

(TALK)

Lower Triassic bryozoans of the Canadian Arctic and adjacent areas

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Bryozoans of the orders Trepostomata, Cystoporata, Cryptostomata and Fenestrata were widespread and diverse in the Permian of both Boreal and Tethyan seas, but few genera survived the Permian/Triassic boundary, and only two new genera evolved during the Early Triassic: *Arcticopora* originally described from Ellesmere Island and *Dyscritellopsis* originally described from New Zealand. Until now only six undisputed Early Triassic bryozoan species have formally been described, all from the Boreal region. This is in strong contrast to the increased diversity through the Middle and Late Triassic with a total number of more than 40 species

Two occurrences of supposed *Arcticopora* in younger Triassic rocks of the European Tethys have been synonymised with species of *Dyscritella* and *Pseudobatostomella*. Accordingly *Arcticopora* is confined to the Lower Triassic of the Boreal region. During the present study the type material of *Arcticopora* was re-studied, and new material from several localities in NW Ellesmere Island has been thin sectioned and analysed. The systematic position of *Arcticopora* will be discussed in light of new data.

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