

Exceptionally preserved fuxianhuiids from the Cambrian (Stage 3) Hongjingshao Formation in Kunming, southern China

Recently, *Nature* published a paper (*Nature* 2013, 494: 468–471.) entitled “Specialized appendages in fuxianhuiids and the head organization of early euarthropods”, by Prof. Zhang Xiguang and coworkers from Yunnan University. The newly discovered Xiaoshiba Lagerstätte from the early Cambrian (Stage 3) Hongjingshao Formation of Kunming is associated with many articulated trilobites, which are representatives of either later Qiongzhusian or early Canglangpuian.

The finding of exquisitely preserved fuxianhuiids is a vital ingredient in understanding the paleobiology of this extinct group. More generally, the intriguing Xiaoshiba Lagerstätte may provide further insights into the early euarthropod evolution.

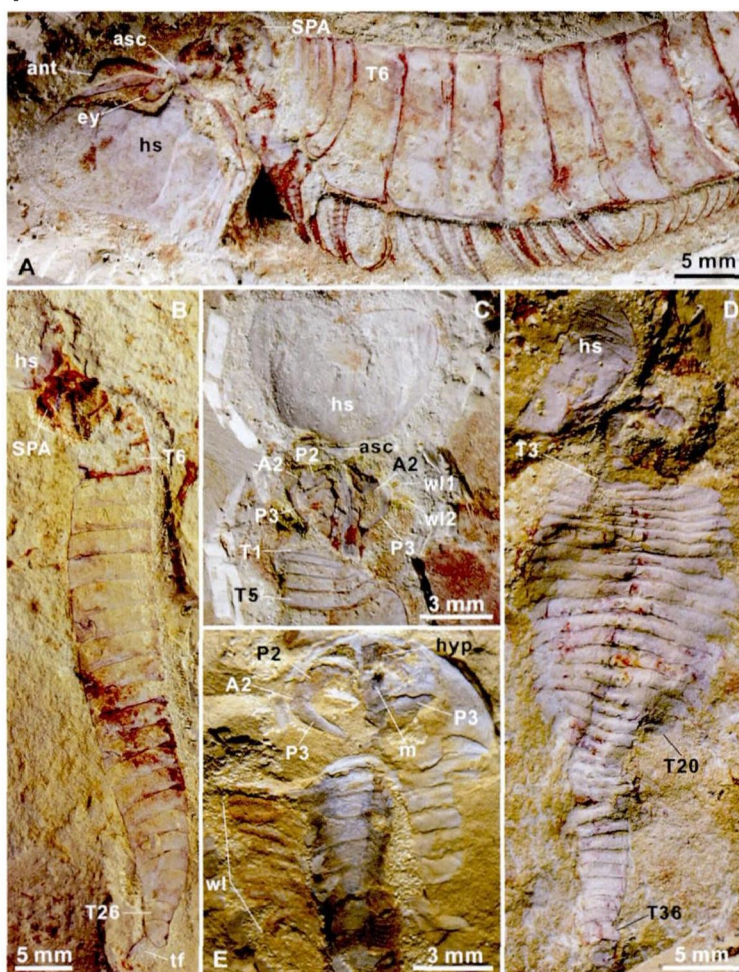


Figure Fuxianhuiids from the early Cambrian Hongjingshao Formation, Kunming. A–C, *Chengjiangocaris kunmingensis* showing ‘taphonomic dissection’, which reveals the cephalic organization. D, E, *Fuxianhuia xiaoshibaensis*: D, also showing ‘taphonomic dissection’; E, displaying head and trunk appendages underneath the fragmentary head shield. Abbreviations: An, articulation *n*; ant, antennae; asc, anterior sclerite; ey, eye; hs, head shield; hyp, hypostome; m, mouth; Pn, podomere *n*; SPA, specialized postantennal appendage; Tn, tergite *n*; tf, tail flukes; wln, walking leg *n*.