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A SECOND UPPER PALEOZOIC BLATTOID (INSECTA) FROM BETANCOURT, CHUBUT PROVINCE, ARGENTINA

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ABSTRACT – A new blattoid species *Anthracoblattina archangelskyi* sp. nov. from Betancourt, Chubut Province, Argentina was found in the same horizon of the Rio Genoa Formation which yielded *Archangelskyblatta vishniakovae* Pinto, 1972. The latter species was firstly dated in the Permian based in the age attributed to the associated taphoflora. The analysis of further fossil insects collected in the same strata allowed the age of the deposits to be established as Carboniferous. This age is corroborated by the new species.

Key words: insecta, blattoid, Paleozoic, Argentina

RESUMO – Uma espécie de barata *Anthracoblattina archangelskyi*, sp. nov., foi coletada em Betancourt, Província de Chubut, Argentina na mesma camada da Formação Rio Genoa de onde provém *Archangelskyblatta vishniakovae* Pinto, 1972. Esta última espécie foi inicialmente datada como Permiano, idade que havia sido atribuída à tafoflora. Mais tarde, através da análise de outros insetos, a idade foi redeterminada como Carbonífero. O estudo da nova espécie confirma esta idade.

Palavras-chave: inseto, blatária, Paleozóico, Argentina.

INTRODUCTION

Two pieces of rock, part and counter-part, with an imprint of a wing were given to the senior author. Prof. Dr. Sergio Archangelsky and his son, Prof. Dr. Miguel Archangelsky collected the material at Betancourt, Chubut Province, Argentina. Another blattoid from that area *Archangelskyblatta vishniakovae* Pinto, 1972a (Fig.1.4a-b herein) had already been described, but this taxon was considered by Schneider (1983, p.126) as synonymous with *Kashmiroblatta* Verma, 1967 (Fig.1.6 herein). However, the two genera show strong differences as has been pointed out by Pinto *et al.* (1992) and by Würdig *et al.* (1998) at the First Paleoentomological Conference in Moscow. *Archangelskyblatta* is thus not a synonym of *Kashmiroblatta*, but an independent and valid genus. It was found at the 2nd Plant Horizon of Feruglio, 2.5 km South of the "Casa de Betancour", whose profile was described by Suero (1958). The sediments, which belong to the Nueva Lubecka Facies, Rio Genoa Formation were firstly attributed to the Lower Permian by Suero (1958) based on its flora. Consequently, *Archangelskyblatta vishniakovae* was considered Lower Permian. Later on, however, based on new insects and arachnid data, the age of these deposits was changed to Upper Carboniferous (Pinto & Ornellas, 1978; Pinto & Hünicken, 1980; Pinto *et al.*, 1992).

GEOGRAPHICAL AND STRATIGRAPHICAL DATA

The new species was found at the Betancourt Chubut Province, Argentina at the same area and stratigraphical level of occurrence of *Archangelskyblatta vishniakovae*, Lubeckian in age. It belongs to a genus known exclusively from the Carboniferous which thus