SPORES AND POLLEN NEWSLETTER Number 7 December 2005

Compiled by Duncan McLean

Spores and Pollen Subcommission Commission Internationale de Microflore du Paléozoïque

Spores and pollen Subcommission Newsletter No. 7, December 2005.

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1. CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR SUBCOMMISSION OFFICERS

You may note that this is a relatively thin (virtually thin!) Newsletter. It does not reflect the amount of Palaeozoic spore and pollen activity over the last year, but it does reflect the amount of time that I have had to put into collating information for the Subcommission. I make no apologies for this. The posts of Subcommission chairman and secretary are still up for renewal. Ken Higgs and I occupied these positions well beyond the initially intended 2 years and it is necessary to look for some fresh input. Ken Higgs stood down a year ago, and I have been acting as secretary in the hope that new officers could be found during 2005. Sadly, this has not happened. The Subcommission is now in a crisis, in which I am making all of the decisions. As such, I have decided that unless new officers come forward for election at the next C.I.M.P. General Assembly in Prague in 2006, I will propose to the C.I.M.P. that the Spores and Pollen Subcommission is formally wound up at that meeting. This would be a sad turn of events, particularly as we already have a proposed Spores and Pollen Subcommission meeting scheduled to be held in Portugal in 2007 (see details elsewhere in this Newsletter). A great opportunity for the new officers to laud it over the rest of us!

Consequently, I await your nominations for chairman and secretary of the Subcommission. If you have any ideas regarding this, please let me know by e-mail (d.mclean@sheffield.ac.uk) or telephone ++44 114 2223692. I await your calls!

Duncan McLean

2. SUBCOMMISSION WORKING GROUPS

C.I.M.P. Working Group on cryptospore systematics

Contact: Charles Wellman (e-mail c.wellman@sheffield.ac.uk)

C.I.M.P. Working Group on Dinantian-Namurian palynostratigraphy

Contact: Bernard Owens (e-mail: bowens@palyno.freeserve.co.uk)

C.I.M.P. Working Group on Namurian-Westphalian boundary palynostratigraphy

Contact: Duncan McLean (e-mail: d.mclean@sheffield.ac.uk)

C.I.M.P. Working Group on Permo-Carboniferous Palynostratigraphy

Contact: Dr Mike Stephenson (email: m.stephenson@bgs.ac.uk)

C.I.M.P. Working Group on Vallatisporites

Contact: Bernard Owens (e-mail: bowens@palyno.freeserve.co.uk)

3. THE SUBCOMMISSION ON THE WEB

The C.I.M.P. website is now at: http://www.cimp.ulg.ac.be/index.html. Please change your web browser settings accordingly. The old University of Sheffield URL is still actively diverting hits to the University of Liege website, but this will not continue indefinitely. The home page of the Spores and Pollen Subcommission can be accessed directly at: http://www.cimp.ulg.ac.be/cimpsubs.html.

4. RECENT PUBLICATIONS AND ABSTRACTS (2004, 2005)

Publications

- CLEAL, C.J., 2004. IGCP 469 Late Westphalian terrestrial biotas and environments of the Variscan Foreland and adjacent intramontane basins. *Geologica Balcanica*, **34**, 3-10.
- COLE, J.M., WHITAKER, M., KIRK, M. & CRITTENDEN, S., 2005. A sequence stratigraphical scheme for the Late Carboniferous, southern North Sea, Anglo-Dutch sector. *In* COLLINSON, J.D., EVANS, D.J., HOLLIDAY, D.W. & JONES, N.S. (editors) *Carboniferous Hydrocarbon Geology: the Southern North Sea and Surrounding Onshore Areas*. Occasional Publications of the Yorkshire Geological Society No. 7, 75-104.
- DIMITROVA, T.K., 2004. Microfloral biostratigraphy and vegetation change in the late Westphalian of the Dobrudzha Basin, NE Bulgaria. *Geologica Balcanica*, **34**, 21-27.
- FALCON-LANG, H.J., 2004. Pennsylvanian upland vegetation and its implications for the demise of the peat-forming tropical biome. *Geologica Balcanica*, **34**, 39-45.
- McLEAN, D, OWENS, B. & NEVES, R., 2005. Carboniferous miospore biostratigraphy of the North Sea. *In* COLLINSON, J.D., EVANS, D.J., HOLLIDAY, D.W. & JONES, N.S. (editors) *Carboniferous Hydrocarbon Geology: the Southern North Sea and Surrounding Onshore Areas*. Occasional Publications of the Yorkshire Geological Society No. 7, 13-24.
- OWENS, B., McLEAN, D., SIMPSON, K.R.M., SHELL, P.M.J. & ROBINSON, R., 2005. Reappraisal of the Mississippian palynostratigraphy of the East Fife coast, Scotland, United Kingdom. *Palynology*, **29**, 23-47.
- PEARCE, T.J., McLEAN, D., WRAY, D., WRIGHT, D.K., JEANS, C.J. & MEARNS, E.W., 2005. Stratigraphy of the Upper Carboniferous Schooner Formation, southern North Sea: chemostratigraphy, mineralogy, palynology and Sm-Nd isotope analysis. *In* COLLINSON, J.D., EVANS, D.J., HOLLIDAY, D.W. & JONES, N.S. (editors) *Carboniferous Hydrocarbon Geology: the Southern North Sea and Surrounding Onshore Areas*. Occasional Publications of the Yorkshire Geological Society No. 7, 165-182.
- PŠENIČKA, J. & BEK, J., 2004. *Tenchovia bulgariaensis* gen. et sp. nov. from the Pennsylvanian of the Dobrudzha Coalfield, Bulgaria. *Geologica Balcanica*, **34**, 69-76.

- PŠENIČKA, J., BEK, J. & RÖSSLER, R., 2005. Two new species of *Sonapteris* gen. nov. (Botryopteridaceae) based on compressions from the Upper Carboniferous (Bolsovian-Westphalian D) of the Pilsen Basin, Bohemian Massif. *Revue of Palaeobotany and Palynology*, **136**, 111-142.
- STEPHENSON, M.H., LENG, M.J., VANE, C.H., OSTERLOFF, P.L. & ARROWSMITH, C., 2005. Investigating the record of Permian climate change from argillaceous sedimentary rocks, Oman. *Journal of the Geological Society of London*, **162**, 641-651.
- STEPHENSON, M.H., LENG, M.J., MICHIE, U. & VANE, C.H., 2005. Palaeolimnology of Palaeozoic lakes, focusing on a single lake cycle in the Middle Devonian of the Orcadian Basin, Scotland. *Earth Science Reviews*.
- TURNAU, E., MILACZEWSKI, L. & WOOD, G.D., 2005. Spore stratigraphy of Lower Devonian and Eifelian (?), alluvial and marginal marine deposits of the Radom-Lublin area (central Poland). *Annales Societatis Geologorum Poloniae*, **75**, 121-137.
- WELLMAN, C., 2005. Half a century of palynology at the University of Sheffield. *In* BOWDEN, A.J., BUREK, C.V. & WILDING, R. (editors) *History of Palaeobotany: Selected Essays*. Geological Society of London, Special Publications, 241, 259-279.
- ZHU, H.C., OUYANG, S., ZHANG, J.Z. & WANG, Z., 2005. Comparison of Permian palynological assemblages from the Junggar and Tarim Basins and their phytoprovincial significance *Revue of Palaeobotany and Palynology*, **136**, 181-207.

Abstracts

- ABBINK, O., RIJSDIJK, K. & VAN WAVEREN, I., 2005. Introducion to an evaluation of the interpretation of the Upper Carboniferous of borehole De Lutte-6. *IGCP 469* Late Variscan Terrestrial biotas and palaeoenvironments, Cardiff, April, 2005, Abstracts, 11.
- ARIOLI, C., 2005. A complete database of Upper Devonian/Lower Carboniferous megaspores. *The Palaeontological Association 49th Annual Meeting, Oxford, 2005, Abstracts*, 36.
- BEK, J., 2005. Spore assemblages of the eastern part of the Upper Silesian Basin (Namurian A Langsettian), Czech Republic. *IGCP 469 Late Variscan Terrestrial biotas and palaeoenvironments, Cardiff, April, 2005, Abstracts*, 12.
- BEK, J., 2005. Palynological evidence of palaeoecological changes in coal seams in four profiles in the Kladno-Rakovník Basin, Czech republic. *IGCP 469 Late Variscan Terrestrial biotas and palaeoenvironments, Cardiff, April, 2005, Abstracts*, 13-15.
- BREUER, P., AL-GHAZI, A., FILATOFF, J., HIGGS, K.T., STEEMANS, P. & WELLMAN, C.H., 2005. Stratigraphic palynology of Devonian boreholes from northern Saudi Arabia. *Carnets de Géologie, Memoir*, **2005/02**, 3-9.

- DIMITROVA, T.K. & McLEAN, D., 2005. The palynology of the Oxfordshire Coalfield, UK. *IGCP 469 Late Variscan Terrestrial biotas and palaeoenvironments, Cardiff, April, 2005, Abstracts*, 18.
- DIMITROVA, T.K., TENCHOV, Y.G. & CLEAL, C.J., 2005. Ecological aspects of macro and microflora from the Dobrudzha Basin, Bulgaria. *IGCP 469 Late Variscan Terrestrial biotas and palaeoenvironments, Cardiff, April, 2005, Abstracts*, 19.
- LIBERTÍN, M., DRÁBKOVÁ, J. & BEK, J., 2005. Sternbergites gen. nov., a new isosporous compression lycopsid from the Pennsylvanian of the Czech Republic. IGCP 469 Late Variscan Terrestrial biotas and palaeoenvironments, Cardiff, April, 2005, Abstracts, 30.
- McGLASHON, H., BEERLING, D.J. & WELLMAN, C., 2005. Carboniferous glacial cycles and atmospheric CO2: the record from megaspores *IGCP 469 Late Variscan Terrestrial biotas and palaeoenvironments, Cardiff, April, 2005, Abstracts*, 31.
- McLEAN, D., 2005. Changes in the British Late Carboniferous vegetation as indicated by palynological data. *IGCP* 469 Late Variscan Terrestrial biotas and palaeoenvironments, Cardiff, April, 2005, Abstracts, 32-33.
- MOORE, S.E.M., EDWARDS, D. & HELMSLEY, A.R., 2005. Elucidating possible developmental processes of Lower Devonian spore clusters by comparison with extant analogues and spore mimics. *The Palaeontological Association 49th Annual Meeting, Oxford, 2005, Abstracts*, 26.
- OPLUSTIL, S., PSENICKA, J, LIBERTIN, M. & BEK, J., 2005. Peat-forming plant assemblages conserved in volcanic ash of the Whetstone horizon (Bolsovian) in central and western Bohemia, Czech Republic. *NAPC 2005, Halifax Nova Scotia, Abstracts*.
- RICHARDSON, J.G., 2005. The Kinderhookian-Osagean boundary: Michigan Basin spores and global correlation. 38th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists, Program and Abstracts, 51.
- RUBINSTEIN, C.V., 2005. Ordovician to Lower Silurian palynomorphs from the Sierras subandinas (Subandean ranges), northwestern Argentina: a preliminary report. *Carnets de Géologie, Memoir*, **2005/02**, 51-56.
- STREEL, M. & HARTKOPF-FRÖDER, C., 2005.- Late Famennian correlation by miospores between the Refrath 1 borehole (Bergisch Gladbach-Paffrath Syncline, Germany) and the reference section of Chanxhe (Dinant Syncline, Belgium). *Géologie, Memoir*, **2005/02**, 57-60.
- STROTHER, P.K, 2005. Paleopalynology, character evolution and basal plant phylogeny 38th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists, Program and Abstracts, 55.
- TAYLOR, W.A., 2005. Identifying the earliest land plants: spore wall ultrastructure and land plant evolution. 38th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists, Program and Abstracts, 56.

- WELLMAN, C.H., 2005. The original and early evolution of land plants: palynological evidence. 38th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists, Program and Abstracts, 59.
- WELLMAN, C., KERP, H. & HASS, H., 2005. Exceptional preservation of *in situ* spores in the Rhynie chert plants. *The Palaeontological Association 49th Annual Meeting, Oxford, 2005, Abstracts*, 33.

6. TAXONOMIC NEWS (2004, 2005)

For references see above.

Newly described taxa

Species

Cymbohilates baculatus Turnau et al. 2005, p. 129, pl. 5, figs. b, c. Cymbohilates pusillus Turnau et al. 2005, p. 129, pl. 3, figs. b, c. Retusotriletes niger Turnau et al. 2005, p. 131, pl. 5, figs. d, g. Retusotriletes tuberiferus Turnau et al. 2005, p. 130, pl. 3, fig. m.

9. FUTURE MEETINGS

General Assembly of the Commission Internationale de Microflore du Paléozoique Prague, September, 2006

Contact Jiri Bek for details. E-mail mrbean@gli.cas.cz

Second meeting of the Commission Internationale de Microflore du Paléozoique, Spores and Pollen Subcommission

Lisbon, Portugal, September 2007

Organized by INETI (Portuguese Geological Survey) and University of Algarve

This meeting will involve 3 days of technical sessions at the Geological Survey in Lisbon followed by a 2 day post-meeting field trip to the Pyrite Belt (Palynostratigraphic contributions to understanding the Iberian Pyrite Belt), and return to Lisbon.

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