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ABSTRACT VOLUME

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Miocene "Hungarocypris" species (Ostracoda, Cypridoidea) of Lake Pannon are not related to the Recent species Hungarocypris madaraszi (Örley).

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Abstract

The presentation is in honour of two outstanding Austrian naturalists, the palaeontologist Prof. A. Papp and the zoologist Prof. H. Löffler.

The genus Hungarocypris Vavra 1906 is known in Europe by a unique living thermophilic species, H. madaraszi (Örley, 1886). Its morphological characteristics and the taxonomical position is briefly reviewed within the framework of the Palaearctic cypridoidean fauna. Several fossil species with the form of the valves resembling H. madaraszi were described from the Lake Pannon. The history of the taxonomic assignment and the geographic distribution of the fossil Hungarocypris are presented.

A recent study of about 150 specimens of so-called "Hungarocypris" from the Miocene deposits in Austria (Sankt Margarethen), Czech Republic (Stavěšice) and Romania (Turislav Valley at Soceni) allow us to complete a comparative morphometric analysis. Additionally, we studied living specimens of H. madaraszi from Austria (Dorflacke, Seewinkel in Burgenland), found in the H. Löffler's ostracod collection. This material was also compared with valves of the living species Herpetocyrella mongolica Dayad 1909 from the saline lake Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan.

Valves Herpetocyrella species differ from those of Hungarocypris ostracods in the position and the development of the selvage, the shape of the fused zone and of the marginal pore canals. We recognised at least three species of Herpetocyrella Dayad in the lake Lake Pannon, previously assigned by N. Krstic to the genus Hungarocypris. They are H. auriculata (Reuss, 1849), H. hieroglyphica (Mehe, 1907) and H. pannonica (Zalányi, 1959). The unique living species of Herpetocyrella, H. mongolica Dayad, is a "living fossil". The ecological similarities between the ancient lake Issyk-Kul and the Lake Pannon are briefly discussed.

Finally, we propose a protocol for the morphological and taxonomical revision of the fossil species of Lake Pannon, displaying actually an ambiguous state.