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Albian Rudist Fauna from the Karaburun Peninsula, İzmir Region, Western Turkey

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Abstract: Platform carbonates bearing shallow water foraminifera and dasycladale assemblages with an Albian stratigraphic significance, crop out at two localities on the Karaburun Peninsula: Barbaros and Zeytineli. Rudist faunas collected from these localities include *Toucasia seunesi* Douvillé, *Pseudotoucasia catalaunica* Astre, *Mathesia darderi* (Astre), *Petalodontia* ? sp., and *Eoradiolites* sp. aff. *murgensis*. The overall stratigraphic significance of this fauna is consistent with the Albian age derived from micropalaeontological data. Some taxonomic elements, e.g. *Toucasia seunesi*, *Pseudotoucasia catalaunica* and *Mathesia darderi* possess a broad Mediterranean palaeobiogeographic distribution. By contrast, *Eoradiolites* sp. aff. *murgensis*, an advanced form resembling *Eoradiolites murgensis*, restricted to the Mediterranean South Tethyan margin, has a potential to be a marker for the corresponding biome. These findings fill a gap in our knowledge on Mediterranean Albian faunas considered hitherto virtually absent from Anatolia.

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