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## A short biography of Hubert Ludwig and a note on the publication dates of his monograph *Die Seewalzen* (1889–1892)

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### Abstract

The dates of publication of Hubert Ludwig's (1852–1913) comprehensive monograph *Die Seewalzen* [= Sea cucumbers] are reviewed. The precise publication dates of his volume, originally published in 16 fascicles and 8 parts/issues, delivered between 1889 and 1892, has been re-examined. Additionally, a short biographical note on Hubert Ludwig's life and a discussion of all new taxa introduced by him in his monograph is given.

**Key words:** Echinodermata, Holothuroidea, taxonomy, biography

### Kurzfassung

Die Erscheinungsdaten von Hubert Ludwigs (1852–1913) umfassender Monographie *Die Seewalzen* wurden überprüft. Die genauen Publikationsdaten von seinem zwischen 1889 und 1892 publizierten Werk, welches in 16 Lieferungen insgesamt bestehend aus 8 Heften ausgegeben wurde, werden dargestellt. Desweiteren wird der genannte Autor in einer kurzen Biographie vorgestellt, wie auch alle von ihm in seiner Monographie neu eingeführten Taxa diskutiert.

**Schlüsselworte:** Echinodermata, Holothuroidea, Taxonomie, Biographie

### Introduction

Between 1889 and 1892 Hubert Ludwig (1852–1913; Fig. 1) published his outstanding and excellent publication *Die Seewalzen* (Fig. 2), dealing with the Holothuroidea, as the first book within the third part of the second volume (containing the *Stachelhäuter* = "Echinoderms") of Heinrich Georg Bronn's *Klassen und Ordnungen des Thier-Reichs* ("Classes and Orders of the Animal Kingdom"). His comprehensive work remains, to this day (cf. Kerr 2013), an important source book on the Holothuroidea as it covers the history, morphology, biology, systematics, zoogeography, palaeontology, and phylogeny of sea cucumbers until the early 1890s. Ludwig's book was published in eight parts (16 fascicles) with separate date imprints of 1889, 1890, 1891, and 1892.

Any zoological taxonomist knows the importance of the publication date of a taxon. Unfortunately, especially for books published in the 18th, 19th, and early 20th century, which were often published in separate parts during many years, it is difficult to know exactly when each part appeared. In many instances the individual parts or fascicles were later bound together in volumes, with a single frontispiece bearing merged publication dates and often destroyed original frontispieces of the single parts. This is also true for Ludwig's book and it is of the greatest importance when exactly the content of *Die Seewalzen* was published even if only a few new taxa were introduced in this publication.