

Shell microstructure in the Permian nonmarine bivalve *Palaeomutela* Amalitzky: Revision of the generic diagnosis

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Abstract

The microstructure of aragonitic and calcitic shells of the genus *Palaeomutela* Amalitzky, 1891 is examined. The aragonitic shell consists of three main layers, each is distinguished by certain crossed lamellar microstructure: comarginal, radial, and complex. As aragonite is recrystallized into pelitic calcite, microstructural shell features are preserved. Many species of *Palaeomutela* from localities of different age display the same microstructural pattern, which is possible to regard as a character of generic rank. © 2013 Pleiades Publishing, Ltd.

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Keywords

Bivalvia, Permian, shell microstructure