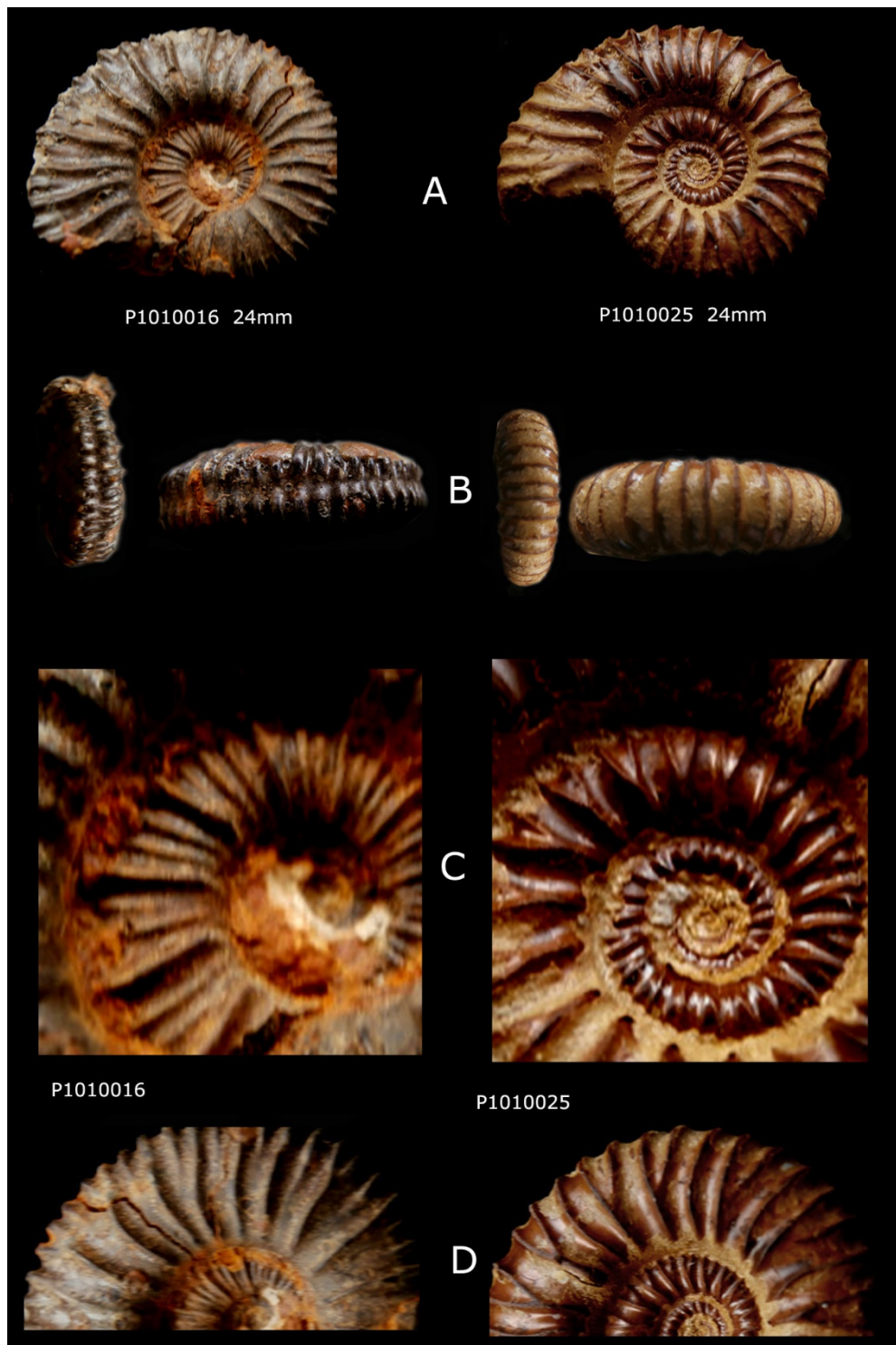


New Findings - When eyes and brain getting tired



"New Findings" - When eyes and brain getting tired

As my personal experience has shown, to identify a species one not only has to meet the problems of "name giving" (see there), but also has to take into considerations that eyes getting tired and after a while they tend to see only what they are looking for and do no longer see differences to the "target". This problem for me specially exists when I am looking at a lot of findings (hundreds).

Above, the side-view (A) looks quite similar, but the venter (B) looks absolutely different.

When taking pictures from different sides of an ammonite, suddenly the difference is very obvious. This specially happens when one is looking for abnormal shells, where the left side often looks different to the right side.

A special case is *Coryceras baylei* with no significant feature except some very weak teeth on the venter, which are difficult to see when they are covered with limonite. An easy way to check these is to hold the ammonite with thumb and middle finger. Then turning the ammonite with the index finger and sliding back with the same finger on the venter. The teeth are easily to be recognized by feeling them in that way.

The above shown pictures (type A on the left side of the foto) for me is a new species found at Tarcenay-Road south of Besancon/France, which means border Middle/ Upper Jurassic, Lower Oxfordian. A similar looking species, specially so far the venter is concerned, is *Tmetoceras scissum* from Truc de Balduc/Mende, Central France, but timewise from Upper Toarcium, meaning end of Lower Jurassic. As it is a single finding, according to G.Schweigert/Stuttgart one can't give a name.

It should not discussed here, whether a new species is appearing suddenly in geological history with a lot of species or sometimes only one species occasionally could be found, which does not mean there are not more around (just not found).

Not giving a name would mean not publishing, because a publication without a name does not make sense. Showing a picture needs a name or a text as a description, which would mean the same as giving a name.

In principle an example like shown on the photo above could be the consequence of a hurt / "mis-building" shell. This would explain the rarity (only one example), because hurt/abnormal shells are very rare. But the "mis"building of a "hurt" shell is in general only on one side of the bilateral shell.

And as a new species is a question of changing the genes, this does not happen in masses at exactly the same time, but only at one or a view species at the same time. (see also J.Guex in ECLOGAE above).

Besides all: G.Schweigert explains what **should not be done** if there is only one finding. But he does not give any recommendation what **should be done instead**.

But what about the following idea ?

Only as an example, taking again the Renggeri Marl of Liesberg / Upper quarry, that means 50m width for two ammonite zones, meaning lets say 25m for one zone, and 12.5 m for one sub-Zone of the mariae-zone. Digging there (= found "in situ") without giving the distance to the anceps / athlete wall would be the same as picking up. As Liesberg upper quarry has an easily prescribing point to define the distance where one had found "in situ", most of our finding places did not have (except Tarcenay-Road). But as most of the outcrops were horizontal layers, how to get an idea, where the "in situ" is ?? So making a comment "in situ" seams to be more accurate, but **without giving an "fixed point" it for sure is not**.