

Table summarizing the main characteristics of the new site in Taichoute in comparison to more classical Fezouata Sites.

	Previously described Fezouata Shale sites	This study (Taichoute)
Location	Zagora Region, Morocco	Taichoute, 80km from Zagora, Morocco
Age	Early Ordovician upper Tremadocian and middle Floian	Early Ordovician middle to upper Floian
Mechanism for exceptional preservation	<i>In situ</i> burial of animals under storm induced deposits close to the storm wave base	Animals transported by density flows and deposited well below the storm wave base
Mode of exceptional preservation	Burgess Shale-type (BST) preservation including weathered carbonaceous compressions and authigenic minerals; very rare concretions	Solely in concretions
Exceptional fossil occurrences	Echinoderms, numerous arthropods, sponges, etc.	Giant radiodonts and bivalved euarthropods (new taxa, yet to be described)
Significance	Mixture of Cambrian and Palaeozoic fauna, while still showing the Cambrian BST mode of preservation.	Closure of the Cambrian BST mode of preservation (no carbonaceous compression); top of the locality has only classical Palaeozoic taxa (brachiopods and bryozoans)
Conclusion	The Fezouata Shale is a unique window that records the gradual transition between the Cambrian Explosion and Ordovician Radiation.	