



## **New advances on Silurian conodont biostratigraphy in the Central Precordillera, Argentina**

S. HEREDIA<sup>1</sup>, G. SARMIENTO<sup>2</sup>, A. MESTRE<sup>1</sup> and M.C. RODRÍGUEZ<sup>3</sup>

Recent studies on classical Silurian sections of the Central Precordillera provided conodont faunas which allow the proposal of a new biostratigraphical chart for the Silurian deposits of the Precordillera. The Cerro del Fuerte, Loma de Los Piojos, Cerro La Chilca and Pachaco sections were sampled for conodonts. The conodont faunas allowed us to identify the *Kockelella variabilis variabilis* Zone (middle Gorstian), the *Ancoradella ploeckensis* Zone (upper Gorstian-lower Ludfordian), and the *Zieglerodina? zellmeri* or the base of the *Ozarkodina eosteinhornensis* Zone (lower Pridoli). The *A. ploeckensis* Zone is mentioned in the Precordillera for the first time. This index conodont would question whether *K. variabilis variabilis* Walliser is the guide conodont for Los Espejos Formation in the eastern outcrops or just a species in the association of the *A. ploeckensis* Zone.

1 CONICET- Instituto de Investigaciones Mineras, Universidad Nacional de San Juan. Libertador y Urquiza, San Juan, Argentina. [sheredia@unsj.edu.ar](mailto:sheredia@unsj.edu.ar), [amestre@unsj.edu.ar](mailto:amestre@unsj.edu.ar)

2 Departamento de Paleontología, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, España. [gsarmien@geo.ucm.es](mailto:gsarmien@geo.ucm.es)

3 Instituto Argentino de Nivología, Glaciología y Ciencias Ambientales (IANIGLA), CCT-CONICET-Mendoza, Avenida Ruiz Leal s/n, Parque Gral. San Martín, (5500) Mendoza, Argentina. [mceciliarodriguez@gmail.com](mailto:mceciliarodriguez@gmail.com)