



NOMENCLATORIAL NOTE

Emended diagnosis of the Eocene craniid brachiopod *Venetocrania euganea* Bitner & Dieni, 2005, and proposal of a neotype

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RIASSUNTO - [Diagnosi emendata del brachiopode craniide eocenico *Venetocrania euganea* Bitner & Dieni, 2005, e proposta di un neotipo] - Il ritrovamento nella località tipo di un esemplare del brachiopode *Venetocrania euganea* meglio conservato rispetto ai tipi originali ha permesso di emendare la diagnosi della specie e di proporre un neotipo.

The new genus and species of the craniid brachiopod *Venetocrania euganea* from the Upper Eocene (Priabonian) marls with basaltic pillow lavas outcropping at Castelnuovo di Teolo (Euganean Hills, NE Italy) was erected by Bitner & Dieni in 2005. The successive finding in the type locality of an additional specimen which is better preserved than the original types, allowed us to observe new characters not visible in the hitherto available material, resulted to be rather worn. Thus, we present here an emended diagnosis for the species.

Phylum BRACHIOPODA Duméril, 1806
Subphylum CRANIOFORMEA Popov, Bassett, Holmer & Lauri, 1993
Class CRANIATA Williams, Carlson, Brunton, Holmer & Popov, 1996
Order CRANIIDA Waagen, 1885
Superfamily CRANIOIDEA Menke, 1828
Family CRANIIDAE Menke, 1828
Genus *Venetocrania* Bitner & Dieni, 2005

Venetocrania euganea Bitner & Dieni, 2005
(Fig. 1)

Emended diagnosis - Small, subcircular craniid shell with rough, irregular surface having concentric growth lines and dense, low radial lines on the posterior margin; narrow rim; large circular posterior adductor muscle scars and anterior muscle scars forming narrow, high ridges.

Remarks - As the holotype of *Venetocrania euganea* does not show the true morphological characters of the taxon, we designate a neotype, according to the Article 75.5 of the ICZN. We select as neotype of this species the specimen illustrated in Fig. 1 and housed in the Museo di Geologia e Paleontologia of the Padova University, with the catalogue number MGPD 28798 bis.

Contemporaneously with this note and in compliance with the ICZN Article 75.5, we shall request the ICZN Commission to set aside under its plenary power (Art. 81) the existing name-bearing type of *Venetocrania euganea* selected by us in 2005 and to designate as neotype the specimen illustrated in Fig. 1.

REFERENCES

- Bitner M.A. & Dieni I. (2005). Late Eocene brachiopods from the Euganean Hills (NE Italy). *Eclogae Geologicae Helvetiae*, 98: 103-111.
International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (2000). Fourth edition. 306 pp.

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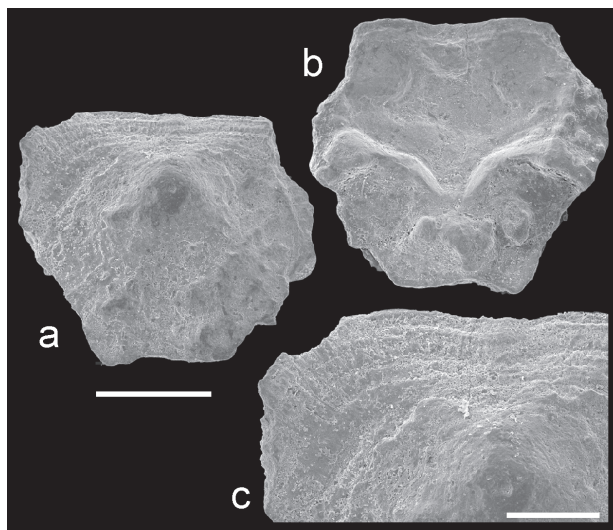


Fig. 1 - *Venetocrania euganea* Bitner & Dieni, 2005, neotype. Upper Eocene, Castelnuovo (Euganean Hills, NE Italy); MGPD 28798 bis, dorsal valve. a) external view; b) inner view; c) enlargement of the external surface.
a, b) scale bar = 1 mm; c) scale bar = 500 µm

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