

Paleocene calcareous nannofossil analysis of the Qreiya section (Egypt) and the Eastern Venezuelan Basin

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The present study focuses on the comparison of the zonal schemes based on calcareous nannofossils from two different localities: the Qreiya section (Egypt) and the Eastern Venezuelan Basin. In the first locality, calcareous nannofossil assemblages were analyzed in order to establish the geochronological frame of a 20m-thick interval of the Dahkla Formation, which is exposed in the Qreiya section. This section lies at the southern end of Gebel Abu Had, ~50 km NE of Qena (N Egypt). Seventy samples were qualitatively and quantitatively analyzed in smear slides. Preservation is good and coccoliths are abundant. The section is comprised in the Zones NP4 (-4-12.3 m) and NP5 (12.6-16 m).

A biostratigraphic study was carried out in 10 wells in the Eastern Venezuelan basin. All the samples were taken from the Vidoño Formation. Fifty samples were analyzed in smear slides. The Vidoño Formation belongs to the Zones NP5 to NP9, preservation is poor and coccoliths are rare. According to Pindell *et al.* (1998), during the Early Paleocene this area was exposed, forming part of the forebulge related to the Paleogene foreland basin. In the Late Paleocene a marine sedimentation occurred again.

References

Pindell, J.L., Higgs, R. & Dewey, J.F. 1998. Cenozoic palinspastic reconstruction, paleogeographic evolution, and hydrocarbon setting of the northern margin of South America. *In*: J.L. Pindell & C.L. Drake (Eds). *Paleogeographic Evolution and Non-glacial Eustacy of Northern South America*, *SEPM Special Publication*: 45-86.