

# Ordovician land plants and fungi from Douglas Dam, Tennessee

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## ABSTRACT

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Ordovician land plants have long been suspected from indirect evidence of fossil spores, plant fragments, carbon isotopic studies, and paleosols, but now can be visualized from plant compressions in a Middle Ordovician (Darrivilian or 460 Ma) sinkhole at Douglas Dam, Tennessee, U. S. A. Five bryophyte clades and two fungal clades are represented: hornwort (*Casterlorum crispum*, new form genus and species), liverwort (*Cestites mirabilis* Caster & Brooks), balloonwort (*Janegraya sibylla*, new form genus and species), peat moss (*Dollyphyton boucotii*, new form genus and species), harsh moss (*Edwardsiphyton ovatum*, new form genus and species), endomycorrhiza (*Palaeoglomus strotheri*, new species) and lichen (*Prototaxites honeggeri*, new species). The Douglas Dam Lagerstätte is a benchmark assemblage of early plants and fungi on land. Ordovician plant diversity now supports the idea that life on land had increased terrestrial weathering to induce the Great Ordovician Biodiversification Event in the sea and latest Ordovician (Hirnantian) glaciation.

**Key-words**—Bryophyta, Fungi, Mycorrhizae, Darrivilian, Lenoir Limestone.

## डॉगलस बांध (डैम), टेन्नेस्सी से प्राप्त ऑर्डोविशन भू-वनस्पतियां एवं कवक

ग्रेगोरी जे. रेटलेक

### सारांश

ऑर्डोविशन भू-वनस्पतियां जीवाश्म जीवाणुओं, वनस्पति खंडजों कार्बन समस्थानिक अध्ययनों व पुरानिखातों के परोक्ष प्रमाण से प्राप्त समझी गई हैं परंतु अब डॉगलस बांध, टेन्नेस्सी, यू.एस.ए. पर मध्य ऑर्डोविशन (डार्रिविलियन या 4 करोड़ 60 लाख) विलयन रंध्र में वनस्पति संपीडाश्मों से कल्पित की जा सकती हैं। पांच ब्रायोफाइट क्लेड एवं दो कवकी क्लेड: हॉर्नवर्ट (*केस्टरलोरम क्रिस्पम*, वंश व जाति नूतन रूप), लिवरवर्ट (*सेस्टिटीज मिराबिलिस* केस्टर एवं ब्रूक्स), बैलूनवर्ट (*जनेग्रेया सिबील्ला*, वंश व जाति नूतन रूप), पीट मॉस (*डॉलीफायटन बौकोटयाई*, वंश व जाति नूतन रूप) कर्कश मॉस (*एडवर्डसिफीटन ओवेटम*, वंश व जाति नूतन रूप), एंडोमाइकोर्रिजिजा (*पैलियोग्लोमस स्ट्रोथेरी*, नूतन जाति) और लाइकेन (*प्रोटोटैक्सिफाइटिज होनेग्रेरी*, नूतन जाति) रूपायित हुई हैं। डॉगलस बांध (डैम) लैजरस्टेटी स्थल पर प्रारंभिक वनस्पतियों व कवक का तलचिह्न समुच्चय है। ऑर्डोविशन वनस्पति विविधता अब इस विचार का समर्थन करती है कि सागर एवं अद्यतन ऑर्डोविशन (हिर्नन्टियन) हिमनदन में बृहत ऑर्डोविशन जैवविविधरूपण घटना अनुमानित करने को स्थल पर जीवन स्थलीय अपक्षय बढ़ा।

**सूचक शब्द**—ब्रायोफाइट, कवक, मायकोर्रिजिजे, डार्रिविलियन लेनॉइर चूनापत्थर।

## INTRODUCTION

LATE Silurian is still regarded as a benchmark for the first appearance of land plants and consequent landscape modernization (McMahon & Davies, 2018), despite mounting circumstantial evidence to the contrary (Wellman *et al.*, 2003; Tomescu *et al.*, 2009; Retallack, 2015a; Steemans &

Wellman, 2018; Morris *et al.*, 2018). Because previously described Ordovician plant megafossils have been regarded as uninformative (Pant & Bhowmik, 1998; Taylor *et al.*, 2009), the evolutionary origin of land plants remains obscure (Morris *et al.*, 2018), embryophyte molecular clocks are insecure (Puttick *et al.*, 2018), and the role of plants in global change is unclear (Porada *et al.*, 2016). What is needed is an Ordovician

terrestrial Lagerstätte, like the Early Devonian Rhynie Chert (Taylor *et al.*, 2009; Krings *et al.*, 2017) or Barzass Coal (Krassilov, 1981). Such a deposit has been hiding in plain sight for the past 62 years in a monograph on the articulated fossil arthropods *Chasmatspis laurenci* and *Douglasiocaris*

*collinsi* of the Douglas Dam Lagerstätte (Caster & Brooks, 1956), which is the site for all material described here.

Ordovician land plants have been controversial (Taylor *et al.*, 2009), despite a local abundance of material (Lesquereux, 1874, 1877; Fritsch, 1908; Kozłowski & Greguss, 1959;

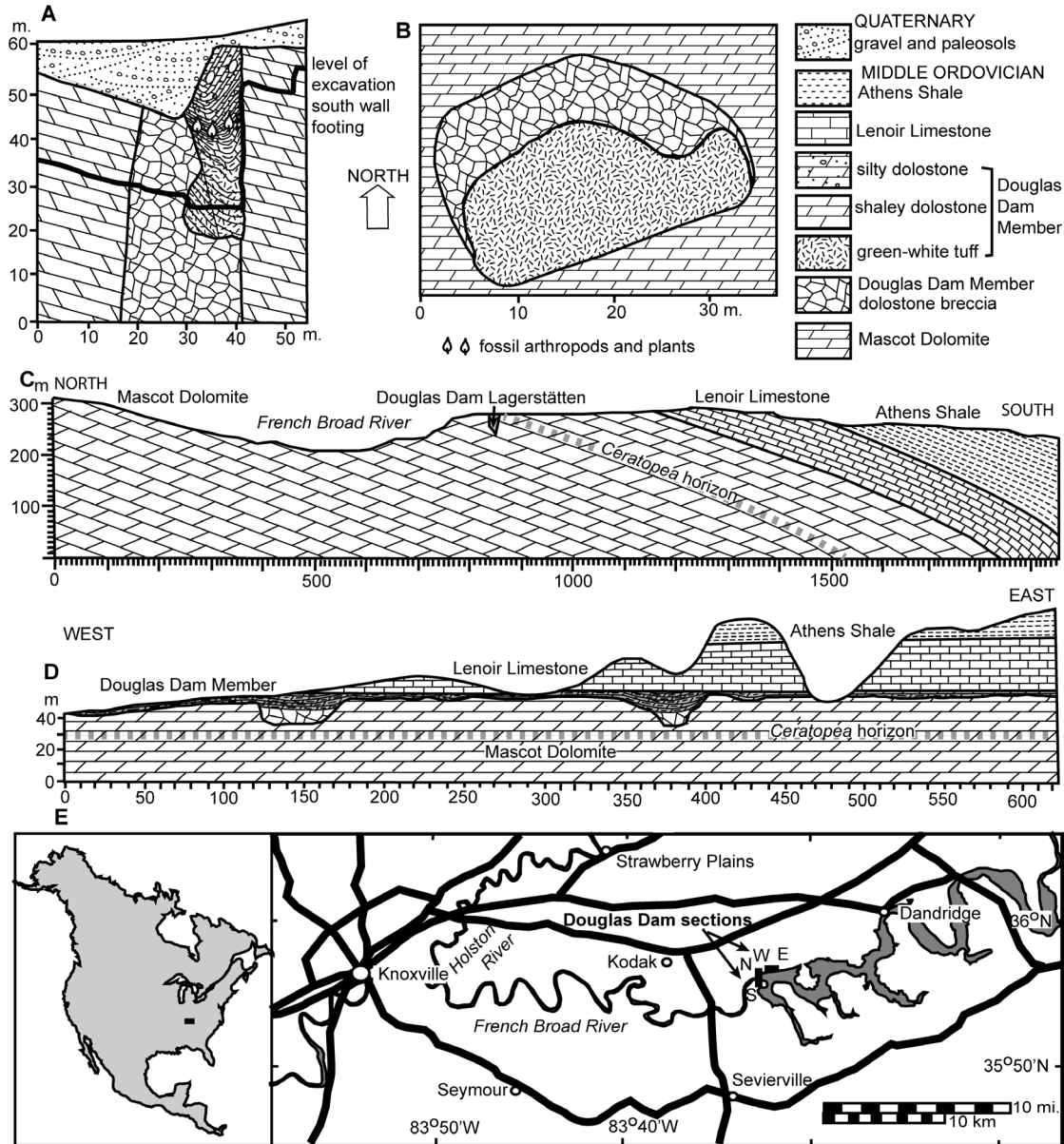
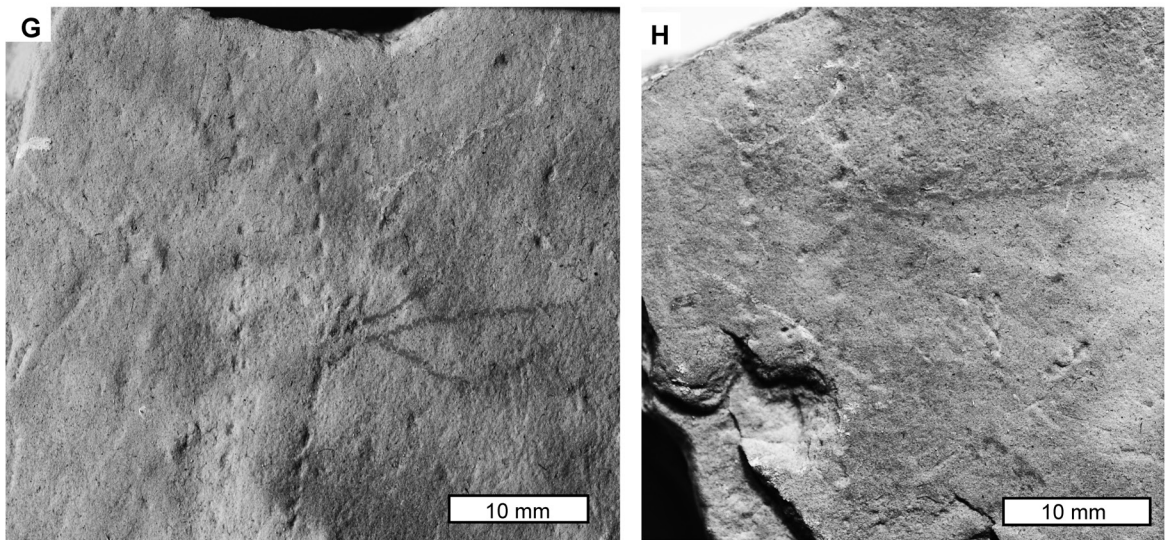
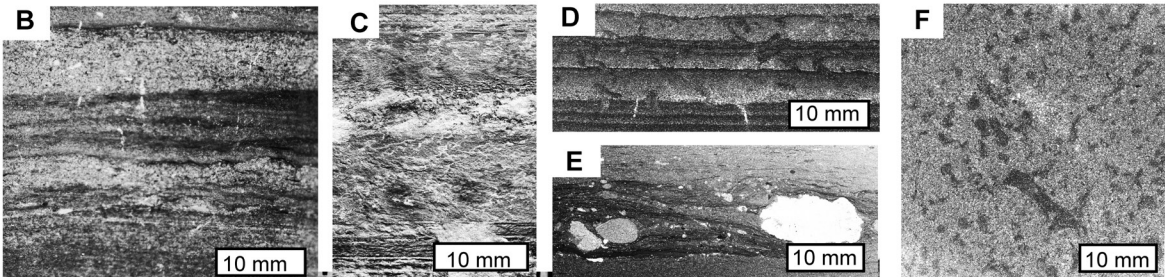


Fig. 1—Location of Douglas Dam and dolostones of Early Ordovician Knox Group, with paleokarst visible in geological cross sections (Laurence 1944, Bridge 1955): (A) vertical cross section of the fossiliferous sinkhole showing level of fossils; (B) horizontal plan of the sinkhole at the level of the green tuff; (C) north–south geological section showing the fossiliferous sinkhole; (D) east–west geological section showing other sinkholes of the paleokarst on Mascot Dolomite; (E) location of fossiliferous sinkhole and geological cross sections.

Fig. 2—Douglas Dam locality, matrix and tracks; (A), Douglas Lake (left) and French Broad River (right), Sevier County, Tennessee in 2016, showing south end of dam covering the fossiliferous cenote–fill of Douglas Dam Member of the Lenoir Limestone, Middle Ordovician (Darrwilian, 460 Ma); (B–C), ripple marks in core of Douglas Dam Member; (D), desiccation cracks and rooting structures in vertical thin section; (E), oversize dolostone clast in varved shale of vertical thin section; (F), rooting structures in horizontal thin section, (G–H), arthropod tracks of *Diplichnites gouldi* (Gevers) Bradshaw 1981. Cores in Smithsonian are from levels 913.0–913.1 ft (B) and 912.8–912 ft (C) levels. Specimens are PB2255 (D,F), PB 2279 (E), and USNM645800A–B (G–H). Scale bars are in mm.



Greguss, 1962; Arbey & Koeniguer, 1979; Snigirevskaya *et al.*, 1992; Salamon *et al.*, 2018). One problem highlighted by debate between Banks (1975) and Gray & Boucot (1972, 1977) is that Ordovician vegetation was mainly unfamiliar non-vascular plants. The oldest known vascular land plant megafossils are still no older than Middle Silurian *Baragwanathia longifolia* found with *Bohemograptus bohemicus* graptolites (426 Ma) from Yea, Australia (Rickards, 2000), and *Cooksonia barrandei* in the *Monograptus belophorus* graptolite zone (432 Ma) from Loděnice, Czech Republic (Libertin *et al.*, 2018). The idea that land was barren of plants before Silurian has been promoted by reviews emphasizing quality of preservation in fossil plants of Silurian or younger age (Taylor *et al.*, 2009; Krings *et al.*, 2017), and outlining changing architecture of selected alluvial deposits by Silurian–Devonian (Davies *et al.*, 2011; McMahon & Davies, 2018).

A contrary narrative has emerged as studies of Ordovician spores established their bryophytic, and thus non-vascular plant affinities (Vavrdová, 1984; Gray, 1985; Nøhr–Hansen & Koppelhus, 1988; Taylor, 1996, 1997; Wellman & Gray, 2000; Steemans *et al.*, 2009, 2010), and extended their range back to Early Ordovician (Gray *et al.*, 1982; Rubenstein *et al.*, 2010; Kenrick *et al.*, 2012; Vecoli *et al.*, 2017), and perhaps Middle Cambrian (Taylor & Strother, 2008, 2009; Strother, 2016). Ordovician spores also have been found within sporangial

remnants lacking vegetative details (Wellman *et al.*, 2003). Molecular data on modern plants now indicates a Cambrian to Early Ordovician origin of non-vascular land plants (Morris *et al.*, 2018). Ordovician and Cambrian land plant spores remain problematic and may represent pre-bryophytic lineages, but the alternative terms cryptospores and cryptophytes (Edwards *et al.*, 2014), enshrine rather than dispel the mystery. There is also evidence from palynology for Middle Ordovician glomalean fungi (Redecker *et al.*, 2000, 2002), and other Glomeromycota may be represented by Ediacaran acritarchs (Retallack, 2015b), and Proterozoic megafossils (Retallack *et al.*, 2013a, 2013b, 2018). Evidence of Cambrian and Ordovician land plants also comes from carbon isotopic composition of carbonaceous debris and sediments (Tomescu & Rothwell, 2006; Tomescu *et al.*, 2009), and from chemical and textural profile differentiation of clayey Cambrian and Ordovician paleosols (Retallack, 2008, 2009, 2015a). Despite this circumstantial evidence for Ordovician vegetation, the macroscopic appearance, diversity and taxonomic affinities of Ordovician megafossils remained elusive until now.

## GEOLOGICAL SETTING

The source of the plant and arthropod fossils is a small (9 m wide, by 27 m long, and 90 m deep) fissure fill within Mascot Dolomite of the Knox Group, now completely covered by the southern footing of Douglas Dam, Sevier County, Tennessee (Figs 1–2A). The fossiliferous beds then were 20 m below the surface and were entirely removed down to the underlying volcanic ash, covered during construction of the dam for the Tennessee Valley Authority in 1942, and mapped in detail during construction (Laurence, 1944; Bridge, 1955). The north side of the sinkhole has syndepositional dolostone breccia, which may have formed a talus cone and filled the base of the paleodoline. The south side of the sinkhole was filled at first with 12 m of white volcanic ash, and then 8 m of green volcanic ash. The fossiliferous level of 6 m of varved shale and silty dolostone was thus 70–64 m below the dolostone paleo-plateau. The best preservation of plants and arthropods is in carbonaceous shaley laminae at this stratigraphic level. This fossiliferous layer is covered by 12 m of flaggy limestones, with some 52 m of additional Douglas Dam Member of the Lenoir Limestone eroded above that, and covered by Quaternary terrace gravels before dam excavation. Macerated fossil fragments and spores are dark brown, compatible with conodont alteration index of 3–4 for enclosing rocks due to 2.7–5.5 km of rock overburden and burial temperatures of 100–200°C (Epstein *et al.*, 1977). Thermal maturity and unweathered matrix from excavation to a depth of 20 m rules out contamination by surface spores.

Elsewhere in this area, paleorelief on the Mascot Dolomite is no more than 42 m, and filled with red beds or light gray limestones (Bridge, 1955; Walker *et al.*, 1992). These shallower parts of the paleorelief were filled with

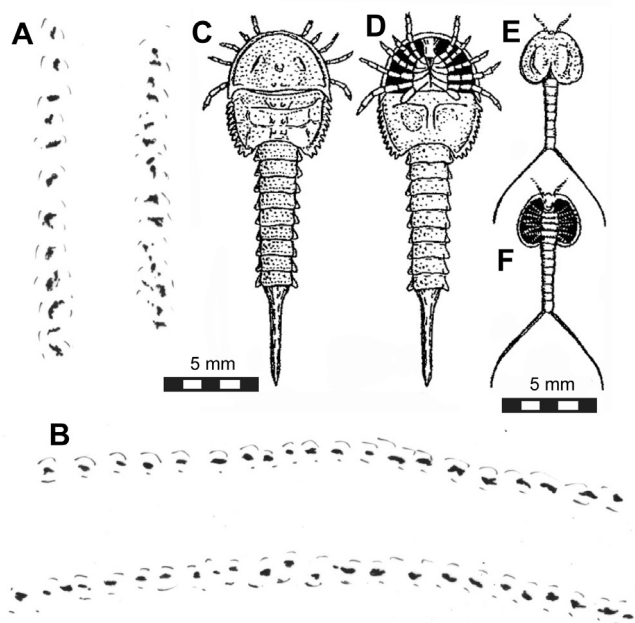


Fig. 3—Reconstructions of Middle Ordovician (Darrivilian) arthropods from the Douglas Dam Member of the Lenoir Limestone in a palaeocenote excavated during construction of Douglas Dam, Tennessee: (A–B), trackway *Diplichnites gouldi* (Gevers) Bradshaw 1981; (C–D), *Chasmataspis laurenci* Caster & Brooks 1956; (E–F), *Douglasiocaris collinsi* Caster & Brooks 1956.

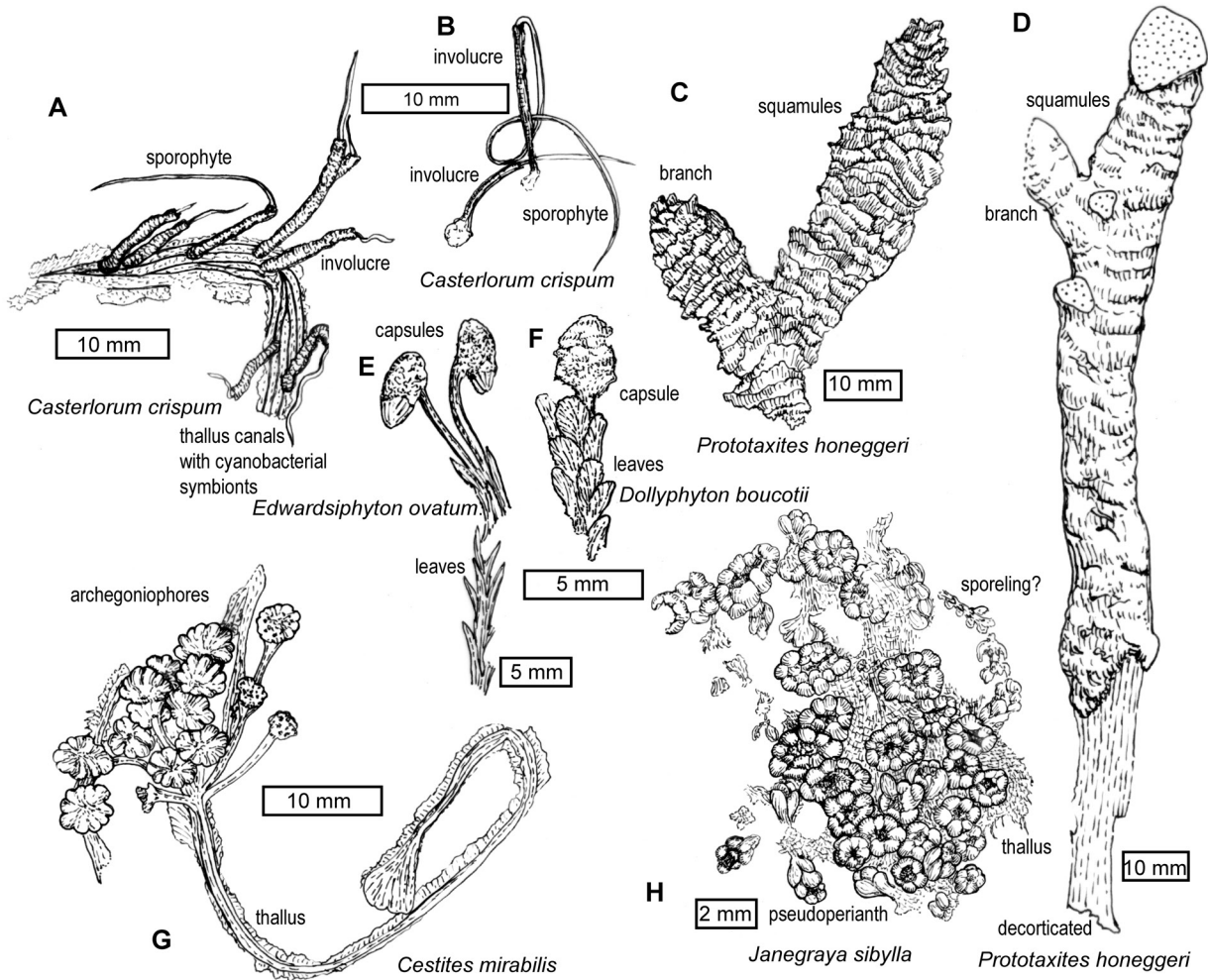


Fig. 4—Interpretive and annotated sketches of the Middle Ordovician (Darriwilian) non-vascular land plant specimens from the Douglas Dam Member of the Lenoir Formation under Douglas Dam, Tennessee: (A–B), *Casterlorum crispum* new genus and species (A=holotype), hornwort: (C–D), *Prototaxites honeggeri* new species (C=holotype), extinct nematophyte: (E), *Edwardsiphyton ovatum* new genus and species (holotype), peat moss; (F), *Dollyphyton boucotii* new genus and species (holotype), harsh moss; (G), *Cestites mirabilis* Caster & Brooks 1956, liverwort: (H), *Janegraya sibylla* new genus and species (holotype), balloonwort. Specimens are USNM125102 (A), USNM128089 (B), USNM125084 (C), USNM125083 (D), PB2281 (E), PB2275 (F), PB2266 (G), PB2254 (H).

limestones of the upper Douglas Dam Member containing an estuarine fauna of rhynchonellid (*Rostricella pristina*) and lingulid brachiopods (*Lingula fostermontanensis*). Above that level, in the uppermost Douglas Dam Member of the Lenoir Limestone are normal marine faunas of Darriwilian age (460 Ma), including the brachiopods *Rafinesquina champlainensis*, *Valcourea strophomenoides*, *Hesperorthis* sp. and *Mimella* sp. Sandy to clayey limestones of the overlying Mosheim Member of the Lenoir Limestone have marine gastropods *Lophospira* sp. and *Maclurites magna* (Neuman, 1955). These represent a substantial marine transgression in the region (Herrmann & Haynes, 2015). Geological age of the fossil plants is thus bracketed by Mascot Dolomite of the Knox Group (Floian, 470 Ma), and the disconformably overlying Lenoir Limestone

(Darriwilian, 459 Ma). The age of the plant fossils is thus about 460 Ma, because deposition of the non-marine Douglas Dam Member is continuous upwards into the marine Mosheim Member (Bridge, 1955).

Additional indications of age may come from tuffs below the fossiliferous level within the sinkhole, which are lithic tuffs unusual for Ordovician k-bentonites (Laurence, 1944). They are lithologically distinct from Dieke and Millbrig k-bentonites of Middle Ordovician age (453 Ma: Huff & Turkmenoglu, 1981; Huff, 1983, 2008; Huff *et al.*, 1992; Min *et al.*, 2001; Sell *et al.*, 2015). A likely correlation (by Laurence, 1944) is with tuffs near the base of the Murfreesboro Limestone of Tennessee (Fox & Grant, 1944), now dated at about 464 Ma (Huff *et al.*, 2010). Also possible

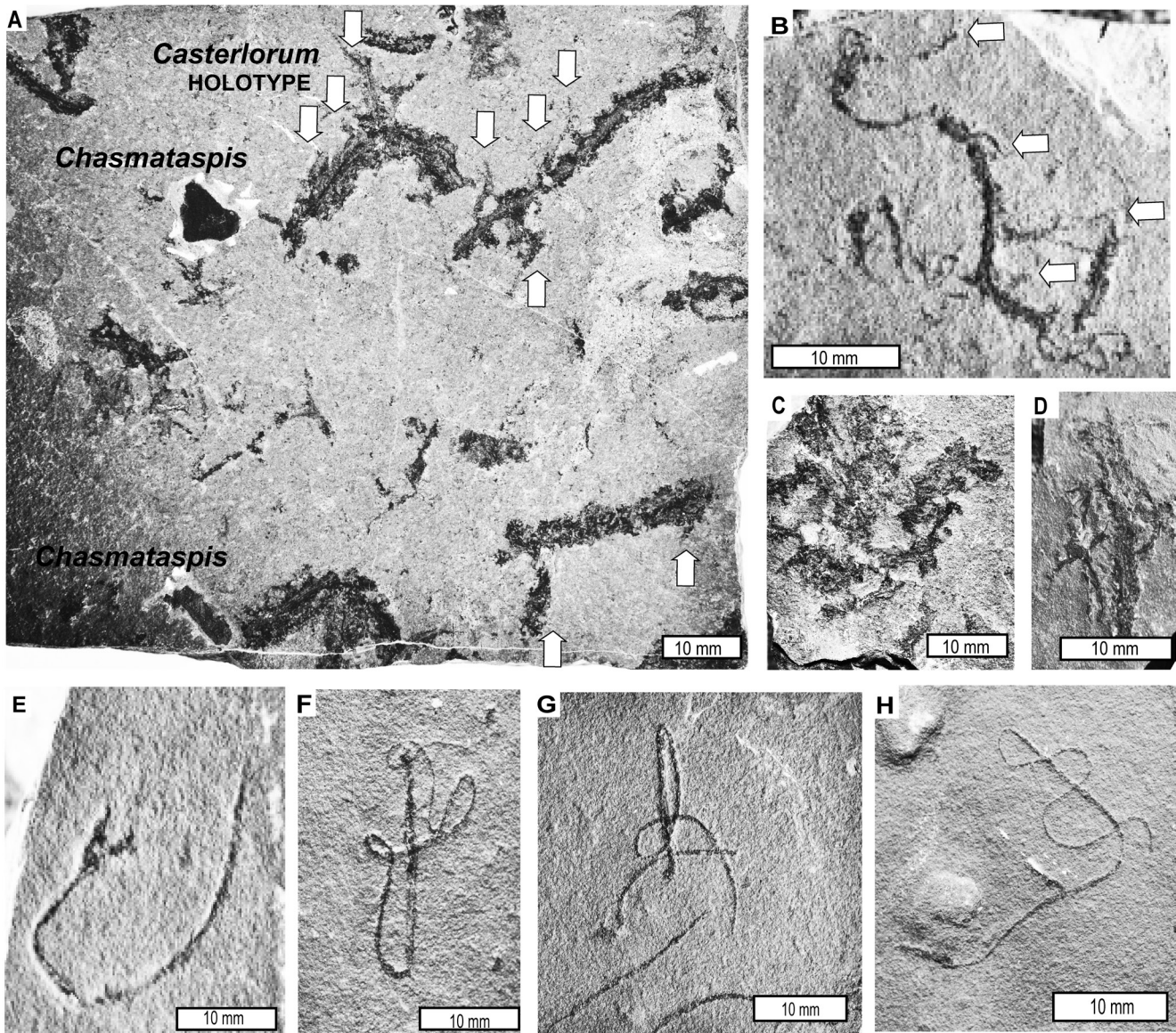
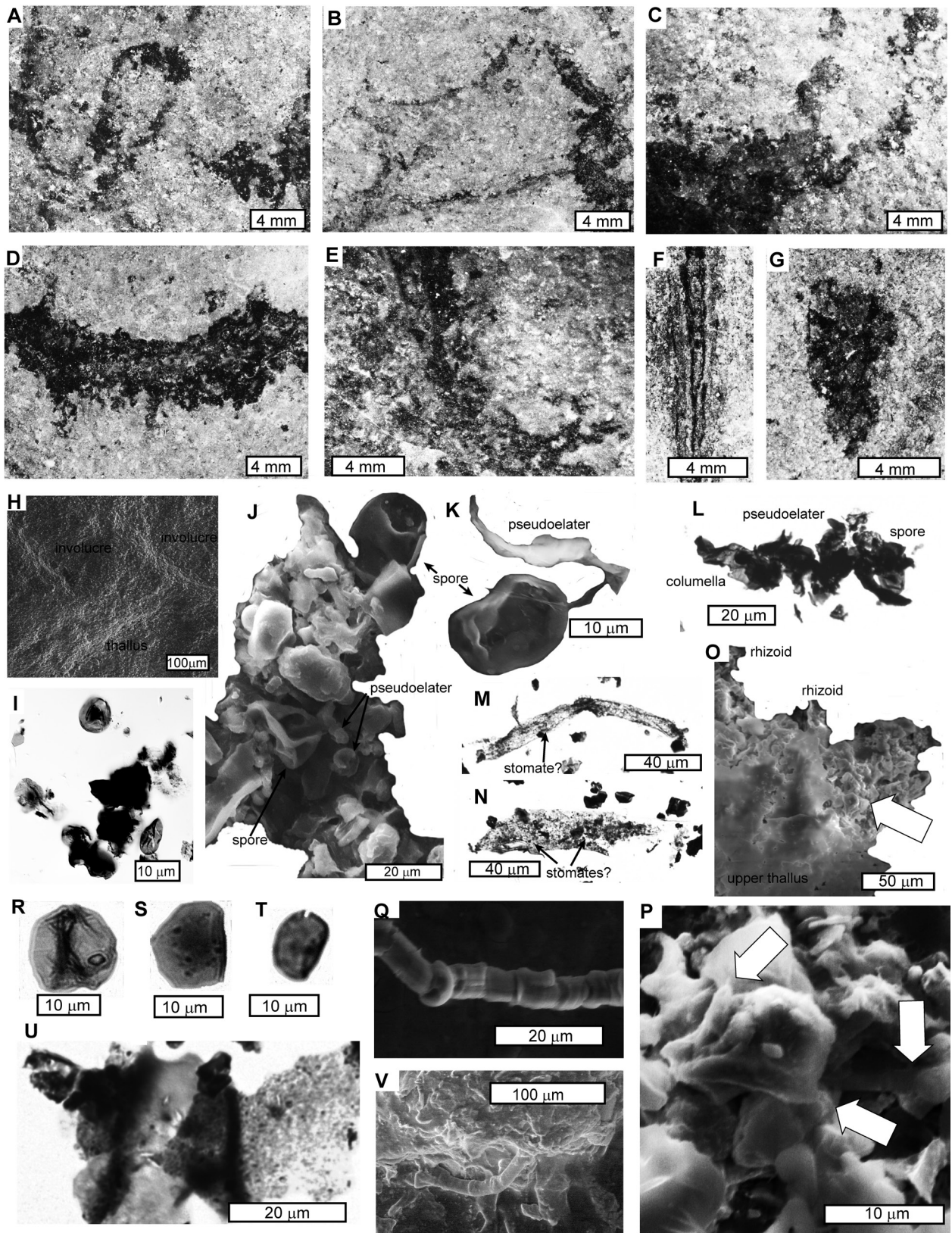


Fig. 5—*Casterlorum crispum* new genus and species from the Middle Ordovician (Darrivilian) Douglas Dam Member, Tennessee, with horns (obvious ones at arrows), and associated glossy carapace fragments of *Chasmataspis laurenci*; (A–D), thaloid gametophytes with dark apically dichotomizing lines and attached horns; (E–H), whip like dehisced sporangia, many with remnants of dark involucre at base; Specimens are USNM125102 (A), PB2254 (B), USNM125165 (C), USNM645552 (D), PB2252 (E), USNM128088 (F), USNM128089 (G); USNM128090 (H).



Fig. 6—*Casterlorum crispum* new genus and species from the Middle Ordovician (Darrivilian) Douglas Dam Member, Tennessee; (A–C), details of horns and basal involucres; (D), thallus with involucre bases and some fine rhizoids; (E–G), dark, apically dichotomizing lines in thallus; (H), thallus and involucres; (I–K), spore clusters with pseudoelaters; (L), central columella with associated pseudoelaters and spores; (M–N), horn fragments with possible slit-like remnants of stomates; (O–P), thallus broken to show ensheathed nostocalean symbionts and rhizoids below; (Q) unensheathed nostocalean filament with heterocyst; (R–T), spores; (U–V), rhizoids on lower thallus. Specimens are PB2254 (A–E, H), PB2263 (F–G). Specimen J is on SEM stub UOF123865, K on stub UOF123864, and L, O–P, and V are on stub UOF123868. Specimens I, M–L, R–T are in slide UOF123854 at England Finder coordinates U40/4 (I), M52/2 (M), H43/2 (N), O35/2 (L), K47/3 (R), H47/4 (S), L19/3 (T) and J34/3 (U).



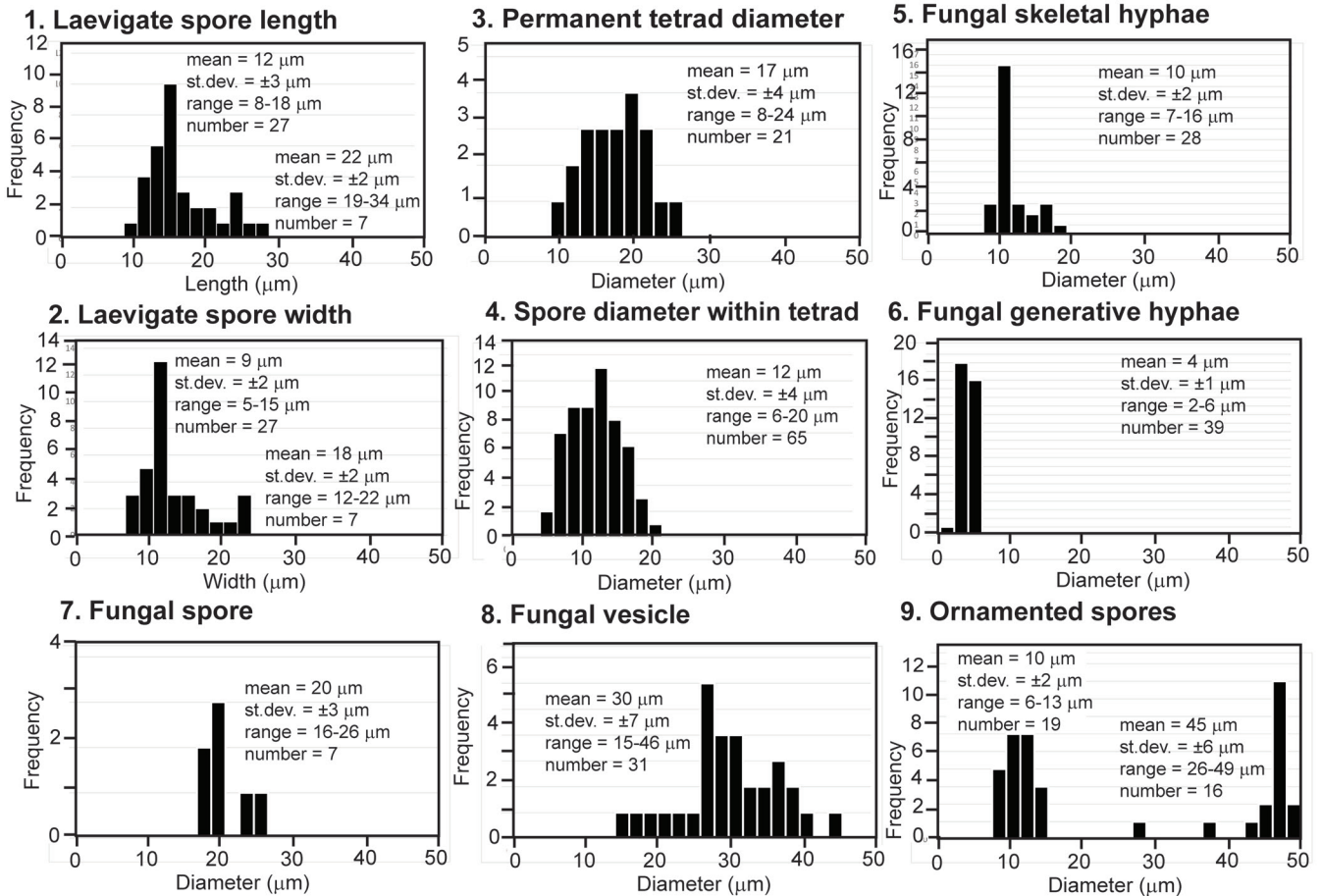


Fig. 7—Sizes of microfossils from the Middle Ordovician (Dariuswilian) Douglas Dam Member, Tennessee (raw measurements in Table 1). Laevigate spores (1–2) are small from *Casterlorum crispum* new genus and species and large from *Dollyphyton boucotii* new genus and species. Tetrads (3–4) are from *Janegraya sibylla* new genus and species. Fungal skeletal and generative hyphae (5–6) are from *Prototaxites honeggeri* new species. Fungal spores and vesicles (7–8) are from *Palaeoglosum strotheri* new species. Ornamented spores (9) are small from *Edwardsiphyton ovatum* new species and large from *Cestites mirabilis* Caster and Brooks (1956).

is correlation with thick tuffs in Argentina (Huff *et al.*, 1997, 2010) now dated at 470 Ma (Thompson *et al.*, 2012). The Precordillera Terrane of Argentina has Cambrian olenellid and ptychagnostid trilobites of Laurentian affinities and thick Early Ordovician carbonates like those of Tennessee (Thomas & Astini, 2003), so was not far distant at the time.

Ripple marks in plant-bearing silty dolostone (Fig. 2B–C) are evidence of mild current flow in shallow water. Shallow desiccation cracks (Fig. 2D), also noted by Laurence (1944), are evidence of exposure and drying. The plant-bearing layers also have shallow organic rooting structures (Fig. 2D, 2F) and arthropod tracks with push-up mounds as evidence of terrestrial weight-bearing motion (Fig. 2G–H). These features mark these layers with plant and arthropod fossils as very weakly developed paleosols, such as Fluvents (Retallack, 2001a). Many of the fossil plants appear to be in growth position, rather than transported, thus ruling out original interpretation as redeposited algae (Gray, 1988;

Retallack, 2000). Oversized clasts of dolostone may have fallen into the varved shales and very weakly developed paleosols from sinkhole walls (Fig. 2E). Thus the fossil plants and amphibious arthropods are preserved within a sinkhole lake-margin terrestrial habitat.

Other clues to paleoenvironment of the Douglas Dam Lagerstätte come from articulated enigmatic arthropods (Caster & Brooks, 1956), the possible xiphosure *Chasmataspis laurenci* (Fig. 3C–D) and possible phyllocarid *Douglasiocaris collinsi* (Fig. 3E–F). *Douglasiocaris* has divergent cercopods, and the streamlined shape of an obligate aquatic creature, but *Chasmataspis* has mainly walking legs, and may have been amphibious. This is supported by discovery of simple trackways of *Diplichnites gouldi* (Fig. 2G–H, 3A–B) of comparable width to carriage of *Chasmataspis*, although tracks of this kind have also been attributed to millipedes and euthycarcinoids (Bradshaw, 1981; Retallack, 2009).



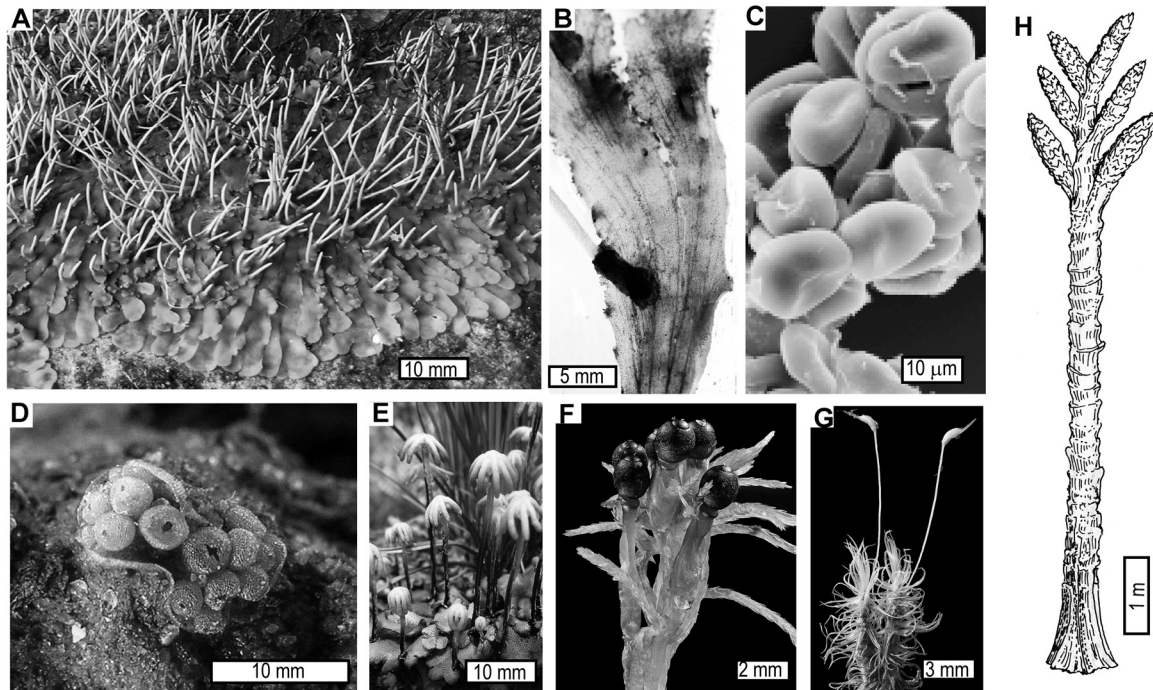


Fig. 8—Comparable modern and Devonian plants: (A–C), hornwort *Leiosporoceros dussi* from El Valle de Antón, Panama (courtesy of Juan Carlos Villareal); (D), balloonwort *Sphaerocarpos michelii* from Veltem–Beisem, Belgium (courtesy J. De Laet); (E), thalloid liverwort *Marchantia polymorpha*, Wanaka, New Zealand (courtesy P. Bendle); (F), moss *Sphagnum fimbriatum*, Lake Placid, New York (courtesy of Northern Forest Atlas); (G), *Dicranum ontariense*, Lake Placid, New York (courtesy of Northern Forest Atlas); (H), reconstructed tree-size lichen *Prototaxites loganii* from Devonian Bellvale Sandstone near Monroe, New York (Retallack & Landing 2014).

The Douglas Dam paleokarst may have been a deep freshwater sinkhole, comparable with modern cenotes of Yucatan (Laurence, 1944; Gray, 1988; Retallack, 2000). Like modern Ik Kil Cenote in Yucatan (Perry *et al.*, 2009), commonly included on the mass tourism itinerary to Chichen Itza, the Douglas Dam sinkhole may have been well lit by the sun to its base, and included both a lake and marginal muddy to rubbly shore. An alternative interpretation is a marine terrace near a freshwater spring, like those seen on the Florida Coast today (Caster & Brooks, 1956). This view is no longer tenable as there is no trace of marine fossils in the assemblage, and the ctenophore affinities of *Cestites* (Caster & Brooks, 1956) cannot be sustained by comparison with genuine fossil ctenophores (Conway Morris & Collins, 1996; Hou *et al.*, 2017). Another alternative of “a lagoonal marginal marine setting” (Dunlop *et al.*, 2003) is also mistaken in identifying sediments above the Knox unconformity as Five Oaks Formation (Steinhauff & Walker, 1995). Rocks overlying the Knox disconformity are the Douglas Dam Member of the lowest Lenoir Formation (Bridge, 1955; Walker *et al.*, 1992).

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

When Caster & Brooks (1956) described two new species of arthropods from shales at the unconformity between Early and Middle Ordovician carbonates at Douglas

Dam, Tennessee, they also figured without description a variety of carbonaceous compression fossils. Some of these were rediscovered in the historic Caster Collection in the Department of Geology of the University of Cincinnati on June 17, 2016. The specimens were uncatalogued, but informative material has since been catalogued in collections of the Cincinnati Museum Center. The rest of the collection was discovered in the arthropod type room of the Smithsonian Institution, Natural History Museum, on August 13, 2016. Other material was collected in float from Douglas Dam during July 2016 fieldwork for this project, but its provenance is uncertain. The prospects of obtaining material additional to studied museum collections are thus very low.

Plant fossils from Douglas Dam are preserved as carbonaceous compressions in rocks that are not metamorphically altered, but thermally mature (Epstein *et al.*, 1977). Maceration of matrix samples in HF and Schultz solution yielded abundant mesofossil fragments, isolated spores, and hyphae. Walton transfers (Cridland & Williams, 1966) were made by coating with Hillquist Part A and B epoxy, then dissolution of rock in HF, and maceration in Schulz solution. Schultz maceration was usually harsh on these brittle compressions. An FEI QANTA environmental scanning electron microscope was used to examine spores within uncoated megafossils in both secondary and back-scatter mode.

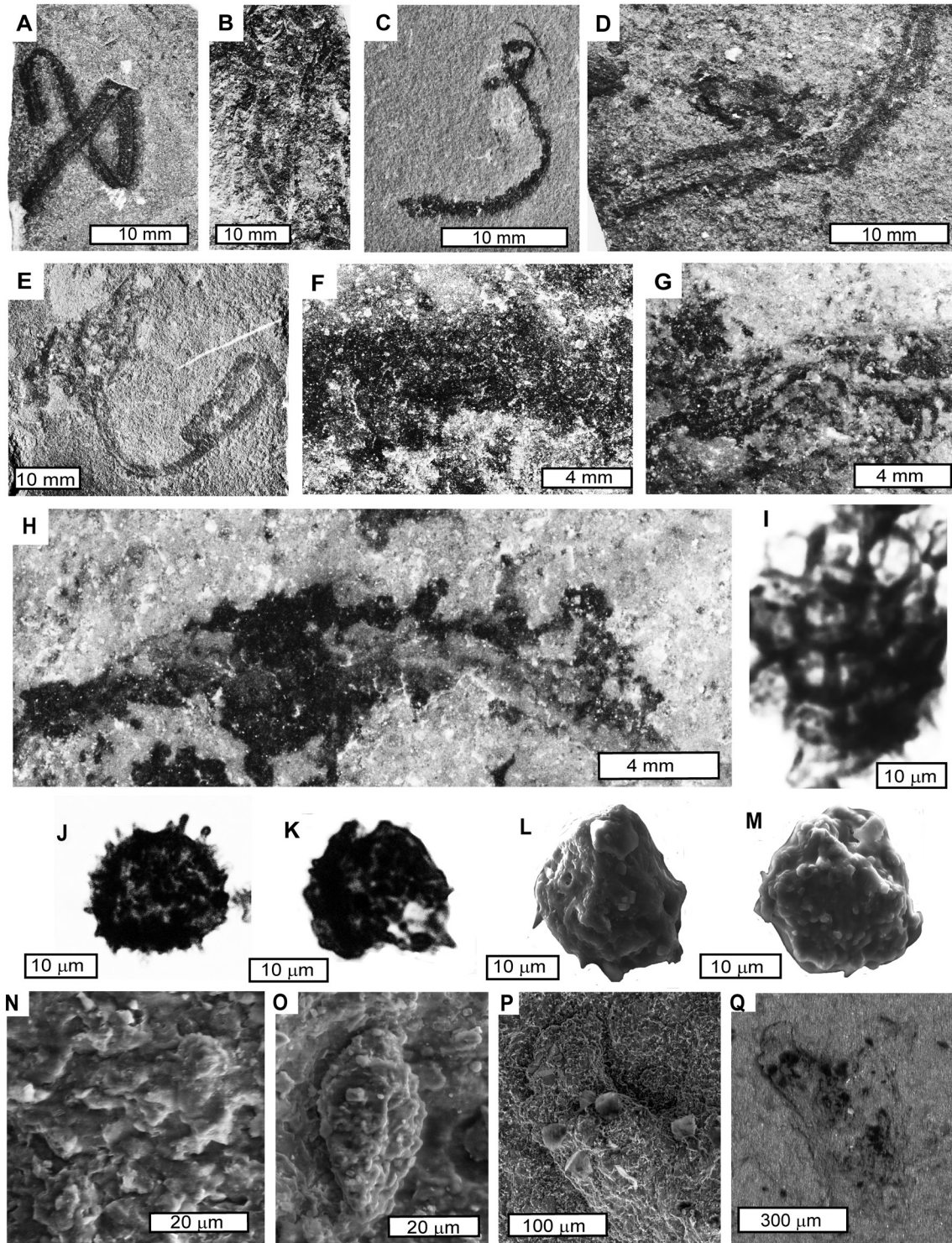


Fig. 9—*Cestites mirabilis* Caster & Brooks 1956, from the Middle Ordovician (Darrivilian) Douglas Dam Member, Tennessee; (A), holotype folded thallus; (B), dichotomising thallus; (C), folded thallus; (D), dichotomising thallus; (E), thallus with attached archegoniophores; (F–G), details of thalli with ventral scales; (H), thallus with ventral scales and archegoniophores; (I), arechymatous tissue; (J–O), spores; (P–Q), archegoniophore. Specimens are USNM125087 (A), USNM125106 (B), USNM645562 (C); USNM645561 (D), PB2266A (E, G, N–O), PB2254 (F, H) and SEM stub UOF123867 (L–M). Unlike other secondary SEM images, panel 19 is back scatter with black carbon and gray phyllosilicate. Specimens J–K are in slide UOF123854 at England Finder coordinates R45/2 (I), T15/4 (J), T16/3 (K).

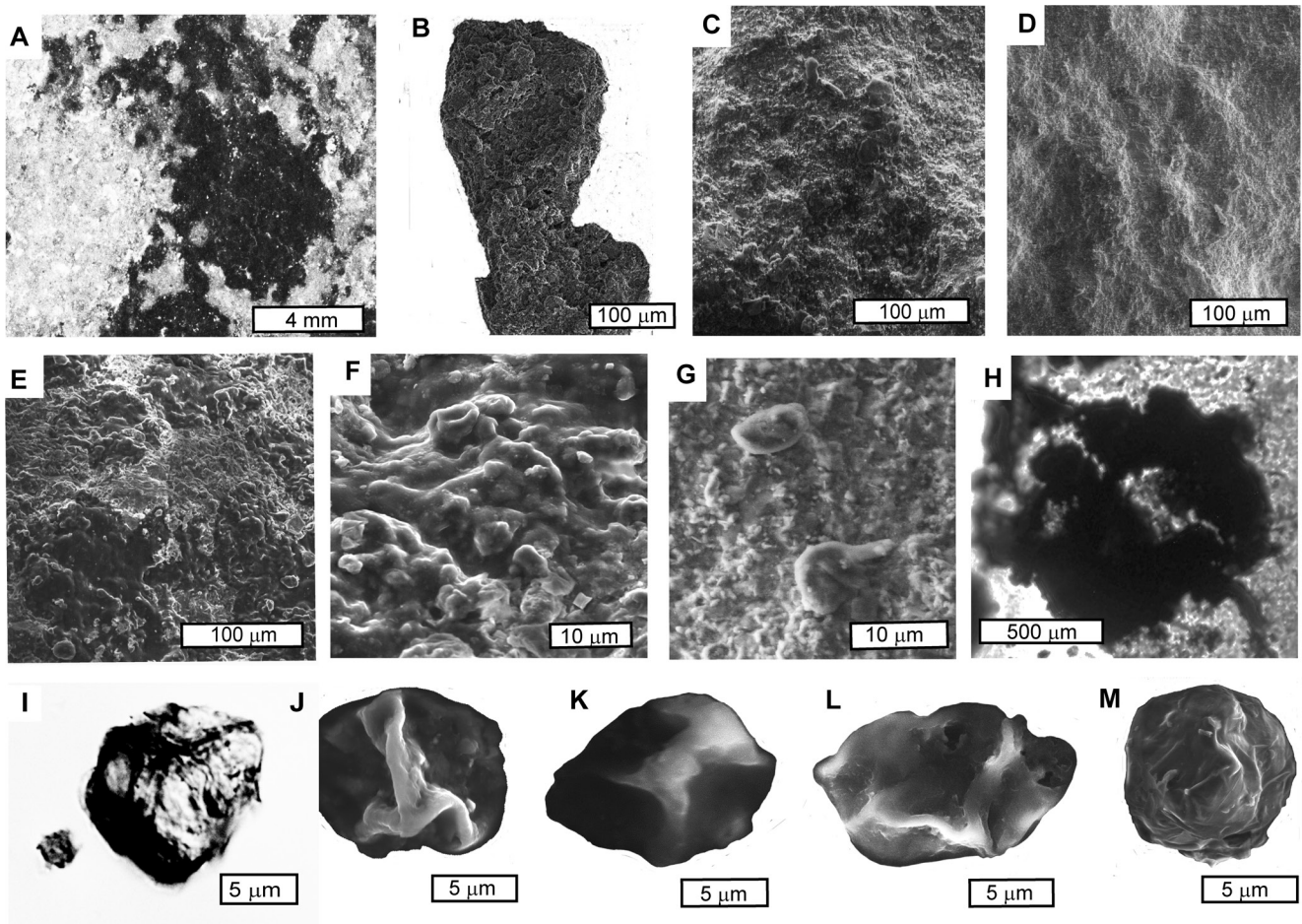


Fig. 10—*Janegraya sibylla* new genus and species from the Middle Ordovician (Darriwilian) Douglas Dam Member, Tennessee; (A), fertile thallus (holotype); (B–E), sporangia with pseudoperianth; (F–G), spore tetrads in rock; (H), pseudoperianth in transfer; (I–L), macerated spore tetrads; (M), spore tetrad in perine. Specimens are PB2254 (A, C–D, G), PB2283 (E–F), transfers UOF124275 (B) and UOF124280 (H), SEM stub UO123864 (J, L–M), and stub UOF123867 (K). Specimen I is in slide OUF123854 at England Finder coordinates C39/1.

*Repository and institutional abbreviations*—Material studied is in four institutions: U. S. Natural History Museum, Smithsonian Institution (prefix USNM–, 68 specimens including holotypes of *Chasmataspis*, *Douglasiocaris*, and *Cestites*, as well as many plants), Cincinnati Museum Center Paleobotany Collection (prefix PB–, 12 specimens of *Chasmataspis* and 38 specimens of fossil plants), University of Cincinnati (42 uncataloged specimens of rocks and fossils) and Condon Collection of the Museum of Natural and Cultural History of the University of Oregon (prefix OUF–, 35 specimens and 11 preparations of marine fossils and fossil plants).

**SYSTEMATIC PALEONTOLOGY**

Five taxa of the main clades of non-vascular land plants (Morris *et al.*, 2018; Puttick *et al.*, 2018) and two problematic fungal taxa (Redecker *et al.*, 2000, 2002; Retaillack & Landing, 2014) are described here. These are paleobotanical taxa under

provision of the International Botanical Code (Turland *et al.*, 2017). The following paragraphs are arranged by recent higher classifications (Hibbett *et al.*, 2007; Novikoff & Barabasz–Krasny, 2015). All raw measurements are tabled in Table 1.

**Kingdom**—Plantae Linnaeus, 1753

**Division**—Anthocerophyta Stotler & Crandall–Stotler, 1977

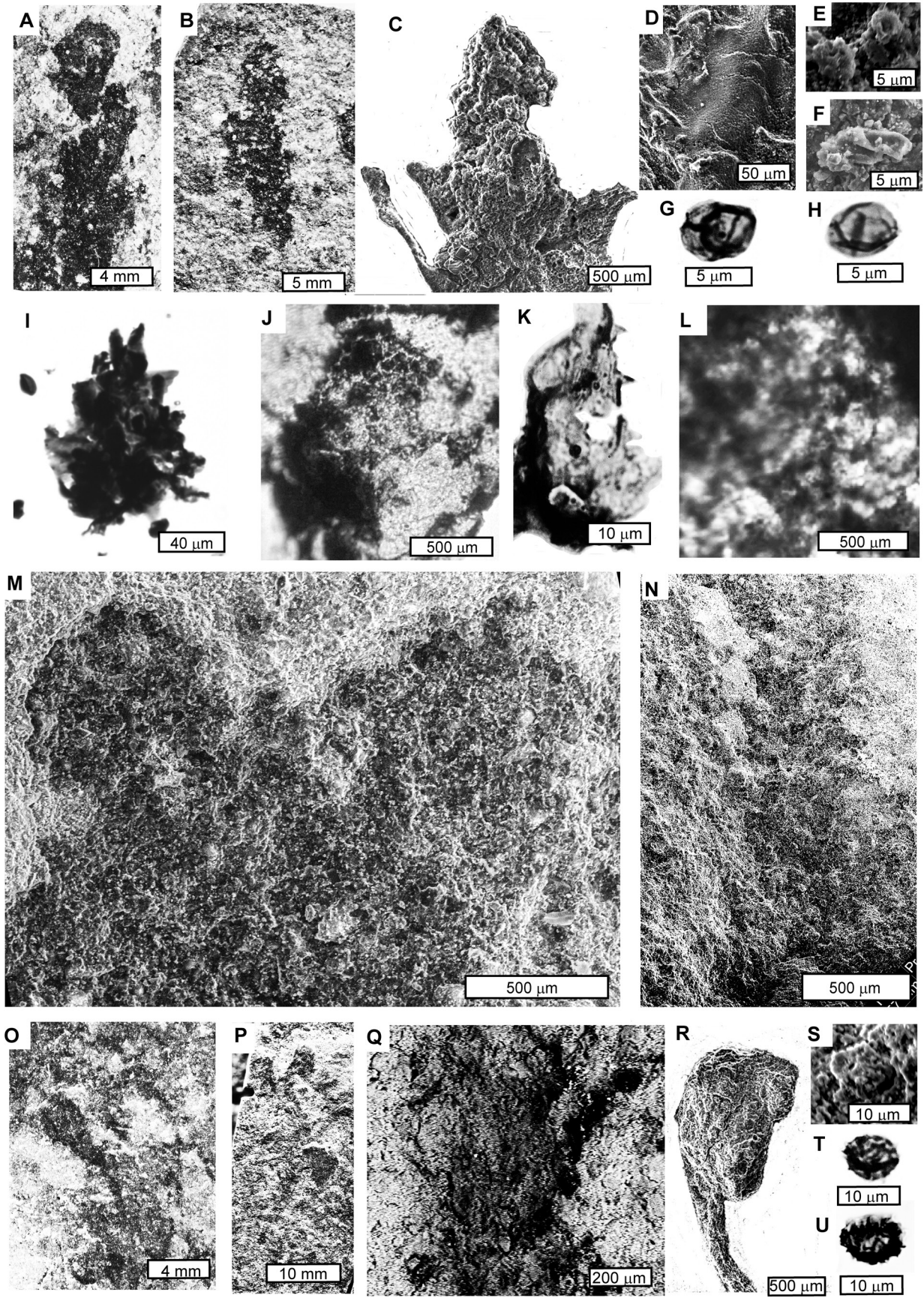
**Class**—Anthocerotopsida Janczkewski, 1872

**Order**—Leiosporocerotales Hässel de Menendez, 1988

**Family**—Leiosporocerotaceae Hässel de Menendez, 1986

**Form genus**—*Casterlorum* new genus

Figs 4A–B, 5, 6



*Type species—Casterlorum crispum* new species

*Diagnosis*—Thallus prostrate and dichotomizing at intervals of 6 to 8 thallus widths; upper surface of thallus with dark grooves, dichotomizing apically, above channels with filamentous trichomes; long sporophytes on upper surface, with basal sheathing involucre and often curled and split outer portion; spores laevigate, ellipsoidal; pseudoelaters elongate and coiled.

*Etymology*—The generic name is compounded in honour of Kenneth Caster and the Latin *lorum* (whip).

*Remarks*—*Casterlorum* is similar in many respects, including cyanobacterial photosymbionts in bifurcating channels (Fig. 6F–G, O–P) and minute spores (Fig. 6J–K, R–T), to the living hornwort *Leiosporoceros dussii* (Hässel de Menendez, 1986; Villarreal & Renzaglia, 2006). Thus *Casterlorum* is attributed to the modern family Leiosporocerotaceae, considered basal among hornworts (Duff *et al.*, 2007). *Casterlorum crispum* has narrower thalli, branches less frequently, and has longer and less tightly curled dehiscent sporangia than *Leiosporoceros dussii* (Hässel de Menendez, 1986). Other living hornworts have distinctive large, heavily ornamented and trilete spores (Duff *et al.*, 2007).

Devonian form genera *Sporogonites* (Andrews, 1960) and *Torticaulis* (Edwards *et al.*, 1994) have elongate sporangia with columella-like central axis, much shorter and fusiform than in *Casterlorum*, and their thallus is virtually unknown. Among megafossil hornwort compressions of Cretaceous age, *Dendroceros victoriensis* (Drinnan & Chambers, 1986) and *Notothylicites filiformis* (Němejc & Pacltova, 1974) differ in their narrow thallus with clear midrib, unlike the multiple, bifurcating furrows of *Casterlorum*.

*Casterlorum crispum* new species

Figs 4A–B, 2, 5, 6

1956 Caster & Brooks, ‘carbonaceous films’ Pl. 23, figs 1–4.

*Holotype*—Individual thallus on a slab USNM125102 with 9 thalli and 28 horns, 6 cm past the number on slab in direction of green dot-sticker (Figs 4A, 5A).

*Diagnosis*—Thallus prostrate,  $4.9 \pm 1.6$  mm wide (n=21), and dichotomizing at intervals of 6 to 8 thallus widths; upper surface of thallus with dark grooves, dichotomizing apically, above filamentous trichomes each  $11.2 \pm 1.7$   $\mu$ m long and  $3.6$

$\pm 0.3$   $\mu$ m wide (n=5); sporophytes abundant on upper surface,  $0.9 \pm 0.2$  mm wide by  $44 \pm 16$  mm long (n=15), with basal involucre  $1.5 \pm 0.3$  mm wide by  $6.4 \pm 2.8$  mm long (n=27); dehiscent sporangia irregularly curled; sporophyte columella  $7 \pm 2$   $\mu$ m diameter (n=7); spores laevigate, ellipsoidal, and  $12 \pm 2$   $\mu$ m long by  $9 \pm 2$   $\mu$ m long (n=27); pseudoelaters  $12 \pm 4$   $\mu$ m long by  $6 \pm 1$   $\mu$ m wide (n=8).

*Description*—The most abundant fossils of Douglas Dam Member are diaphanous thalli with attached thick-carbonaceous horns that are sometimes split into deep curls (Figs 4B, 5E–H, 6A–C). The abundance and spacing of horns at an angle to the thallus are best appreciated from a specimen on the same slab and to the right of the holotype (Fig. 5A). The holotype is one of the nine individuals scattered in growth position over a large slab, and these vary considerably in thallus preservation from a wide thallus flange, to largely decayed thallus around a few thallial grooves. The slender horns include a thick carbonized basal sheath identified as an involucre (Figs 4A–B, 5A–C, 6A–C, H), and these persisted on many coiled horns after thallus remnants decayed (Figs 4B, 5E–H). These remains are all black with organic matter, and lack the shiny surfaces of associated arthropods (Fig. 3C–F), and the clayey fill of rooting and burrowing structures (Fig. 2D, F). The thallus has dark grooves (Figs 4A, 5A, C–D, 6E–F) which form a distinctive open dichotomous pattern (Fig. 6E–F) that becomes reticulate at the apex (Figs 5C, 6G). Shattered thalli revealing histology beneath the grooves have elongate, sheathed and bare, multicellular filaments including larger cells like heterocystous cyanobacteria (Fig. 6O–Q). Thus the dark grooves on compressions are interpreted as mucilage channels for photosymbionts. Horn fragments show elongate cells and imperfectly preserved slits that might be stomates (Fig. 6M–N). No likely stomatal openings were seen on the thalli (Fig. 6O, U). Rhizoids are visible on the lower side of partly decayed thalli (Figs 6D, U–V).

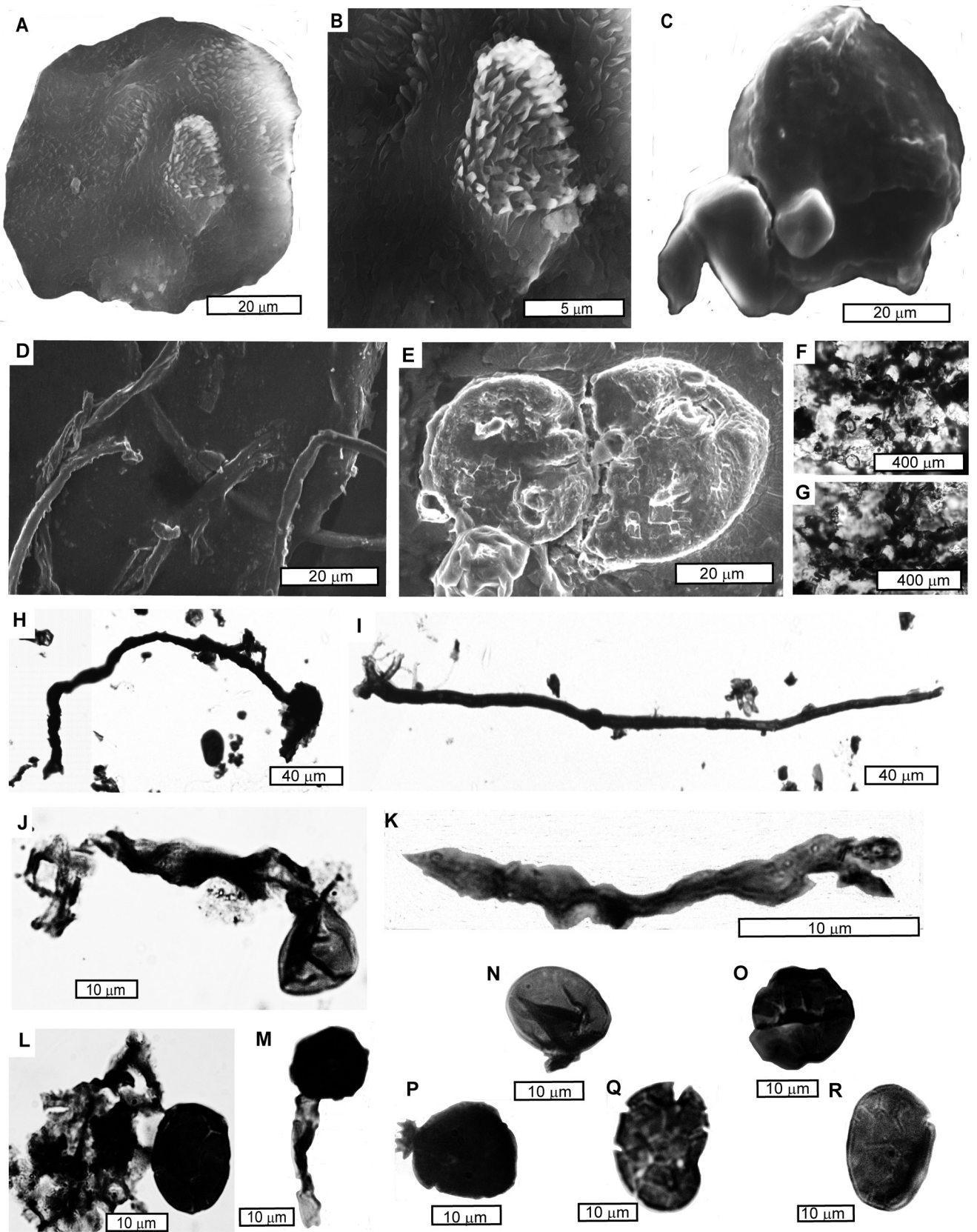
Spore clusters are associated with elongate carbonized columella remnants and pseudoelaters (Fig. 6J–K). Spores of *Casterlorum* are laevigate, small and ellipsoidal, unlike a less common larger and more spherical population of associated laevigate spores attributed here to *Dollyphyton* (Fig. 7A–B).

*Etymology*—The epithet *crispum*, Latin for curly, refers to dehiscent sporangia.

*Materials*—Slabs PB2251, PB2252, PB2254, PB2263, USNM125104, USNM128086, USNM128088–92, and USNM645551–9. A 20 g fragment with thalli from PB2254 was dissolved in HF and macerated in Schulz solution to reveal



Fig. 11—*Dollyphyton boucotii* new genus and species (A–M) and *Edwardsiphyton ovatum* gen. et sp. nov. (N–U) from the Middle Ordovician (Darrivilian) Douglas Dam Member, Tennessee; (A–C), shoots with terminal capsule (holotype = B); (D), leaves; (E–H), spores; (I), small-leaved shoot; (J–K), large leaves; (L) leaf cuticle; (M–N), leafy shoots; (O–P), shoots with reflexed capsules (holotype = N); (Q), leaves, black in back scatter SEM; (R), capsule; (S–U), spores. Specimens are PB2275 (A, F, M, N), USNM645801 (B), PB2266 (O), and PB2281 (P–Q). Transfers are UOF124275 (C, E), UOF124280 (D, J, L), UOF124276 (R–S). Others are from slide OU123854 at England Finder coordinates L38/4 (G), W17/4 (H), J60/1 (I), V30/2 (K), S49/2 (T) and T49/1 (U).



clusters of spores with associated columella and pseudoeaters in slide UOF123854, and SEM stubs UOF123865 and UOF123868. Thalli of *Casterlorum* proved too fragile for successful transfer and maceration.

*Remarks*—Multicellular filaments within the thallus are similar to cyanobacteria, but not like *Nostoc* or *Anabaena*. Their pill-shaped cells (Fig. 6O) and thick sheaths (Fig. 6P) are more like *Oscillatoria* or *Scytonema* (Zapomělová *et al.*, 2008). Some larger cells in the filaments may have been heterocysts, and an indication of nitrogen fixation (Tyagi, 1975).

Spores of *Casterlorum* do not appear to have been named in the formal taxonomy of dispersed spores and are somewhat more variable than dispersed spore species (Steevens & Wellman, 2018). They are small and smooth like *Spissuspora laevigata* (Steevens & Wellman, 2018), but unlike that species are not spherical and show some contact modifications. Unlike *Imperfectotrilites* (Steevens & Wellman, 2018), the Tennessee spores are small and lack tears. Similar elongate clusters of small spores like those of *Casterlorum crispum* from Middle Ordovician rocks of Saudi Arabia have been designated informally “densely packed, laevigate sphaeromorphs” (Le Hérisse *et al.*, 2017).

*Casterlorum crispum* may have been a hornwort similar to living *Leiosporoceros dussi* (Fig. 8A–C: Hässel de Menendez, 1986; Villarreal & Renzaglia, 2006), and thus the geologically oldest known fossil representative of hornworts (Oostendorp, 1987; Pant & Bhowmik, 1998). The molecular phylogenetic position of hornworts within bryophytes is uncertain with seven viable alternatives (Morris *et al.*, 2018), but one currently favoured is hornworts basal to a monophyletic bryophyte clade as a sister group to tracheophytes (Puttick *et al.*, 2018).

**Phylum**—Marchantiophyta Crandall–Stotler & Stotler, 2000

**Class**—Marchantiopsida Cronquist *et al.*, 1966

**Order**—Marchantiales Limpricht, 1876

**Family**—Marchantiaceae Lindley, 1836

**Form genus**—*Cestites* Caster & Brooks, 1956

**Type species**—*Cestites mirabilis* Caster & Brooks, 1956

*Cestites mirabilis* Caster & Brooks, 1956

Figs 4G, 9

1956 Caster & Brooks *Cestites mirabilis* Pl. 23, fig. 5.

*Holotype*—USNM125087 (Fig. 9A).

*Revised diagnosis*—Thallus prostrate,  $3.2 \pm 1.0$  mm wide ( $n=13$ ), and dichotomizing at intervals of more than 12 thallus widths; upper surface of thallus with multistranded midrib,  $1.6 \pm 0.6$  mm wide ( $n=13$ ), and orthogonally undulose flanks; archegoniophore disks peltate,  $4.4 \pm 1.4$  mm wide ( $n=14$ ) on long ( $8.5 \pm 2.3$  mm,  $n=7$ ) stalks  $0.9 \pm 0.2$  mm ( $n=8$ ) wide; spores  $46 \pm 7$   $\mu$ m diameter ( $n=16$ ), subtriangular, strongly ornamented with pseudotrilete ridge and prominent verrucae and baculae; ventral narrow acute-tipped scales  $55 \pm 14$   $\mu$ m long ( $n=5$ ) by  $31 \pm 8$   $\mu$ m wide ( $n=5$ ); multicellular rhizoids  $20 \pm 5$   $\mu$ m diameter ( $n=7$ ).

*Description*—*Cestites mirabilis* was originally described by Caster & Brooks (1956) as a comb of a ctenophore, but the holotype is folded over like a noodle (Fig. 9A), very different from stiff, parallel, combs of genuine fossil ctenophores, for example, those of Cambrian shales near Chengjiang, China (Hou *et al.*, 2017), and Field, British Columbia (Conway Morris & Collins, 1996). Newly discovered specimens of *Cestites mirabilis* show dichotomies at long intervals like a liverwort or alga (Fig. 9B–C). Two specimens are encountered with many attached parasol like structures, hence interpreted as archegoniophores. (Figs 4G, 9E, H). These are unusually crowded on the thallus, with attachment evident only in a few. These archegoniophores may be an accidental tangle, because the thallus is bent in a manner suggesting transport. Other specimens show other liverwort features (Crandall–Stotler *et al.*, 2009), such as aerenchymatous tissue (Fig. 9I), acutely tipped ventral scales (lower left of Fig. 9H), and rhizoids (Fig. 9F–G). Preservation ranges from complete (Fig. 9A–E) to partly decayed thallus (Fig. 9F–G). The mature archegoniophores are peltate with 10–12 reflexed lobes (Fig. 4G, 9F). Small putative archegoniophores lack lobes and terminate in apical hollows (Fig. 9H, P–Q). Back scatter electron microscopy shows that these unlobed structures have dense carbonaceous masses (Fig. 9Q), perhaps immature sporangia.

Scanning electron microscopy of a fertile specimen revealed a sporangium full of highly ornamented, baculate to verrucate, spores (Fig. 9N–O), that also are common in the matrix (Fig. 9J–M). At least two taxa of similar spores are represented in the Douglas Dam Assemblage based



Fig. 12—*Palaeoglomus strotheri* new species from the Middle Ordovician (Darrivilian) Douglas Dam Member, Tennessee; (A–B), vesicle with echinate ornament on lobes (holotype); (C), vesicle and hypha; (D), hyphae; (E), vesicles; (F–G), vesicles and arbuscles; (H–O), vesicles on hyphae; (Q–R), spores. Specimens are on SEM stub UOF123864 (A–B, D–E) and UOF1233867 (C), transfer UOF124277 (F–G) and slide OUF123854 (H–R) at England Finder coordinates F38/1(H), V38/1(I), T16/3(J), F38/3(K), L39/1(L), K16/3(M), F48/3(N), J47/4(O), S45/2(P), L38/3(Q), and F14/2(R).

on ornament and size (Fig. 7I). One is small ( $10 \pm 2 \mu\text{m}$  diameter,  $n=19$ ) with curved muri, and the other is larger ( $40 \pm 9 \mu\text{m}$  diameter,  $n=4$ ) with verrucae. Only the large spores have been found in a sporangium of *Cestites*, and the small ornamented spores have been found in and around capsules of *Edwardsiphyton ovatum* gen. et sp. nov.

**Materials**—Slabs USNM125062, USNM645561, PB2266, PB2254. A 20 g fragment of PB2254 was dissolved in HF and macerated in Schultz solution to create the residue of slide UOF123854, SEM stubs UOF123867 and UOF123868, and part of a thallus on PB2266 was lifted as transfer UOF124277.

**Remarks**—Thalli of *Cestites* are distinct from those of *Casterlorum*, in their wide furrowed midrib (Figs 4G, 9A–H), rather than dichotomizing near-parallel dark channels (Figs 5A, 6E–G). When horns are present on *Casterlorum* the distinction is even more obvious. *Cestites mirabilis* is similar to palaeobotanical form genera for thalloid liverworts ranging back to Devonian in age, such as *Hepaticites* (Hueber, 1961), *Marchantites* (Li *et al.*, 2014), *Marchantiolites* (Brown & Robinson, 1976), *Metzgeriothallus* (Hernick *et al.*, 2008), *Ricciopsis* (Hoffman & Stockey, 1997), and *Pallaviciniites* (Li *et al.*, 2016), but *Cestites* differs from these because of its wide midrib occupying a third of the thallus width, and its sparse dichotomies. *Riccardiothallus* (Guo *et al.*, 2012) is different again, because its thallus lacks a clear midrib, and branches irregularly. Fragmentary peltate structures from the Late Ordovician of Poland (Salamon *et al.*, 2018) resemble archegoniophores of *Cestites*. Thalli and lobed archegoniophores of *Cestites mirabilis* are similar to those of living *Marchantia polymorpha* (Fig. 8E).

Ornamented spores like those of *Cestites mirabilis* in Ordovician rocks elsewhere have been referred to unnamed species of the dispersed spore genus *Hispanaediscus* (Rubinstein & Vaccari, 2004; Vecoli *et al.*, 2011) and “monad with rounded verrucae” (Vecoli *et al.*, 2017). Spores of *Cestites* also have a strong resemblance to spores of living *Marchantia berteroana* (Taylor *et al.*, 1974).

**Order**—Sphaerocarpaceae Cavers, 1910

**Family**—Sphaerocarpaceae Heeg, 1891

**Form genus**—*Janegraya* new genus

*Type species*—*Janegraya sibylla* new species

**Diagnosis**—Thallus small and discoidal, covered in barrel-shaped pseudoperianths with two levels of obovate leaves; spores permanently united in tetrads within thin, wrinkled, envelope.

**Etymology**—The generic name is in honour of Jane Gray, who predicted such a plant from its spores.

**Remarks**—These small discoidal compressions with sporangia of permanent tetrads fulfill a prediction of Gray (1985) that dispersed permanent tetrads of *Tetraedraletes* were produced by a plant similar to the living balloonwort, also known as a bottle liverwort, *Sphaerocarpos* (Haynes, 1910). The most similar modern species to *Janegraya sibylla* is the balloonwort *Sphaerocarpos hians*, but all modern *Sphaerocarpos* spores are much larger and have a coarse mesh of folds on the perine surrounding the permanent tetrad (Haynes, 1910). Living *Sphaerocarpos* also differ in having pseudoperianths that are contracted at the apex or with a very narrow base (Fig. 8.4), whereas those of *Janegraya* are stout, more numerous, sessile, and open at the apex. The Triassic bottle liverwort *Naiadita lanceolata* differs from both *Janegraya* and *Sphaerocarpos* in having a longer axis with well-spaced, helically arranged lanceolate leaves, and was until now, the oldest known balloonwort (Hemsley, 1989).

*Janegraya sibylla* new species

Figs 4H, 10

**Holotype**—Slab PB2254 (Figs 4H, 10A).

**Diagnosis**—Thallus discoidal, 2.4–3.2 mm diameter ( $n=4$ ), covered in 20–30 barrel-shaped pseudoperianths with two levels of obovate leaves,  $434 \pm 39 \mu\text{m}$  long ( $n=10$ ) by  $380 \pm 51 \mu\text{m}$  diameter ( $n=16$ ); sporangium elliptical  $103 \pm 16 \mu\text{m}$  diameter ( $n=22$ ); spores permanently united in tetrads within thin, wrinkled, envelope, and  $17 \pm 4 \mu\text{m}$  diameter ( $n=17$ ); individual spores within the tetrads  $12 \pm 4 \mu\text{m}$  diameter ( $n=65$ ).

**Description**—These are inconspicuous discoidal thalli, only 2.4–3.2 mm in diameter. The holotype thallus is covered in 24 barrel-shaped pseudoperianths, but with an additional 26 pseudoperianths and sporangia scattered nearby in the matrix (Figs 4H, 10A), perhaps from other thalli. Both transfers (Fig. 10B, H) lost most of the thallus to acid maceration, but the spore masses did not clear to transparency in transmitted light (Fig. 10H). Thus the thallus is delicate and probably only one cell thick. The thallus may also have been rotting when the plant developed spores. Six pseudoperianth elements are each lobate (Fig. 10B–E), but the pseudoperianth is not strongly constricted at the base (Fig. 10B).

Spore masses of sporangia are scattered in the sediment, both within (Fig. 10B–D) and unenclosed by pseudoperianth (Fig. 10E). Permanent spore tetrads are in dense clusters (Fig. 10E–F), or separated in matrix (Fig. 10G). Spore tetrads vary in shape from equant (Fig. 10I–J) to elongate (Fig. 10K–L), and some are still enveloped in wrinkled perine (Fig. 10M). The tetrads are only a little larger than the spores within the tetrad (Fig. 7C–D).

**Etymology**—The epithet *sibylla* is Latin for prophetess.



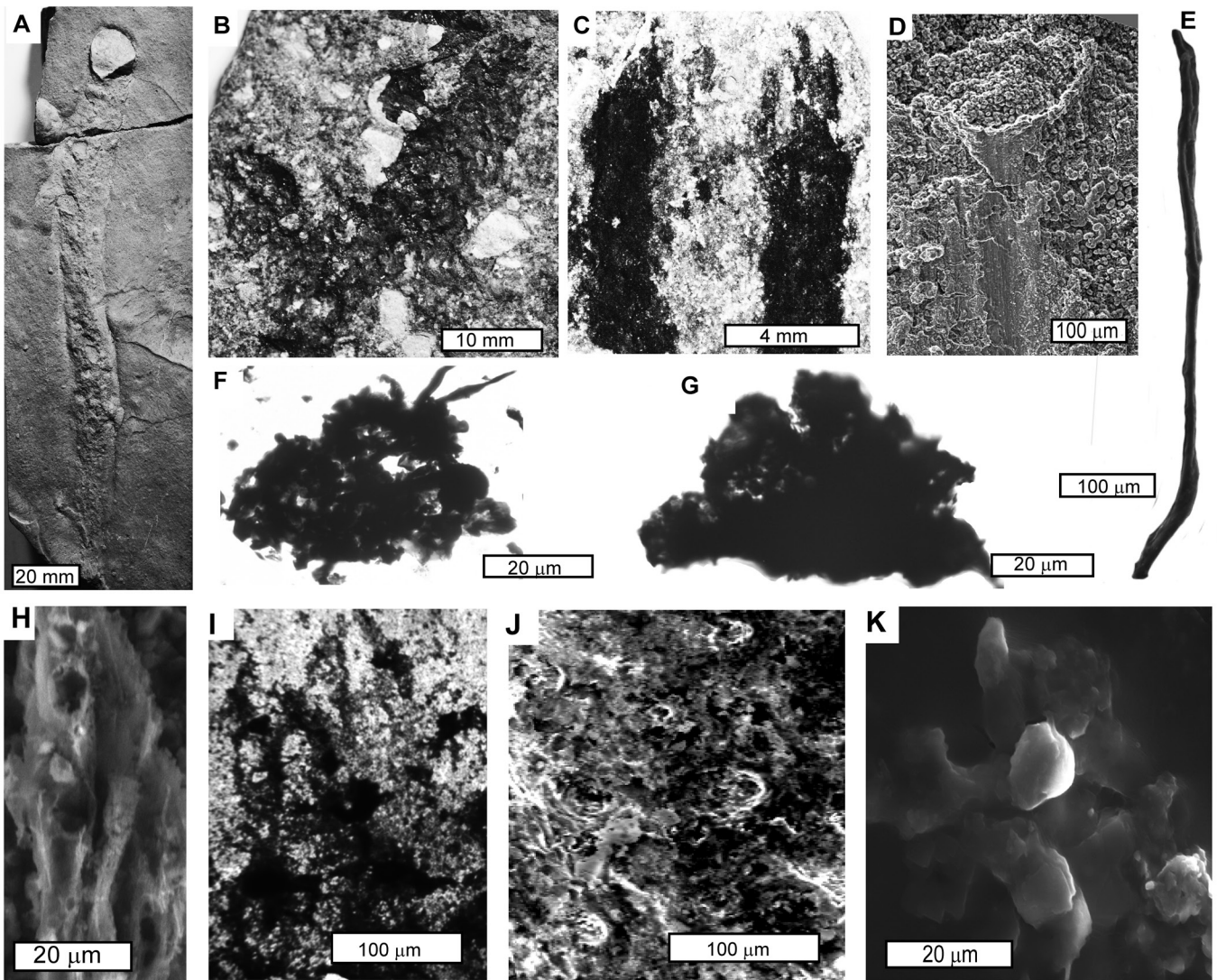


Fig. 13—*Prototaxites honeggeri* new species from the Middle Ordovician (Darrivilian) Douglas Dam Member, Tennessee; (A), trunk with branch scars; (B), branching apex (holotype); (C–D), palisades of skeletal hyphae around central hollow; (E), skeletal hyphae; (F–G), cortical nests within incurled generative hyphae and flanking skeletal hyphae; (H–J), vertical skeletal hyphae and curled generative hyphae in secondary SEM; (K), haustorial connections of generative hyphae to small spheroidal photobionts. Specimens are slabs USNM125083 (A), USNM125084=holotype (B), PB2277 (C,J), and PB2269 (H), and SEM stubs UOF123865 (E), OUF123868 (K), transfer UOF124279 (D, I), and slide OUF123854 at England Finder coordinates T22/2 (F), and V31/2 (G).

**Materials**—Specimens are slabs PB2283 and PB2254, with the latter also used for transfer UOF124275, and macerated for SEM stubs UO123864 and UOF123867.

**Remarks**—Permanent spore tetrads of *Janegraya* agree broadly with the dispersed spore taxon *Tetrahedraletes grayae* (Stemans & Wellman, 2018), but are about half the size (Strother, 1991), and similar to un-named tetrads in an isolated Early Ordovician (Floian) sporangium (Wellman *et al.*, 2003). They may be a new species, but are more variable than a dispersed spore species (Fig. 10I–M).

**Division**—Bryophyta Braun, 1864

**Class**—Sphagnopsida Schimper, 1857

**Order**—Sphagnales Limpricht, 1876

**?Family**—Flatbergiaceae Shaw in Shaw *et al.*, 2010

**Form genus**—*Dollyphyton* new genus

**Type species**—*Dollyphyton boucotii* new species.

**Diagnosis**—Axis with helically arranged, ovate, multistratose leaves, with multiple unicellular sharp teeth on each side; short files of 3–4 hyaline cells surrounded by thin chlorophyllose cells; capsule erect, ellipsoidal, and terminal on a short pseudopodium, and with a clear operculum; spores laevigate, with irregular folds.

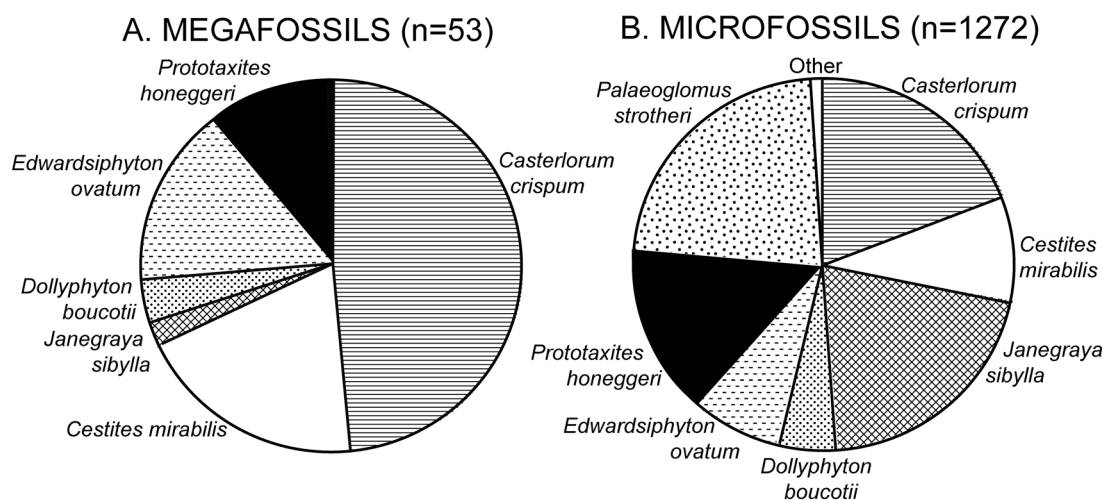


Fig. 14—Relative proportions of (A) megafossils and (B) microfossils from the Middle Ordovician (Dorriwilian) Douglas Dam Member, Tennessee.

*Etymology*—The generic name is in honour of Dolly Parton, whose Dollywood resort is near Douglas Dam.

*Remarks*—The short pseudopodium and erect operculate capsule of *Dollyphyton* is similar to peat mosses (Sphagnales; Fig. 8F). Capsules and stem leaves of living *Flatbergium* (Sphagnales, Flatbergiaceae) are most similar to *Dollyphyton*, but their leaves are mucronate (Shaw *et al.*, 2010). Like *Flatbergium*, *Dollyphyton* may have had minute branch leaves as well (Fig. 11I), but these remains have not yet been found attached, so there remains doubt about the family assignment. Spores of living peat mosses are quite different: strongly trilete with sulci between laesurae on a somewhat flattened proximal face (Terasmae, 1955; Brown *et al.*, 1982; McQueen, 1985; Brubaker *et al.*, 1998).

Another Ordovician (Sandbian) plant with helically inserted leaves is *Akdalophyton caradockii*, which has been macerated to reveal hydroids and stomates suggestive of moss affinities (Snigirevskaya *et al.*, 1992). No capsules are known for *Akdalophyton*, and its leaves are narrow with rounded apices, unlike *Dollyphyton*. Close helical arrangement of leaves differentiates *Dollyphyton* from other Ordovician leafy axes such as *Hepaticaephyton* (Kozłowski & Greguss, 1959), *Musciphyton* (Greguss, 1962), and un-named forms (Retallack, 2001b, 2015a), which are comparable with living soil-interstitial, leafy-liverworts such as *Cephaloziella* (Schuster, 1956; Newsham, 2010). Sphagnalean leaf fragments of Ordovician age have more hyaline cells (7–8) in each file than seen in *Dollyphyton* (Cardona-Correa *et al.*, 2016). Permian *Protosphagnum* and *Vorcutannularia* also differ from *Dollyphyton* in having clear midribs to the leaves (Neuburg, 1960). Triassic *Muscites* differs from *Dollyphyton* in narrow leaves and capsule with longitudinal dehiscence, like modern Andraeaceae (Anderson, 1976).

*Dollyphyton boucotii* new species

Figs 4F, 11A–M

*Holotype*—Slab PB2275 (Figs 4F, 11B, M).

*Diagnosis*—Axis with helically arranged, ovate, multistratose leaves,  $4.4 \pm 0.4$  mm long by  $1.7 \pm 0.2$  mm wide ( $n=7$ ), with 9 sharp teeth on each side; capsule erect, ellipsoidal,  $4.7 \pm 0.7$  mm long by  $3.0 \pm 0.3$  mm wide ( $n=2$ ), and terminal on a  $1.6 \pm 0.4$  mm long ( $n=2$ ),  $0.3 \pm 0.2$  mm diameter, ( $n=2$ ) pseudopodium, with  $1.8 \pm 0.2$  mm diameter ( $n=2$ ) operculum; spores laevigate,  $11 \pm 1$   $\mu$ m diameter ( $n=7$ ), with irregular folds.

*Description*—Two distinct kinds of slender axes with helically arranged leaves and terminal sporophytes are present: one referred to *Dollyphyton* with wide leaves and erect capsules on a short pseudopodium (Figs 4F, 11A–D, M), and a second referred to *Edwardsiphyton* with narrow leaves and recurved capsules on a long seta (Figs 4E, 11N–Q). The leaves of *Dollyphyton* are ovate, acutely pointed, multistratose, and wide at the base with 9 sharp teeth on either side (Fig. 11J–K, M). Cell outlines on the leaves are beaded in transfers under transmitted light, so may have been remains of chlorophyllose cells outlining hyaline cells (Fig. 11J–K). Openings on the large axial leaves are probably pores rather than stomates, because they have a guard-like cell on one side, but several cells on the other side (Fig. 11L). Minute leafy apices were also found (Fig. 11I), and may have been immature branches or polymorphic branch leaves, but these were not found attached. The terminal capsule is erect with a wide apical operculum, and constrictions near the base are indications of a pseudopodium, rather than a seta (Figs 4F, 11A–B).

Spores found in clusters within a partly decayed capsule (Fig. 11E–F) and loose in the rock (Fig. 11G–H) are laevigate

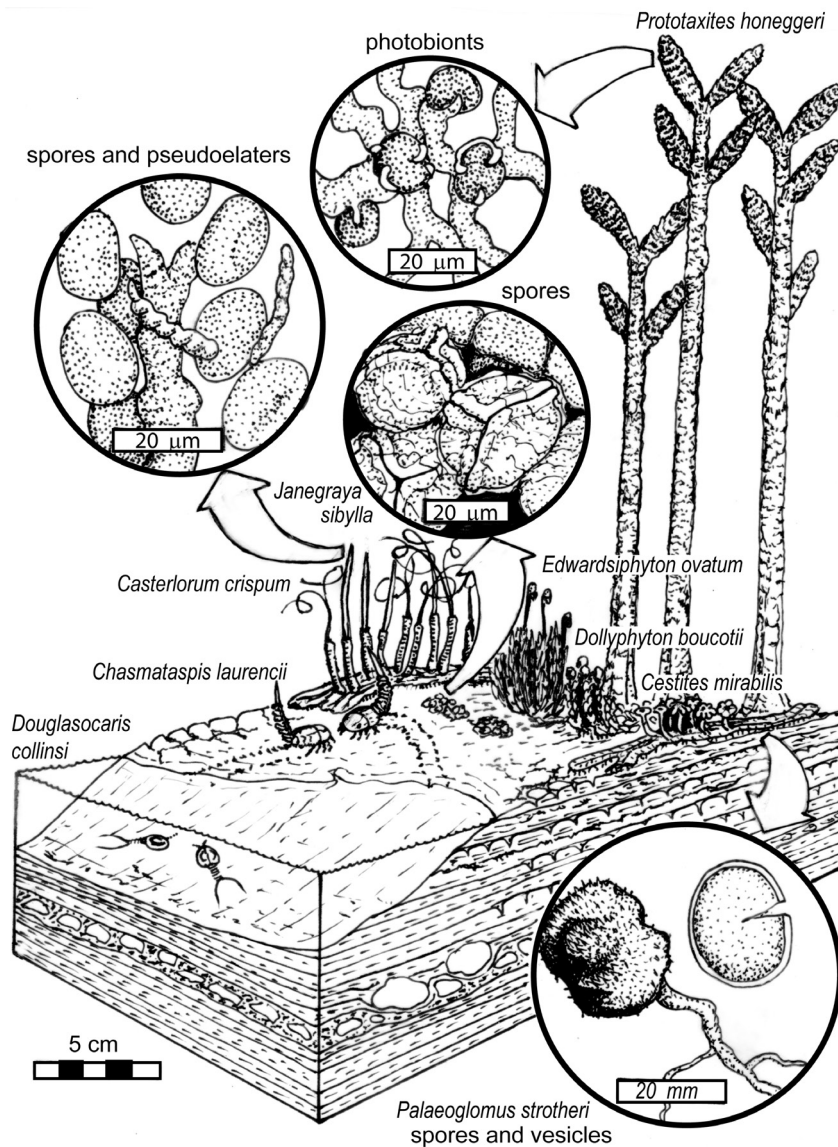


Fig. 15—Reconstruction of land plants and animals of the Middle Ordovician (Darriwilian) Douglas Dam Member, Tennessee.

like those found in *Casterlorum*, but larger (22 by 18 μm) and more spherical (Fig. 7A–B).

*Etymology*—The epithet honours Art Boucot, pioneer with Jane Gray in studies of early land plants.

*Materials*—Slabs PB2275 and USNM645801. Offcuts from slab PB2254 were used to make slide UOF123854, SEM stubs UOF123863–4, and UOF123867–8, and transfers UOF124375, UOF124280.

*Remarks*—Spores of *Dollyphyton* are generally similar to the dispersed spore genus *Imperfectotriletes* (Stemans & Wellman, 2018), but folds are seldom trilete in *Dollyphyton* (Fig. 11G–H). Dispersed spores of *Besselia* are also similar but finely verrucate and baculate (Nøhr–Hansen & Koppelhus, 1988). Spores of *Dollyphyton* are most like the Ordovician dispersed spore genus *Spissuspora* (Stemans & Wellman, 2018).

**Class**—Bryopsida Pax, 1900

**Order**—Pottiales Fleischer, 1920

?**Family**—Pottiaceae Schimper, 1843

**Form genus**—*Edwardsiphyton* new genus

*Type species*—*Edwardsiphyton ovatum* new species

*Diagnosis*—Axis with helically arranged, narrow acuminate, entire–margined, leaves, arched outwards from the axis; capsule ovate, reflexed, and on a long seta; peristome with 16 attenuate teeth, undivided transversely and longitudinally: spores small, ellipsoidal, and strongly ornamented with baculae.

*Etymology*—The generic name honours Dianne Edwards, for work on early land plants.

*Remarks*—The single ring of 16 capsular teeth, which lack transverse lines (thus not arthrodont) and longitudinal divisions (thus not dicranoid), is most like the moss family Pottiaceae (Fig. 8G; Flowers, 1973), but assignment to that family must be regarded as provisional until better preserved material is discovered. Spores found in the capsule of *Edwardsiphyton* are also similar to those of the Pottiaceous moss *Tortula leucostoma* (Brubaker *et al.*, 1998). Capsules as strongly reflexed as those of *Edwardsiphyton* are not known among extant Pottiaceae. Capsule drying can produce this effect in only moderately angled capsules of living *Timmia austriaca* (Timmiaceae: Flowers, 1973), but this reflexion is consistent in all 7 fossil capsules known, and may be a feature distinguishing the fossils from similar modern plants.

The narrow acute leaves of *Edwardsiphyton* are distinct from rounded apices of *Akdalophyton* (Snigirevskaya *et al.*, 1992), rudimentary leaves of *Musciphyton* (Kozłowski & Greguss, 1959), and wide leaves of *Dollyphyton* (Figs 4F, 11A–D, M), *Protosphagnum* and *Vorcutannularia* (Neuburg, 1960). *Muscites* has similar acute linear leaves but an erect capsule with vertical dehiscence (Anderson, 1976).

*Edwardsiphyton ovatum* new species

Figures 4E, 11N–11U

*Holotype*—Slab PB2281 (Figs 4E, 11P).

*Diagnosis*—Axis with helically arranged, narrow acuminate, entire-margined, leaves,  $3.8 \pm 0.5$  mm long,  $1.5 \pm 0.2$  mm wide (n=6), arched outwards from the axis; capsule ovate,  $5.1 \pm 0.4$  mm long,  $3.0 \pm 0.4$  mm wide (n=7), reflexed, on seta  $5.4 \pm 1.7$  mm long and  $0.9 \pm 0.2$  mm wide (n=7); peristome  $2.3 \pm 0.4$  mm diameter (n=7), with 16 attenuate teeth,  $2.3 \pm 0.4$  mm long (n=7) and  $0.26 \pm 0.03$  mm wide at base (n=29), undivided transversely and longitudinally; spores  $9 \pm 2$   $\mu$ m long (n=19), ellipsoidal, and strongly ornamented with baculae.

*Etymology*—The epithet *ovatum* is Latin for egg-shaped in reference to the capsule.

*Materials*—Slabs PB2254, PB2275, PB2281, and USNM125100. Offcuts from PB 2254 were macerated for slide UOF123854, SEM stubs UOF123863–4, and UOF123867–8, and transfer UOF124276.

*Description*—Narrow, acutely pointed and outward arching leaves and a reflexed capsule on a long seta distinguish *Edwardsiphyton* from other plants in the Douglas Dam Lagerstätte. The leaves are thick and carbonaceous (Fig. 11N, black in backscatter electron microscopy of Fig. 11Q), and presumably multistratose, but were easily destroyed by acid maceration in Schultz solution. Leaf margins appear entire.

All 7 capsules known are ovate in shape and completely reflexed back toward the shoot apex on a long seta. The body

of the capsules is lumpy and irregular, but the reflexed apex shows tapering long teeth on a weakly differentiated peristome (Figs 4E, 11P, R). Only 8 teeth were seen in lateral view of transfers and compressions, and from the way they taper apically, a single circlet of 16 teeth is inferred. Spores found in capsules of *Edwardsiphyton* are small (10  $\mu$ m diameter: Fig. 7I) and have a strong ornament of verrucae and baculae (Fig. 11S–U).

*Remarks*—Among dispersed Ordovician spores, those of *Edwardsiphyton* are most like *Rugosphaera* sp. A (Wellman *et al.*, 2015).

**Kingdom**—Fungi Moore, 1980

**Phylum**—Glomeromycota Walker & Schüßler, 2004

**Class**—Glomerales Morton & Benny, 1990

**Family**—Glomeraceae Morton & Benny, 1990

**Genus**—*Palaeoglopus* Redecker *et al.*, 2002

**Type species**—*Palaeoglopus grayi* Redecker *et al.*, 2002

*Palaeoglopus strotheri* new species.

Fig. 12

*Holotype*—SEM stub UOF123864 (Fig. 12A–B).

*Diagnosis*—Branching aseptate hyphae  $5.8 \pm 1.8$   $\mu$ m diameter (n=18), with irregular radial arbuscles; vesicles subrectangular  $30 \pm 7$   $\mu$ m diameter (n=31) with irregular lobes and patches with dense echinate ornament, and other areas finely rugulate; spores ellipsoidal, smooth, with maximum diameter  $20 \pm 3$   $\mu$ m (n=7)

*Description*—Aseptate, long hyphae attached to swollen vesicles are common in macerations (Fig. 12D, H–K). The vesicles are elongate and polygonal to spherical, but irregularly shaped and lumpy. They have sparse and clustered spinose ornament, but also lobes that are densely echinate (Fig. 12A–B). They are terminal and lateral on hyphal strands (Fig. 12C, 12H, J–K, M–O). The vesicles can be distinguished from spherical to ovoid smooth unattached spores of comparable size, often with brittle cracks (Fig. 12Q–R). Size range of vesicles is more variable (15–46  $\mu$ m) than for spores (16–26  $\mu$ m: Fig. 7G–H). This and morphological variation from smooth to patchily echinate may be an indication that more than one taxon is present in this assemblage.

Most macerated vesicles of *Palaeoglopus strotheri* are free of plant host remnants (Fig. 12A–C, E, J–K, M–P), but some hyphae have basal divergent branches like an arbuscle base (Fig. 12J, M), and transfers show arbuscle-like branching structures (Fig. 12F–G). Arbuscles are evidence that they were

endomycorrhizae, but preservation of invaded tissues (best in Fig. 12L), is inadequate to determine the host species.

**Etymology**—The specific epithet is in honour of Paul Strother.

**Materials**—Offcuts of PB2254 were macerated for slide OUF123854, SEM stubs UOF123863–8, and transfer UOF124277.

**Remarks**—Discovery of this new species of *Palaeoglomus* confirms the Ordovician antiquity of Glomeracean fungi. The Douglas Dam specimens with dark burial alteration compatible with 2.7–5.5 km burial depth (Epstein *et al.*, 1977) from a 20 m excavation (Laurence, 1944) dispel suspicions that *P. strotheri* is contaminating modern fungi, as is plausible for vesicles and spores of *Palaeoglomus grayi* (Redecker *et al.*, 2000, 2002) a taxon based on spores, vesicles and hyphae from Middle Ordovician surface exposures of limestones in Wisconsin.

*Palaeoglomus grayi* has sparsely spinose ornament on vesicles and more globular spores (Redecker *et al.*, 2000, 2002), which distinguish it as a separate species. *Palaeoglomus boullardi*, a Devonian species permineralized in the Rhynie Chert (Strullu-Derrien *et al.*, 2014), is also more sparsely ornamented, but much larger than *P. strotheri*. *Palaeoglomus grayi* is found isolated from plants within marine limestones, and the host tissue of *P. strotheri* is imperfectly preserved, but *P. boullardi* is found with arbuscles, vesicles and spores within tissues of early land plants as an endomycorrhiza (Strullu-Derrien *et al.*, 2014). This endomycorrhizal habit is also likely for *Palaeoglomus strotheri* with tissue remnants and associated arbuscles (Fig. 12F–G, J, M). Hornworts are currently symbiotic with endomycorrhizal fungi (Glomeromycota and Mucoromycotina: Carafa *et al.*, 2003; Ligrone *et al.*, 2007; Wang *et al.*, 2010; Bonfante & Selosse, 2010; Desirò *et al.*, 2013). Ordovician *Palaeoglomus strotheri* and *P. grayi* may both have been endomycorrhizal like their living relatives, during an early phase of mycotrophic coevolution with land plants (Retallack & Landing, 2014; Retallack, 2015c).

**Class**—Nematophytales Lang, 1937

**Family**—Prototaxitaceae Hueber, 2001

**Genus**—*Prototaxites* Dawson, 1859

**Type species**—*Prototaxites loganii* Dawson, 1859

*Prototaxites honeggeri* new species

Figs 4C–D, 13

1956 Caster & Brooks, “spoor” Pl. 23, fig. 6.

**Holotype**—Slab USNM125084 (Fig. 4C, 13B).

**Diagnosis**—Erect tapering trunk  $13 \pm 1$  mm diameter ( $n=5$ ), at least 126 mm long ( $n=1$ ), with dichotomous terminal branches and 4 additional branches in upper third of trunk; lower portion of trunk hollow and crushed in compression: apical branches  $9.4 \pm 1.3$  mm wide ( $n=7$ ), transversely wrinkled with squamules  $2.6 \pm 0.4$  mm wide ( $n=31$ ); skeletal hyphae straight to slightly curved, sparsely branched, aseptate,  $10 \pm 2$   $\mu\text{m}$  diameter ( $n=28$ ); generative hyphae sparsely septate, commonly branched, curled,  $4 \pm 1$   $\mu\text{m}$  diameter ( $n=39$ ); some generative hyphae form cortical nests 40  $\mu\text{m}$  diameter, with interior subspherical, spheroidal cells  $8 \pm 1$   $\mu\text{m}$  diameter ( $n=5$ ), each embraced and indented by 3–5 haustorial threads.

**Description**—The largest fossils in the Douglas Dam assemblage are pencil-sized stems (Figs 4C–D, 13A–B). The most complete of these has a flattened and striated base, but transverse wrinkles in the upper portion with preserved cortex and four branch bases (Figs 4D, 13A). The wrinkles have higher relief and become pustulose in the stout ellipsoidal branches, including terminal dichotomous branches. The highly wrinkled branches and apical portion of the trunks have high relief compared with the base of the trunk, which is decorticated and shows an internal hollow of sparse tubular strands (Fig. 13C–D). The internal hollow surrounded by a palisade of skeletal hyphae is filled with diagenetically recrystallized clay (Fig. 13D).

The characteristic histology of large skeletal hyphae and small generative hyphae found in *Prototaxites* was revealed especially in fragments on a slab (Fig. 13J). Cortical nests of tapering and curling generative hyphae (Fig. 13F–G, K) and long skeletal hyphae (Fig. 13E, H) were also seen in strew mounts and a Walton transfer. The skeletal hyphae are sparsely branched, aseptate, and  $10 \pm 2$   $\mu\text{m}$  diameter (Fig. 7E). Generative hyphae were sparsely septate, commonly branched, curled, and  $4 \pm 1$   $\mu\text{m}$  diameter (Fig. 7F). One cortical nest of generative hyphae included small ( $8 \pm 1$   $\mu\text{m}$ ), spheroidal cells gripped by haustorial threads of generative hyphae, like coccoid photobionts of a lichen (Fig. 13K).

Caster & Brooks (1956) regarded the most complete specimen (Fig. 4D, 13A) as “spoor”, by which they meant an invertebrate burrow. That interpretation does not explain a variety of observations: differential width and thickness along the length of the fossil, and near orthogonal angles of branching clustered near the tapered apex. In contrast, burrows maintain the same diameter throughout by peristaltic movement of a single trace maker that cannot turn so tightly (Seilacher, 2007).

**Etymology**—The species name is in honour of Rosmarie Honegger, who has done pioneering work on Devonian lichens.

**Materials**—Slabs USNM125083, USNM125084, PB2275, and PB2277. Offcuts of PB2254 were macerated to make slide OUF123854, and PB2277 was macerated to make SEM stub UOF123868 and transfer UOF124279.

*Remarks*—*Prototaxites honeggeri* differs principally from the generotype species *P. loganii* in its much smaller size: 13 mm rather than 360 mm diameter (Retallack & Landing, 2014). An allometric equation for height of nematophytes (Retallack & Landing, 2014) gives  $0.45 \pm 0.9$  m for *P. honeggeri*, a little more than twice the preserved length (Figs 4.4, 13.1), but  $8.77 \pm 0.9$  m for *P. loganii* (Fig. 8H). Small size and lack of growth rings also differentiates *P. honeggeri* from *P. saharianum* (Arbey & Koeniguer, 1979; Guerrak, 1988), *P. lafontii* (Arbey & Koeniguer, 1979), *P. taiti* (Honegger *et al.*, 2018), *P. ortonii* (Cross *et al.*, 1996) and *P. southwelli* (Arnold, 1952; Boyce *et al.*, 2007). There is no indication of growth rings like those of *P. loganii* in *P. honeggeri*, but the branching pattern, hyphal tissues, cortical nests, and presumed green algal symbiont are all very similar. *Prototaxites honeggeri* may have been hollow near the base where there is a ring of vertical skeletal hyphae (Figs 13C–D), unlike other species of *Prototaxites*. The club-shaped short branches of *P. honeggeri* are similar in form, if not size, to those of *P. loganii* (Fig. 8H), and distinct from other nematophytes such as *Germanophyton* with laminar ends to the branches (Høeg, 1942; Retallack, 2015c), and *Mosellophyton* with copious fine branches (Schweitzer, 1983; Retallack, 2015c). *Nematasketum* is different again in having distinct annular thickenings within skeletal hyphae (Edwards & Axe, 2012).

The botanical nature of *Prototaxites* has been controversial, but interpretation as a vascular plant, alga or rolled mat of liverworts has been ruled out by its histology (Retallack & Landing, 2014; Honegger *et al.*, 2018). Its fungal affinities have been established securely by pore and wall ultrastructure (Schmid, 1976), but it remains uncertain whether it belongs in Basidiomycota (Hueber, 2001), Ascomycota (Honegger *et al.*, 2018), or Glomeromycota–Mucoromycotina (Retallack & Landing, 2014). The skeletal hyphae are aseptate like Glomeromycota, but the generative and binding hyphae are sparsely septate like Mucoromycotina, Basidiomycota and Ascomycota. Fine branching structures in Devonian *Prototaxites loganii* (Hueber, 2001) may be Hartig nets of Basidiomycota or haustoria of Ascomycota, and thus parasitic forms (Retallack & Landing, 2014). A detached hymenium associated with *Prototaxites taitii* has been taken as evidence of ascomycotan affinities (Honegger *et al.*, 2018), but may be an accidental association or a parasitic form. It is also possible that single species of *Prototaxites* included hyphae of Basidiomycota, Ascomycota, and Glomeromycota, like modern multispecies lichens (Hawksworth, 1988). One reason to doubt that *Prototaxites honeggeri* is a record of Basidiomycota and Ascomycota, is the current lack of independent evidence from spores or mesofossils of those dikaryan clades before the Devonian (Retallack, 2015a).

The nature of the photobiont is uncertain, although the size (8 µm) and shape of these spheroidal cells (Fig. 13K) is like that of green algal photosymbionts known from Devonian *Prototaxites loganii* (Retallack & Landing, 2014).

Even though free-living cyanobacteria are smaller (10 µm) than free-living green algae (25 µm), cyanobacteria become larger as symbionts, but algae in haustorial symbiosis become smaller than 10 µm (Amadjian, 1967; Henley *et al.*, 2004).

*Prototaxites* is mainly known from Silurian and younger rocks (Hueber, 2001; Honegger *et al.*, 2018), but a variety of unusually large plant-like fossils may have been Ordovician nematophytes, for example, sandstone casts described as *Lepidotruncus fortis* (Fritsch, 1908), and root-like structures, *Radix corrugatus* (Fritsch, 1908) from the Katian–Hirnantian (Kříž & Pojeta, 1974), Kosov Formation, near Chodouň and Vonoklas (respectively), Czech Republic. Also comparable is *Protostigmaria sigillarioides* (Lesquereux, 1877) from the Late Ordovician (Katian), Waynesville Formation near Lebanon, Ohio (Lesquereux, 1874). Comparable remains (*Lepidotruncus* sp. indet.) are known from Hirnantian, glacial deposits of the El Golea Member, Tamadjert Formation, near Zmeïlet Barka, Algeria (Arbey & Koeniguer, 1979; LeHeron & Craig, 2008), and from the Hirnantian, Juniata Formation at Beans Gap, Tennessee (Retallack, 2015a). Other remains comparable with *Radix* (Fritsch, 1908) are known from the early Katian, Gull River Formation near Ingham Mills, New York (Argast, 1992). The New York root-like fossils are partly permineralized in calcite and show a distinctive histology of tubular cell walls with a carbon isotopic composition ( $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  organic vs. PDB–23.5 to –25 ‰) of land plants, rather than Ordovician marine organic matter (Tomescu *et al.*, 2009).

## DOUGLAS DAM PALEOCOMMUNITY

The Douglas Dam Lagerstätte includes both arthropods and a variety of fossil plants (Table 1), dominated by hornworts (Fig. 14). The holotype slab of the hornwort *Casterlorum crispum* has 9 individuals equally spaced but separated from each other (Fig. 5A), unlike clonal growth, but similar to early successional communities germinating from spores. Most plants were ground hugging thalli, but *Prototaxites honeggeri* had large tapering stems that would have towered over the others. Glomalean fungi (*Palaeoglomus strotheri*) and permanent tetrads of balloonworts (*Tetraedraletes grayae*) are more conspicuous in the microfossil assemblage than in the megafossil assemblage, so both taxa were prolific spore and vesicle producers (Fig. 14).

The plants from Douglas Dam can be visualised by comparison with modern plants (Fig. 8), as well as by interpretive sketches (Fig. 4) and artistic restoration (Fig. 15). The setting is a lake margin in the base of a 64-m-deep sinkhole in Mascot Dolomite (Fig. 1). Amphibious *Chasmataspis* may have left footprints (*Diplichnites*) in the mud, but *Douglasiocaris* was likely restricted to the water. The tallest plants are pencil-sized trunks of *Prototaxites*, interpreted here as a lichen with green algal photobiont and Glomeromycota–Mucoromycotinan hyphae. Glomalean fungi *Palaeoglomus*, also form an endomycorrhizal network

Table 1—Raw measurements of Ordovician land plants (all  $\mu\text{m}$ )

Taxon	measure	specimen	microns	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	measure	specimen	microns
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	thallus width	USNM125102	3755	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM125102	3755
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	thallus width	USNM125102	4510	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM125102	3429
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	thallus width	USNM125102	2214	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM125102	3959
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	thallus width	USNM125102	2694	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM125102	3449
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	thallus width	USNM125102	3949	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM125102	4143
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	thallus width	USNM125102	5133	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM125102	4367
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	thallus width	USNM125102	4735	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM125102	4337
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	thallus width	USNM125102	4367	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM125102	4122
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	thallus width	USNM125102	5010	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM125102	4949
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	thallus width	USNM125102	5296	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM125165	6507
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	thallus width	USNM125165	5711	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM125165	5861
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	thallus width	USNM125165	5005	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM125165	6458
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	thallus width	USNM125165	5353	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM128091	7018
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	thallus width	USNM125165	5433	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM645551	13313
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	thallus width	USNM645552	4302	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM645552	7143
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	thallus width	USNM645552	3510	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM645555	5107
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	thallus width	USNM645557	3953	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM645556	13291
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	thallus width	USNM645557	3393	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM645558	6907
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	thallus width	USNM645558	7538	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM645558	5280
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	thallus width	PB2251	8886	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM645559	8305
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	thallus width	PB2251	7882	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	PB2251	8011
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn length	USNM125102	25663	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM128088	12156
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn length	USNM125102	17459	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM128089	8258
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn length	USNM125102	22510	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM128092	9487
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn length	USNM128091	64853	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM125102	1316
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn length	USNM645551	42381	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM125102	1337
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn length	USNM645553	48093	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM125102	1704
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn length	USNM645554	45262	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM125102	1398
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn length	USNM645555	37802	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM125102	1643
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn length	USNM645556	38374	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM125102	1878
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn length	USNM645559	58947	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM125102	1796
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn length	PB2251	61398	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM125102	1214
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn length	USNM128088	77014	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM125102	1500
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn length	USNM128089	41786	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM125102	2061
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn length	USNM128090	32887	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM125102	1918
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn length	USNM128092	41078	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM125102	1694
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn width	USNM125102	1092	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM125165	1214
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn width	USNM125102	1163	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM125165	1532
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn width	USNM125102	990	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM125165	1542
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn width	USNM128091	669	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM128091	918
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn width	USNM645551	1181	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM645551	1278
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn width	USNM645553	697	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM645552	1143
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn width	USNM645554	863	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM645555	2051
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn width	USNM645555	737	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM645556	1410
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn width	USNM645556	635	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM645558	1556
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn width	USNM645559	1137	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM645558	916
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn width	PB2251	1169	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM645559	1842
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn width	USNM128088	699	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	PB2251	1723
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn width	USNM128089	759	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM128088	1564
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn width	USNM128090	658	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM128089	1111
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	horn width	USNM128092	1258	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute width	USNM128092	1322
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM125102	4469	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	rhizoid width	USNM125102	357
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM125102	4816	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	rhizoid width	USNM125102	551
<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	involute length	USNM125102	4388	<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	rhizoid width	USNM125102	561
				<i>Casterlorum crispum</i>	rhizoid width	USNM125102	561





<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	midrib width	USNM125087	1889	<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	spore diameter	PB2269	47
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	midrib width	USNM125087	1825	<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	rhizoid diameter	UOF123868	20
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	midrib width	USNM125087	1409	<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	rhizoid diameter	UOF123868	30
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	midrib width	USNM645561	1105	<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	rhizoid diameter	UOF123868	14
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	midrib width	USNM645561	1621	<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	rhizoid diameter	UOF123868	21
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	midrib width	USNM645561	1383	<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	rhizoid diameter	UOF123868	18
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	midrib width	USNM645562	757	<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	rhizoid diameter	UOF123868	20
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	midrib width	USNM645562	546	<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	rhizoid diameter	UOF123868	16
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	midrib width	USNM645560	2000	<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	ventral scale length	UOF123868	68
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	midrib width	PB2266A	1052	<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	ventral scale length	UOF123868	28
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	midrib width	USNM125106	2281	<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	ventral scale length	UOF123868	56
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	midrib width	USNM125106	2201	<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	ventral scale length	UOF123868	67
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	midrib width	USNM125106	2459	<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	ventral scale length	UOF123868	54
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. diameter	PB266A	3530	<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	ventral scale width	UOF123868	36
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. diameter	PB266A	1860	<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	ventral scale width	UOF123868	16
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. diameter	PB266A	3180	<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	ventral scale width	UOF123868	34
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. diameter	PB266A	1780	<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	ventral scale width	UOF123868	37
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. diameter	PB266A	3550	<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	ventral scale width	UOF123868	31
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. diameter	PB266A	4340	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. diameter	PB2254	355
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. diameter	PB266A	4890	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. diameter	PB2254	457
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. diameter	PB266A	5240	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. diameter	PB2254	442
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. diameter	PB266A	5520	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. diameter	PB2254	426
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. diameter	PB266A	5270	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. diameter	PB2254	397
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. diameter	PB266A	5810	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. diameter	PB2254	441
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. diameter	PB266A	6660	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. diameter	PB2254	482
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. diameter	PB266A	4750	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. diameter	PB2254	348
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. diameter	PB266A	5340	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. diameter	PB2254	355
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. stalk diameter	PB266A	970	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. diameter	PB2254	363
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. stalk diameter	PB266A	940	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. diameter	PB2254	362
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. stalk diameter	PB266A	670	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. diameter	PB2254	337
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. stalk diameter	PB266A	540	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. diameter	PB2254	332
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. stalk diameter	PB266A	870	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. diameter	PB2254	387
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. stalk diameter	PB266A	1010	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. diameter	PB2254	355
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. stalk diameter	PB266A	1080	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. diameter	PB2254	302
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. stalk diameter	PB266A	840	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. diameter	PB2254	315
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. stalk length	PB266A	7730	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. length	PB2254	478
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. stalk length	PB266A	8920	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. length	PB2254	489
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. stalk length	PB266A	13730	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. length	PB2254	393
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. stalk length	PB266A	5770	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. length	PB2254	469
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. stalk length	PB266A	7790	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. length	PB2254	430
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. stalk length	PB266A	7890	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. length	PB2254	460
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	arch. stalk length	PB266A	7990	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. length	PB2254	414
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	spore diameter	UOF123867	47	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. length	PB2254	441
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	spore diameter	UOF123867	36	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. length	PB2254	424
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	spore diameter	UOF123868	26	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. length	PB2254	426
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	spore diameter	UOF123867	49	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	pseudoper. length	PB2254	347
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	spore diameter	PB2269	49	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	sporangium diameter	PB2254	99
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	spore diameter	PB2269	45	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	sporangium diameter	PB2254	99
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	spore diameter	PB2269	44	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	sporangium diameter	PB2254	91
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	spore diameter	PB2269	43	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	sporangium diameter	PB2254	90
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	spore diameter	PB2269	47	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	sporangium diameter	PB2254	89
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	spore diameter	PB2269	48	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	sporangium diameter	PB2254	97
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	spore diameter	PB2269	48	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	sporangium diameter	PB2254	98
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	spore diameter	PB2269	46	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	sporangium diameter	PB2254	128
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	spore diameter	PB2269	46	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	sporangium diameter	PB2254	73
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	spore diameter	PB2269	47	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	sporangium diameter	PB2254	76
<i>Cestites mirabilis</i>	spore diameter	PB2269	47	<i>Janegraya sibylla</i>	sporangium diameter	PB2254	80



<i>Dollyphyton boucotii</i>	pseudopodium length	USNM645801	1186	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	seta diameter	PB2281	1370
<i>Dollyphyton boucotii</i>	pseudopodium length	PB2275	2060	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	seta diameter	PB2281	1220
<i>Dollyphyton boucotii</i>	Pseudopod. diameter	USNM645801	1452	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	seta diameter	PB2281	1140
<i>Dollyphyton boucotii</i>	Pseudopod. diameter	PB2275	1120	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	peristome diameter	USNM125100	1934
<i>Dollyphyton boucotii</i>	operculum diameter	USNM645801	1979	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	peristome diameter	USNM125100	1953
<i>Dollyphyton boucotii</i>	operculum diameter	PB2275	1670	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	peristome diameter	USNM125100	2469
<i>Dollyphyton boucotii</i>	spore length	OUF123854	19	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	peristome diameter	UOF124276	2929
<i>Dollyphyton boucotii</i>	spore length	OUF123854	23	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	peristome diameter	PB2281	2420
<i>Dollyphyton boucotii</i>	spore length	OUF123854	20	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	peristome diameter	PB2281	2370
<i>Dollyphyton boucotii</i>	spore length	OUF123854	22	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	peristome diameter	PB2281	2230
<i>Dollyphyton boucotii</i>	spore length	OUF123854	26	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	tooth length	USNM125100	1981
<i>Dollyphyton boucotii</i>	spore length	OUF123854	34	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	tooth length	USNM125100	2272
<i>Dollyphyton boucotii</i>	spore length	PB2275	24	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	tooth length	USNM125100	2385
<i>Dollyphyton boucotii</i>	spore width	OUF123854	17	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	tooth length	UOF124276	2374
<i>Dollyphyton boucotii</i>	spore width	OUF123854	21	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	tooth length	PB2281	2290
<i>Dollyphyton boucotii</i>	spore width	OUF123854	14	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	tooth length	PB2281	1980
<i>Dollyphyton boucotii</i>	spore width	OUF123854	18	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	tooth length	PB2281	2290
<i>Dollyphyton boucotii</i>	spore width	OUF123854	20	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	USNM125100	235
<i>Dollyphyton boucotii</i>	spore width	OUF123854	22	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	USNM125100	254
<i>Dollyphyton boucotii</i>	spore width	PB2275	12	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	USNM125100	244
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	leaf width	USNM125100	1801	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	USNM125100	263
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	leaf width	USNM125100	1490	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	USNM125100	310
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	leaf width	USNM125100	1463	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	USNM125100	225
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	leaf width	USNM125100	1618	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	USNM125100	272
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	leaf width	USNM125100	1554	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	USNM125100	300
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	leaf width	USNM125100	1252	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	USNM125100	338
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	leaf length	USNM125100	3455	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	USNM125100	272
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	leaf length	USNM125100	3830	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	USNM125100	263
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	leaf length	USNM125100	3912	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	USNM125100	225
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	leaf length	USNM125100	3940	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	UOF124276	260
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	leaf length	USNM125100	4735	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	UOF124276	277
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	leaf length	USNM125100	3172	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	UOF124276	325
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	capsule length	USNM125100	4826	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	UOF124276	270
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	capsule length	USNM125100	4911	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	UOF124276	273
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	capsule length	USNM125100	5690	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	UOF124276	216
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	capsule length	UOF124276	5559	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	UOF124276	238
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	capsule length	PB2281	4700	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	UOF124276	198
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	capsule length	PB2281	4520	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	PB2281	300
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	capsule length	PB2281	5290	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	PB2281	380
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	capsule width	USNM125100	2573	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	PB2281	360
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	capsule width	USNM125100	2601	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	PB2281	330
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	capsule width	USNM125100	3418	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	PB2281	340
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	capsule width	UOF124276	3369	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	PB2281	350
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	capsule width	PB2281	2880	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	PB2281	360
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	capsule width	PB2281	2740	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	PB2281	370
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	capsule width	PB2281	3660	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	basal tooth width	PB2281	380
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	seta length	USNM125100	4836	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	spore diameter	OUF123854	10
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	seta length	USNM125100	7202	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	spore diameter	OUF123854	11
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	seta length	USNM125100	4779	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	spore diameter	OUF123854	12
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	seta length	UOF124276	7348	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	spore diameter	OUF123854	9
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	seta length	PB2281	2970	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	spore diameter	OUF123854	7
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	seta length	PB2281	5180	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	spore diameter	OUF123854	6
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	seta length	PB2281	3300	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	spore diameter	OUF123854	9
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	seta diameter	USNM125100	864	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	spore diameter	OUF123854	6
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	seta diameter	USNM125100	958	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	spore diameter	OUF123854	7
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	seta diameter	USNM125100	685	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	spore diameter	OUF123854	11
<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	seta diameter	UOF124276	858	<i>Edwardsiphyton ovatum</i>	spore diameter	OUF123854	10



<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	skeletal hypha width	OUF123854	8	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	5
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	skeletal hypha width	OUF123854	8	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	4
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	skeletal hypha width	OUF123854	8	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	3
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	skeletal hypha width	OUF123854	12	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	4
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	skeletal hypha width	OUF123854	9	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	3
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	skeletal hypha width	OUF123854	9	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	3
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	skeletal hypha width	OUF123854	10	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	6
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	skeletal hypha width	OUF123854	10	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	4
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	skeletal hypha width	OUF123854	10	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	5
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	skeletal hypha width	OUF123854	8	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	6
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	skeletal hypha width	OUF123854	9	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	5
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	skeletal hypha width	OUF123854	8	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	3
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	skeletal hypha width	OUF123854	7	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	6
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	skeletal hypha width	OUF123854	9	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	5
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	skeletal hypha width	OUF123854	10	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	4
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	skeletal hypha width	OUF123854	11	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	4
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	skeletal hypha width	OUF123854	11	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	4
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	skeletal hypha width	OUF123854	9	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	3
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	skeletal hypha width	OUF123854	9	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	5
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	skeletal hypha width	OUF123854	10	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	3
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	skeletal hypha width	OUF123854	12	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	3
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	skeletal hypha width	OUF123854	8	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	4
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	2	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	3
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	UOF123868	4	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	3
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	UOF123868	5	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	4
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	UOF123868	4	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	4
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	UOF123868	4	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	4
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	UOF123868	5	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	3
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	UOF123868	5	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	photobiont diameter	UOF123868	9
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	UOF123868	4	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	photobiont diameter	UOF123868	9
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	UOF123868	3	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	photobiont diameter	UOF123868	8
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	UOF123868	4	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	photobiont diameter	UOF123868	8
<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	generative hypha width	OUF123854	3	<i>Prototaxites honeggeri</i>	photobiont diameter	UOF123868	7

in thalloid plants. Early land plants are all small and include minute balloonworts (*Janegraya*) and moss-like plants (*Dollyphyton*, *Edwardsiphyton*). The most distinctive plants are the hornwort *Casterlorum*, whose tall sporangia curled tightly when dehisced.

### CONCLUSIONS

The Douglas Dam Lagerstätte at last allows visualization of Middle Ordovician (460 Ma) terrestrial vegetation. These fossil plants of a dolomitic paleokarst landscape are unlikely to have been representative of Ordovician vegetation in general, because other kinds of fossil plants are found in red beds of well drained aridland paleosols (Retallack, 2009), and in drab siltstones of fluvial and coastal wetlands (Retallack, 2015a). This paleokarst flora of Douglas Dam was dominated by *Casterlorum crispum* (hornwort), whereas well drained Ordovician soils were dominated by *Farghera robusta* (foliose lichens: Retallack, 2009), and waterlogged soils by *Prototaxites honeggeri* (nematophytes: Retallack, 2015a).

This evaluation of the Douglas Dam flora reveals that hornworts, liverworts, and mosses may have been distinct by 460 Ma, but recalibration of molecular clocks for early land plants (Morris *et al.*, 2018) will be difficult due to lack of needed characters in these preserved fossils. The presence of hornworts, liverworts and mosses by 460 Ma does not resolve the many phylogenetic hypotheses concerning their relationships (Puttick *et al.*, 2018). Provisional family assignments given here are well nested within more detailed bryophyte trees (Forrest *et al.*, 2006; Wickett *et al.*, 2014), thus raising additional problems with molecular clocks for the adaptive radiation of bryophytes.

A deeper understanding of Ordovician vegetation has ramifications for further understanding of Earth system science. Pot experiments with mosses (Porada *et al.*, 2016) have demonstrated acceleration of chemical weathering that may have fuelled the Great Ordovician Biodiversification Event (GOBE: Harper *et al.*, 2015), and ushered in the Hirnantian Ice Age (LeHeron & Craig, 2008; Lenton *et al.*, 2012, Retallack, 2015a). This study lends support to the idea

that the Cambrian Explosion extended beyond the evolution of marine biota to also include land plants (Morris *et al.*, 2018). Evolutionary advances of life and chemical weathering on land may have provisioned Cambrian and Ordovician marine evolution (Retallack, 2009, 2015a).

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