

**Occurrence of *Monstrocrinus securifer* Schmidt, 1941
(Crinoidea - Camerata) in the Middle Devonian of Amazon
Basin, State of Pará, Brazil**

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Monstrocrinus securifer Schmidt occurs in shallow marine tempestites (hummocky cross-stratified sandstones) of the uppermost section of the Maecuru Formation (Eifelian, Amazonas Basin) along with bivalves, brachiopods, trilobites, *Tentaculites* and other crinoidal fragments. It is represented by numerous calicinal plates displaying two types of expansions, viz., narrow, long spine-like one, and broader, axe-shaped one which is diagnostic for the species. Both are preserved as external moulds and "steinkerns". The later are often ferruginous and lithologically different from the surrounding matrix (reworked?). In addition to calicinal plates there occur columnals of "*Acanthocrinus* type".

Monstrocrinus was regarded as rare in the Devonian and thus far restricted to the upper Emsian of Germany, Spain and Algeria. This Amazon basin occurrence is the first record of the genus in a section palinologically dated as Eifelian (Emsian spore assemblages are still unproven in the basin). A similar diachronism is displayed by the brachiopod *Tropidoleptus carinatus* (Conrad). These facts are relevant to paleobiogeographic and paleogeographic interpretations of distribution patterns and probable migration routes of benthic marine invertebrates from Euramerica and Northern Gondwana to Western Gondwana, during the Devonian. However, taphonomic studies are needed in order to provide more accurate evidence for such interpretation.