

Trilobita indet. (TH477) → ***Sao hirsuta*** Barrande, 1946 (TH364b)

Trilobita indet. → ?Solenopleuridae

Sao → Aulacopleurida → Aulacopleurina → Aulacopleuroidae → Solenopleuridae

Provenance : Czechia; Jince

Formation : ? Fm

Age : Middle Cambrian

Details : Near-complete specimen missing librigenae and posterior part (including pygidium). Specimen was bought with the provenance as sole information. See also images of the specimen after short prep (unveiling a librigena, very possibly of same specimen) on 2nd page. Check bottom of that page for extra info.

Bought on : 3-5/11/2023

Bought at : Palais du Congres, Liege

Event : Intermineral 2023





Piece originally purchased with only provenance and age as info, but I immediately identified it as belonging to the Solenopleuridae.

From Wikipedia : ***Sao hirsuta*** is best known from the Middle Cambrian of Czechia, but is also found in Germany and Spain. The fact that the exoskeleton of the species is covered with granules and tubercles is at the basis of its name, as the workers who found it back in Joachim Barrande's days compared it to porcupines, the latin word for which is "hirsutus". Another interesting piece of info is that, thanks to a numerous amount of specimens he was able to acquire (from the no longer visitable site Pod hruskou), Barrande (in 1952) was the first researcher to describe the ontogenetic stages of a trilobite.

From Snadjr (1990) : Found in the Middle Cambrian *Eccaparadoxides pussilus* Zone of the Jince Formation, abundant especially in the upper part in the Skryje area. Average length 15-40mm. Due to the quite different architecture of the juvenile exoskeletons some researchers, including Hawle & Corda (1847) described various stages of the species as separate species and genera. No less than 22 of those erroneous descriptions can now be classified as either early holaspid (the adult), meraspid and protaspid stages (the juveniles). Additional info on the ontogenetic stages of the species was added thanks to anaprotaspid specimens found by Ruzicka and Snadjr (respectively in 1943 and 1958). The smallest anaprotaspid specimen found to date (1990) is only a mere 0.35mm long!

Although parts of ***Sao hirsuta*** are found in rather abundant amounts in the Tyrovice area, complete and undeformed specimens are actually a rare treat ...so I have reason to already be rather pleased with what I've got here!