

A PROPOSED LOWER CRETACEOUS NANNOFOSSIL ZONATION SCHEME FOR THE MORAY FIRTH AREA OF THE NORTH SEA.

M. Jakubowski, Robertson Research International  
 Ty'n-y-Coed, Llanrhos, Llandudno  
 North Wales.

A Lower Cretaceous calcareous nannofossil zonation scheme for the Moray Firth Area of the North Sea is proposed, based on the examination of several well sections together with reference to unpublished work from onshore exposures. The zonal subdivisions are based upon the extinction, evolution, association and abundance of taxa. The application of the zonation scheme enables the recognition of minor hiatuses within the Lower Cretaceous section. Special attention has also been given to the early stages in the evolution of the genera *Eprolithus* and *Gartnerago*.

CHRONOSTRATIGRAPHIC RANGE			CALCAREOUS NANNOFOSSIL ZONATION SCHEME		
			ZONES	SUBZONES	
LOWER CRETACEOUS	Albian	upper	NLK1		B. constans (abundant), P. anfractus
			NLK2		C. primitiva (abundant)
			NLK3		H. gorkae, T. decorus
		middle	NLK4	A	G. praeobliquum
				B	E. turriseiffelii
		lower	NLK5	A	B. parvidentatus (common)
	B			P. columnata	
	Aptian	upper	NLK6		P. asper (abundant) M. hoschulzii, M. obtusus
			NLK7		
	Barremian	upper	NLK8		P. asper (abundant)
			NLK9		L. moray-firthensis (common)
		middle	NLK10		N. abundans
			NLK11		N. borealis
			NLK12		C. rothii
		lower	NLK13		C. salebrosus
			NLK14		L. septentrionalis
			NLK15		Micrantholithus spp. (abund) L. septentrionalis (common)
			NLK16		C. cuvillierii
	Hauterivian	upper	NLK16	A	L. septentrionalis
B				C. silvaradion	
Valanginian	upper	NLK17			
	lower	NLK18		M. speetonensis	
'Barr.'		Ryazanian	NLK19		S. arcuatus R. angustiorata
	upper		[Hatched area]		first occurrence - ]
lower	last occurrence - ]				