

STRAMONDO

August 4, 1964

*No answer
to Jan. 1965*

AIR MAIL

**Dr. Antonio Stramondo
Facolta' di Scienze
Istituto di Geologia
Universita' di Catania
Catania, Italy**

Dear Colleague:

Dr. Paolo Schmidt of Montecatini has been very kind in supplying me with your address and in making preliminary inquiries.

S. Scalia (1912, p. 21-23) described some Gryphaeas from the vicinity of Gammaniura in eastern Sicily. These Gryphaeas were considered by him to be of Triassic age. If all this is correct, then these are the earliest Gryphaeas known today. There are other Triassic Gryphaeas known, but all of the other Triassic Gryphaeas are from the arctic region (British Columbia, Spitzbergen, and northeastern Siberia). For that reason, the Sicilian Gryphaeas are rather important. Has anyone restudied them since 1912? Is it possible to recheck the Triassic age of these Gryphaeas?

I would be very much interested in studying specimens of these Sicilian Gryphaeas. Could you have the kindness to furnish me some specimens? I could send you some very interesting Texas fossils in exchange.

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Thanking you in advance for any help you may be able to extend to me, I am.

Sincerely yours,

H. B. Stenzel
Ancien Professeur à l'Université du Texas

HBS:bh

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~~enclosure~~*