

## *Lower Carboniferous ostracodes of western Newfoundland*

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Preliminary investigations into the Codroy Lower Carboniferous ostracodes of western Newfoundland have yielded several new species which, however, must await more processed material before formal identification can be concluded. Collection of material this season has centred upon the grey shales of the Codroy and Robinsons area successions, as well as the Boswarlos section and erosional infills of the Port au Port Peninsula.

The faunule is dominantly marine, since the red shale sequences, where sampled, have proved apparently barren. Genera include: *Shishaella*, *Shivaella* and *Camishaella*, which constitute about 50% of the faunule. Other genera in-

clude *Aechmina*, *Bairdia*, *Orthobairdia* and *Rectobairdia*; *Bythocypris*, *Moorites*, and *Amphissites*, as well as *?Macrocypris*, *?Fabaliacypris*, and *?Basslerellia*. At this stage, however, lack of processed material, coupled with poor preservation, hampers the lucid evaluation of specific taxonomic status in many cases.

This study is the first of its kind in Newfoundland and is aimed at palaeoecological and taxonomic understanding of the faunule. However, due to their position in space and time, the west coast ostracodes may add to our knowledge of palaeogeographic distributions and intercontinental correlations during the Lower Carboniferous.