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PALYNOLOGY OF VICTORIAN GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

MOCAMBORO-11, OTWAY BASIN, VICTORIA

BY

ROGER MORGAN

BOX 161

MAITLAND SA 5573

PHONE: (088) 322795

FAX: (088) 322798

REF: SD.OTW.MOCAMBOR

FOR VICTORIAN GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

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I SUMMARY:

9.8m (core)-28.8m (core) : upper paradoxa zone : mid Albian
: non-marine : immature

102.99m (core) : lower paradoxa zone : mid Albian :
non-marine : immature

213.44m (core)-360m (swc) : striatus zone : early Albian :
non-marine : immature

414m (swc)-965m (swc) : hughesi zone : Aptian : non-marine
: marginally mature

1006m (swc)-1066.7m (core) : upper wonthaggiensis zone :
late Neocomian : marginally mature

1161.8m (core)-1258.8m (core) : lean and indeterminate :
non-marine : marginally mature

1317m (core)-1346m (swc) : upper australiensis zone : early
Neocomian : non-marine : marginally mature

II INTRODUCTION:

Twenty-six sidewall core and conventional core samples were processed, to provide information on age, environment and maturity .

Palynomorph occurrence data are shown as Appendix I and form the basis for the assignment of the samples to six spore-pollen units of mid Albian to early Neocomian age. The Cretaceous spore-pollen zonation is essentially that of Dettmann and Playford (1969), but has been significantly modified and improved by various authors since, and most recently discussed in Helby et al (1987), as shown on figure 1 and modified by Morgan (1985) for application in the Otway Basin. The Tertiary zonation is that of Stover and Partridge (1973) and Stover and Evans (1973) as modified by Partridge (1976).

Maturity data was generated in the form of Spore Colour Index, and is plotted on figure 2 Maturity profile of Mocamboro-11. The oil and gas windows in figure 2 follow the general consensus of geochemical literature. The oil window corresponds to spore colours of light-mid brown (Staplin Spore Colour Index of 2.7) to dark brown (3.6). These correspond to vitrinite reflectance values of 0.6% to 1.3%.

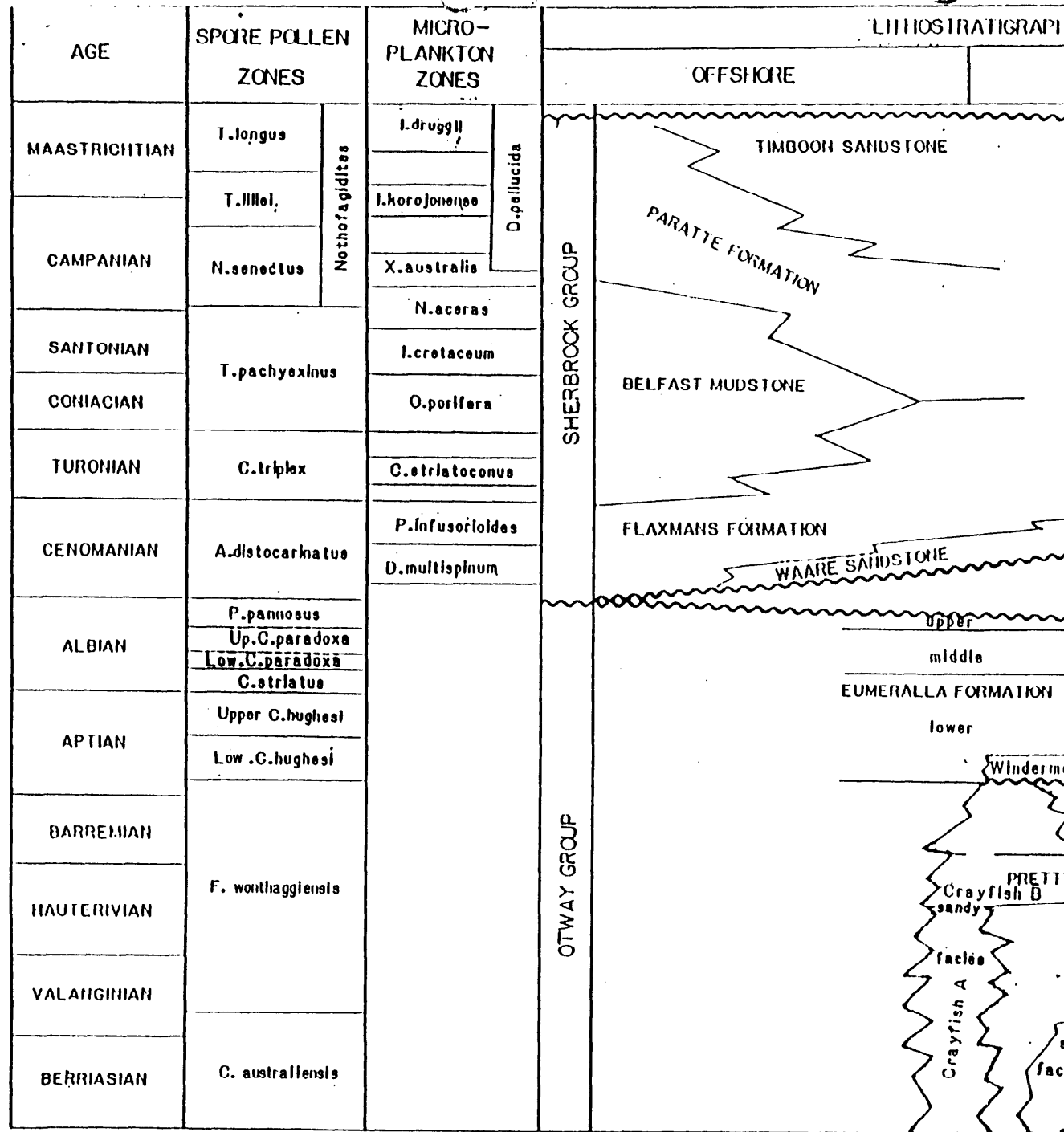


FIGURE 1. CRETACEOUS REGIONAL FRAMEWORK, OTWAY BASIN

IIII PALYNOSTRATIGRAPHY:

A. 9.8m (core)-28.8m (core) : upper paradoxa zone

Assignment to the upper Coptospora paradoxa zone of mid Albian age is indicated at the top by the absence of younger indicators and at the base by oldest Pilosporites grandis. Trilobosporites tribotrys was not seen below this interval and confirms the assignment. Frequent species include Cyathidites, Falcisporites similis and Microcachrydites antarcticus.

Non-marine fluvial environments are indicated by the common and diverse spore-pollen, common cuticle, and absence of freshwater or saline acritarchs.

Yellow to light brown spore colours indicate immaturity for hydrocarbon generation.

These features normally occur in the upper part of the middle Eumeralla Formation in the sense of the Kopsen and Scholefield (1990). This implies that the upper Eumeralla Formation has been lost by erosion.

B. 102.99m (swc) : lower paradoxa zone

Assignment to the lower C. paradoxa zone of mid Albian age is indicated by oldest C. paradoxa without younger indicators. Common forms are Cyathidites spp and Cicatricosisporites australiensis. Trilobosporites trioreticulosus occurs to the interval base.

Non-marine fluvial environments are indicated by the common and diverse spore-pollen and the absence of acritarchs.

Yellow to light brown spore colours indicate immaturity for hydrocarbon generation.

These features normally occur in the lower part of the middle Eumeralla Formation of Kopsen and Scholefield (1990) including the Heathfield Sandstone Member.

C. 213.44m (core)-360m (swc) : striatus zone

Assignment to the Crybelosporites striatus spore-pollen zone is indicated at the top by the absence of younger markers and confirmed by youngest Pilosporites parvispinosus and at the base by oldest C. striatus, confirmed by youngest Cyclosporites hughesi in the sample beneath. Within the interval, common species include Cyathidites spp., Cicatricosporites australiensis, F. similis, M. antarcticus, and Osmundacidites wellmannii. The top sample is distinctively different from the others by containing frequent C. australiensis and Aequitriradites verrucosus. Within the interval, Dictyotosporites speciosus, Pilosporites spp. and Triassic reworking are consistent.

Non-marine environments are indicated by common and diverse spores and pollen, common cuticle fragments, and the absence of saline acritarchs. Rare algal acritarchs (Schizosporis spp) indicate some lacustrine influence.

Yellow to light brown spore colours indicate immaturity for hydrocarbon generation.

These features are normally seen in the upper part of the lower Eumeralla Formation, often in coaly facies.

D. 414m (swc)-965m (swc) : hughesi zone

Assignment to the Cyclosporites hughesi zone is indicated at the top by youngest C. hughesi and at the base by oldest Pilosisorites notensis. Within the interval Cyathidites, F. similis and O. wellmanii are frequent in most samples. C. australiensis, P. notensis and Aequitriradites verrucosus are intermittently frequent (618.14m, 788m and 835m) and may represent particular fern rich environments at lake or swamp margin. C. australiensis does not occur below this interval while D. speciosus, C. hughesi and P. notensis are consistent elements. In contrast to the zone above, Triassic reworking was not seen.

Non-marine environments with alternating lacustrine and fluvial influence is indicated by the common and diverse spore-pollen, common cuticle, absence of saline acritarchs and intermittent presence of algal forms (Schizosporis spp). Algal forms are absent at 550m, 590m 669m, 907m and 965m, and present at 414m, 578m, 609m, 618m, 706m, 778m and 835m.

Light brown spore colours indicate marginal maturity for oil but immaturity for gas/condensate.

These features are normally seen in all except the top of the lower Eumeralla Formation of Kopson and Scholefield (1990).

E. 979.1 (swc)-1000m (core) : indeterminate

These samples were virtually barren with only a few spores and pollen. The upper core includes C. paradoxa and T. trioreticulosus which are clearly caved into the

porous sandstone. The lower core contains a very nondescript assemblage of long ranging forms and could be in place. Clearly neither are zone diagnostic.

F. 1006m (swc)-1066.7m (core) : upper wonthaggiensis

Assignment to the upper Foraminisporis wonthaggiensis zone is indicated at the top by the absence of younger indicators (supported by youngest Microfosta evansii and a downhole influx of Contignisporites cooksoniae) and at the base by oldest Foraminisporis wonthaggiensis (at 1006m swc) and Triporoletes reticulatus (at 1066.7m core) Retitriletes watherooensis has its youngest occurrence at 1066.7m. Within the interval, Cyathidites, Falcisporites and Osmundacidites are common. C. hughesi, D. speciosus, C. cooksoniae and T. reticulatus are consistent components.

Non-marine dominantly fluvial environments are indicated by the common and diverse spore-pollen and absence of spiny acritarchs. Non-spiny acritarchs are represented only by a single specimen of M. evansii at 1006m suggest slight lacustrine influence.

Light brown spore colours indicate marginal maturity for oil generation but immaturity for gas/condensate.

These features are normally seen in the upper part of the Pretty Hill or Crayfish Formations (in the Crayfish C to D units of Kopsen and Scholefield (1990)).

G. 1161.8m (core)-1258.8m (core) : lean and indeterminate

these samples are very lean but do contain small assemblages of longranging spores and pollen. zone diagnostic taxa are absent, but the dates above and

below suggest that this interval probably belongs to the lower wonthaggiensis zone.

Non-marine fluvial environments are indicated by the dominant spore-pollen, common cuticle and absence of acritarchs.

Light brown spore colours indicate marginal maturity for oil and immaturity for gas/condensate.

These features are common in the very sandy parts of the Pretty Hill Formation and correlatives.

H. 1317m (core)-1346m (swc) : upper australiensis zone

Assignment to the upper part of the Cicatricosisporites australiensis zone is indicated at the top by the absence of the younger indicator D. speciosus and at the base by oldest Cyclosporites hughesi.

Crybelosporites stylosus occurs at 1317-23m and R. watherooensis occurs at 1346m. Cyathidites, Falcisporites and Osmundacidites are frequent.

Non-marine fluvial environments are indicated by the common and diverse spore-pollen and the absence of acritarchs or algal forms.

Light brown spore colours indicate marginal maturity for oil and immaturity for gas/condensate.

These features are normally seen at the base of the Pretty Hill Formation and its correlatives.

IV CONCLUSIONS:

The well appears to have drilled a conformable Pretty Hill to middle Eumeralla sequence. The most likely Pretty Hill top is the log pick at 968m with the shaley interval 968-1164m corresponding to the shaley upper Pretty Hill (= Crayfish B-D) and the massive sand 1164-1374m to the sandy lower Pretty Hill (= Crayfish A). The minor sand at 588-602m is therefore an intra Eumeralla sand significantly older than the Heathfield Member and younger than the Eumeralla Marker.

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MOCAMBORA - 11 Palynological data

ROGER MORGAN Ph.D. PALYNOLOGICAL CONSULTANT

Box 161, Maitland, S.Australia, 5573.

phone (088) 32 2795 ... fax (088) 32 2798

C L I E N T: GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY of VICTORIA

W E L L: MOCAMBORO-11

F I E L D / A R E A: ONSHORE OTWAY BASIN, VICTORIA

A N A L Y S T: ROGER MORGAN

D A T E : MAY 1991

N O T E S: ALL DEPTHS IN METRES

RANGE CHART OF GRAPHIC ABUNDANCES BY LOWEST APPEARANCE Dinos & S/P

Key to Symbols

- = Very Rare
- = Rare
- = Few
- = Common
- = Abundant
- ? = Questionably Present
- . = Not Present

0009.8-2.8	cr	34	CONTIGNISPORITES COOKSONIAE
0025.9-8.8	cr	35	DICTYODISPORITES COMPLEX
0096.7-3.0	cr	36	FORAMINISPORIS DAILYI
0213.4-4.3	cr	37	NEURASTRICKIA
0324.5-8.5	cr	38	NEVESTISPORITES MALLATUS
0360 swc		39	RETTIRILETES EMINULUS
0414 swc		40	RETTIRILETES NODOSUS
0550 swc		41	TRIPORULETES RADIATUS
0557.2-8.5	cr	42	TRIPORULETES RETICULATUS
0590 swc		43	AEQUILIRADITES VERRUCOSUS
0609 swc		44	BIRETRISPORITES SPECIABILIS
0613.7-8.1	cr	45	CADREASPORITES BACULATUS
0669 coal		46	OCTOPHYLLIDITES SPP
0705.1-6.3	cr	47	FORAMINISPORIS OSYRHETRIDUS
0777.8-8.0	cr	48	FORAMINISPORIS MONTAGNIENSIS
0832.4-5.4	cr	49	FOWENTRILETES PARVETUS
0905.9-7.6	cr	50	LAEVIGATISPORITES BELFORDII
0965 swc		51	TRIPORULETES SIMPLEX
0979.1-5.0	cr	52	COPTOSPORA PAPADOPOULI
0997.3-0.0	cr	53	CRYBELDISPORITES PUNCTATUS
1006 swc		54	DENSISPORITES VELATUS
1061.1-6.0	cr	55	TRILOBOSPORITES TRIRETICULOSUS
1161.8-6.1	cr	56	CICATRIBUSISPORITES AUSTRALIENSIS
1252.7-8.8	cr	57	PILODISPORITES NOTENSIS
1313.0-3.0	cr	58	VITREISPORITES PALLIDUS
1346 SWC 2		59	RETTIRILETES SEMIMORUS
		60	AEQUITRIRADITES SPINULOSUS
		61	AEQUITRIRADITES TILCHMANNENSIS
		62	CONCAVISSISPORITES PENOLAENSIS
		63	PILODISPORITES PARVISPINOSUS
		64	CINGULILETES CLAVUS
		65	FORAMINISPORIS RETICULORANTINGIENSIS
		66	CADREASPORITES BACULATUS

	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83		
	LYCOPODIACIDITES ASPERATUS																		
	STOVERISPORITES LUNARIS																		
	RETITRILETES FACETUS																		
	CRYBELOSPORITES STRIATUS																		
	CRYBELOSPORITES BERBEROIDES																		
	NOTHOFGIDITES EMERICIDUS																		
	NOTHOFGIDITES FALCATA																		
	PROTEACIDITES SP																		
	CICATRICOSPORITES CUNEIFORMIS																		
	CICATRICOSPORITES HUGHESI																		
	COPTOSPORH SP																		
	DICTYOPHYLLIDITES HARRISII																		
	DICTYOPHYLLIDITES MORTONII																		
	LALMIGHTOSPORITES OVALIS																		
	PILLOSPORITES GRANDIS																		
	TRILLOBOSPORITES TRILOBATUS																		
	FURUESPORITES NURETONENSIS																		
0009.8-2.8	cr																	0009.8-2.8	cr
0025.9-8.8	cr																	0025.9-8.8	cr
0096.7-3.0	cr																	0096.7-3.0	cr
0213.4-4.3	cr																	0213.4-4.3	cr
0324.5-8.5	cr																	0324.5-8.5	cr
0360	swc																	0360	swc
0414	swc																	0414	swc
0550	swc																	0550	swc
0557.2-8.5	cr																	0557.2-8.5	cr
0590	swc																	0590	swc
0609	swc																	0609	swc
0613.7-8.1	cr																	0613.7-8.1	cr
0669	coal																	0669	coal
0705.1-6.3	cr																	0705.1-6.3	cr
0777.8-8.0	cr																	0777.8-8.0	cr
0832.4-5.4	cr																	0832.4-5.4	cr
0905.9-7.6	cr																	0905.9-7.6	cr
0965	swc																	0965	swc
0979.1-5.0	cr																	0979.1-5.0	cr
0997.3-0.0	cr																	0997.3-0.0	cr
1006	swc																	1006	swc
1061.1-6.0	cr																	1061.1-6.0	cr
1161.8-6.1	cr																	1161.8-6.1	cr
1252.7-8.8	cr																	1252.7-8.8	cr
1313.0-3.0	cr																	1313.0-3.0	cr
1346	SWC 2																	1346	SWC 2

SPECIES LOCATION INDEX

Index numbers are the columns in which species appear.

INDEX NUMBER	SPECIES
60	AQUITRIRADITES SPINULOSUS
61	AQUITRIRADITES TILCHAENESIS
43	AQUITRIRADITES VERRUCOSUS
25	ARAUCARIACITES AUSTRALIS
44	BIRETRISPORITES SPECTABILIS
45	CADARGASPORITES BACULATUS
4	CALLIALASPORITES DAMPIERI
5	CALLIALASPORITES TURBATUS
6	CERATOSPORITES EQUALIS
56	CICATRICOSISPORITES AUSTRALIENSIS
75	CICATRICOSISPORITES CUNEIFORMIS
76	CICATRICOSISPORITES HUGHESI
64	CINGUTRILETES CLAVUS
62	CONCAVISSIMISPORITES FENOLAENSIS
31	CONCAVISSIMISPORITES VARIVERRUCATUS
34	CONTIGNISPORITES COOKSONIAE
52	COPTOSPORA PARADOXA
77	COPTOSPORA SP
7	COROLLINA TOROSUS
71	CRYBELOSPORITES BERBEROIDES
53	CRYBELOSPORITES PUNCTATUS
70	CRYBELOSPORITES STRIATUS
26	CRYBELOSPORITES STYLOSUS
8	CYATHIDITES AUSTRALIS
9	CYATHIDITES MINOR
10	CYCADOPITES FOLLICULARIS
11	CYCLOSPORITES HUGHESI
54	DENSOISPORITES VELATUS
46	DICTOPHYLLIDITES SPF
78	DICTYOPHYLLIDITES HARRISII
79	DICTYOPHYLLIDITES MORTONI
32	DICTYOTOSPORITES COARSE
35	DICTYOTOSPORITES COMPLEX
27	DICTYOTOSPORITES SPECIOSUS
12	FALCISPORITES GRANDIS
13	FALCISPORITES SIMILIS
47	FORAMINISPORIS ASYMMETRICUS
36	FORAMINISPORIS DAILYI
65	FORAMINISPORIS RETICULOWONTHAGGIENSIS
48	FORAMINISPORIS WONTHAGGIENSIS
66	FORAMINISPORIS CAELATUS
83	FOVEOSPORITES MORETONENSIS
49	FOVEOTRILETES PARVIRETUS
33	GLEICHENIIDITES
14	ISCHYOSPORITES PUNCTATUS
15	KLUKISPORITES SCABERIS
50	LAEVIGATOSPORITES BELFORDI
80	LAEVIGATOSPORITES OVATUS
16	LEPTOLEPIDITES MAJOR
17	LEPTOLEPIDITES VERRUCATUS
67	LYCOPODIACIDITES ASPERATUS
28	MATONISPORITES COOKSONIAE
18	MICROCACHRYIDITES ANTARCTICUS
37	NEORAISTRICKIA
19	NEORAISTRICKIA TRUNCATA
38	NEVESISPORITES VALLATUS
72	NOTHOFAGIDITES EMARCIDUS
73	NOTHOFAGIDITES FALCATA
20	OSMUDACIDITES WELLMANII
29	PEROTRILETES LINEARIS
81	PILOSISPORITES GRANDIS
57	PILOSISPORITES NOTENSIS
63	PILOSISPORITES PARVISPINOSUS
74	PROTEACIDITES SP
21	RETITRILETES AUSTROCLAVATIDITES
30	RETITRILETES CIRCOLUMENUS
39	RETITRILETES EMINULUS
69	RETITRILETES FACETUS
40	RETITRILETES NODOSUS
59	RETITRILETES SEMIMURUS
22	RETITRILETES WATHAROOENSIS
2	SCHIZOSPORIS PARVUS
3	SCHIZOSPORIS PSILATUS
1	SCHIZOSPORIS RETICULATUS
23	STEREISPORITES ANTIQUISPORITES
68	STOVERISPORITES LUNARIS
82	TRILOBOSPORITES TRIBOTRYS
55	TRILOBOSPORITES TRIORETICULOSUS
41	TRIPOROLETES RADIATUS
42	TRIPOROLETES RETICULATUS
51	TRIPOROLETES SIMPLEX
24	VELOSPORITES TRIQUETRUS
58	VITREISPORITES PALLIDUS