁ - Rec. - Paleocene to Recent; E₂ - Rec. - Eocene to Recent; E₁ - N₁ - Paleocene to Pliocene; E₂ - N₁S₂ - Late Oligocene to Middle Sarmatian; N₁ - Miocene; N₁ - Rec. - Miocene to Recent; N₁k - Konkian; N₁k - N₁s - Konkian to Sarmatian; N₁k - N₁s₁ - Konkian to Upper Sarmatian; N₁s - Sarmatian; N₁s₁ - Upper Sarmatian; N₁s₁ - N₁s₂ - Upper and Middle Sarmatian; N₁s₂ - Middle Sarmatian; N₁s₂-Rec. - Middle Sarmatian to Recent.

Table 2c.

Distribution of Sarmatian foraminifera of the Euxine-Caspian basins.

Species	Age	Geographic Distribution				
		WGEO	EGEO	UKR	MDA	WPC
<i>Cibicides aff. lobatulus</i> (Walker and Jacob)	N ₁ k - N ₁ s			•	•	
<i>C. badenensis</i> (d'Orbigny)	N ₁ k - N ₁ s				•	
<i>Discorbis obtusum</i> (d'Orbigny)	N ₁ k - N ₁ s ₁			•	•	•
<i>D. platyomphalus</i> (Reuss)	N ₁ k - N ₁ s		•	•	•	•
<i>Nonion bogdanowicz</i> Voloshinova	N ₁ k - N ₁ s	•	•	•	•	•
<i>N. punctatus</i> (d'Orbigny)	N ₁ k - N ₁ s			•		•
<i>Porosonion martkobi</i> (Bogdanowicz)	N ₁ k - N ₁ s	•	•	•	•	•
<i>P. granosum</i> (d'Orbigny)	E ₂ ² - N ₁ s	•	•	•	•	•
<i>P. subgranosum subgranosum</i> (Egger)	N ₁ k - N ₁ s	•	•	•	•	•
<i>P. subgranosum umboelata</i> (Bogdanowicz)	N ₁ s ₁ - N ₁ s ₂	•	•	•	•	•
<i>P. aragviensis</i> (O. Djanelidze)	N ₁ s ₂	•	•			•
<i>P. hyalinum</i> (Bogdanowicz)	N ₁ s ₂	•	•	•	•	•
<i>Elphidium aculeatum</i> (d'Orbigny)	E ₁ - Rec.	•	•	•	•	•
<i>E. angulatum</i> (Egger)	E ₁ - N ₂		•	•	•	
<i>E. crispum</i> (Linné)	E ₁ - Rec.	•	•	•	•	•
<i>E. fichtellianum</i> (d'Orbigny)	E ₂ - Rec.	•	•	•	•	•
<i>E. hauerinum</i> (d'Orbigny)	N ₁ - Rec.	•	•	•	•	•
<i>E. Josephina</i> (d'Orbigny)	N ₁		•		•	•
<i>E. macellum macellum</i> (Fichtel et Moll)	E ₂ - Rec.	•	•	•	•	•
<i>E. macellum tumidocamerale</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁		•			•
<i>E. reginum reginum</i> (d'Orbigny)	N ₁	•	•	•	•	•
<i>E. reginum caucasicum</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁		•		•	•
<i>E. rugosum</i> (d'Orbigny)	N ₁	•	•	•	•	•
<i>E. subumbilicatum</i> (Czjzek)	N ₁	•	•	•		•
<i>E. gunteri</i> Cole	N ₁			•		
<i>E. loloviensis</i> Venglinsky	N ₁ s			•	•	
<i>E. jukovi</i> Serova	N ₁ s	•	•	•		
<i>E. minutum</i> Reuss	N ₁			•	•	
<i>E. flexuosum</i> (d'Orbigny)	N ₁ s ₁	•		•		•
<i>E. incertum</i> (Williamson)	N ₁ k - N ₁ s ₁			•		•
<i>E. grilli</i> Papp	N ₁ s ₁		•	•		
<i>Elphidiella artifex</i> (Serova)	N ₁ s ₁			•		
<i>Ammonia beccarii</i> (Linné)	N ₁ - Rec.	•	•	•	•	•
<i>Bulimina elongata</i> d'Orbigny	N ₁ k - N ₁ s		•			•
<i>B. aff. pyzula</i> d'Orbigny	N ₁ k - N ₁ s			•		
<i>B. elegans</i> (d'Orbigny)	N ₁				•	
<i>Bolivina moldawica</i> Didkovsky	N ₁ s				•	
<i>B. nisporonica</i> Didkovsky	N ₁ s		•	•	•	
<i>B. sagittula</i> Didkovsky	N ₁ s			•	•	
<i>B. sinzovi</i> Didkovsky	N ₁ s			•	•	
<i>B. sarmatica</i> Didkovsky	N ₁ s		•	•	•	
<i>B. dilatata dilatata</i> Reuss	N ₁ s	•				
<i>B. dilatata brevissima</i> Cicha&Zapletalova	N ₁ s ₂		•	•	•	
<i>Oolina cubanica</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ k - N ₁ s	•	•	•	•	•
<i>O. marginata</i> (Walker&Boys)	N ₁	•	•	•		•
<i>O. elongata</i> Pobedina	N ₁ s ₂	•	•	•		•
<i>O. horrida</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ s ₂	•				•
<i>O. ima</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ s ₂	•	•			•
<i>O. karrieri</i> Bogdanowicz	N ₁ s ₂	•	•			•

WGEO - Western Georgia; EGEO - Eastern Georgia; UKR - Ukraine; MDA - Moldova; WPC - Western Precaucasus; E₁ - Rec. - Paleocene to Recent; E₂ - Rec. - Eocene to Recent; E₁ - N₂ - Paleocene to Pliocene; E₂² - N₁s₂ - Late Oligocene to Middle Sarmatian; N₁ - Miocene; N₁ - Rec. - Miocene to Recent; N₁k - Konkian; N₁k - N₁s - Konkian to Sarmatian; N₁k - N₁s₁ - Konkian to Upper Sarmatian; N₁s - Sarmatian; N₁s₁ - Upper Sarmatian; N₁s₁ - N₁s₂ - Upper and Middle Sarmatian; N₁s₂ - Middle Sarmatian; N₁s₂-Rec. - Middle Sarmatian to Recent.

Several species of some genera (*Elphidium*, *Nonion*, *Porosonion*, *Ammonia*) of upper parts of the Middle Sarmatian assemblages also occur in Upper Sarmatian (Table 2a; 2b; 2c). Frequently, these forms show deformation, irregular cameras or immature shell development and are presented only in some parts of the Late Sarmatian basin. The above mentioned anomalies of shells point to the existence of nonoptimal conditions for foraminifera. According to one opinion, salinity of that basin does not exceed 4-9‰ [3, 15].

Fossils studied from the sections of Eastern Georgia (Eldari) [10, 12, 13], Azerbaijan (Nakhichevanian, Kirovabadian and Precaspian district) [16], South Ukraine (Borisfensky Bay), the Crimea (Kop-Takil) [17] and in some regions of Pre-Caucasus [18] that are characterized only by euryhaline forms: *Ammonia*, *Elphidium*, *Nonion* (foraminifera); fresh water *Leptocythere*, *Cyprideis*,

Iliocypres, *Candona*, *Xostoleberis* (ostracods) and remains of *Characeae*; some species of molluscs *Macra caspia* Eichv., *M.bulgarica* Toulou, which phylogenetically were connected with Middle Sarmatian *Macra* [19] indicate existence of brackish conditions of Late Sarmatian basin.

Thus the existence of normal marine and hypersaline conditions in the Upper Sarmatian basins of Eastern Paratethys, supposed by Pillar & Harzhauser [14], is not proved paleontologically. Though taking into consideration Belokris's [20] supposition that there were hypersaline conditions in Borisfensky Bay in the Late Sarmatian basin (increase in salinity is proved by the author by obvious limestone dolomitization and climate aridization) it can be supposed that together with brackish regime in the Upper Sarmatian of Eastern Paratethys in some parts of the basin there were hypersaline conditions.

palaeontology

Armosavi et paratetis sarmatuli foraminiferibus biomorval ferovneba

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sarmatuli saukunis dasaviyisi paratetis kavSiri wynar da indoeTis okeaneebTan TiTqmis Sewyda. gviankonkuri auzis nacvl ad warmoiqmna uzarmazari izoli irebuli sarmatuli zRva, romelic mxolod epizodurad ukavSirdeboda xmel TaSua zRvis auzs. igi gavrcel ebuli iyo alpebidan aral is zRvamde da iyofoda gansxvavebuli bionomiuri pirobebis mqone panoniur, dakiur, evqsinur da kaspuri auzebad. swored gansxvavebuli bionomiuri pirobebiT aris gamowveuli aRniSnuli auzebis biocenozebis mraval ferovnebac.

Armosavi et paratetis ponto-kaspiuri auzis foraminiferibus istoriuli ganvitarebis Seswavi amsaSual eba mogvca gamogvevlina foraminiferibus kompl eqsebis kanonzomieri cval ebadoba drosa da sivrceSi, ris safuZvel zec gamoyofilia maTi ganvitarebis sami ZiriTadi etapi: adreuli, romelic foraminiferibus Camoyal ibebis process asaxavs; Sual eduri – maTi maqsimaluri gafurCqvnis Tanadruli, da gviani, rodesac foraminiferibus TiTqmis yvel aj gufi amowyda.

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