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CORE PALYNOLOGY OF DRIK DRIK-1, GLENAULIN-2  
KALADBFC-2, PALAPARA-1, PRETTY HILL-1, WANGOOM-2,  
ONSHORE OTWAY BASIN, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

ROGER MORGAN

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R. MORGAN

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KALADBRO-2, PALPARA-1, PRETTY HILL-1, WANGOON-2,  
ONSHORE OTWAY BASIN, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

BY

ROGER MORGAN

for Victorian DME

June 1994

REF.OTW.RPDRIK



CORE PALYNOLOGY OF DRIK DRIK-1, GLENAULIN-2,  
KALADBRO-2, PALPARA-1, PRETTY HILL-1, WANGOON-2,  
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FIGURE 1 : CRETACEOUS REGIONAL FRAMEWORK, OTWAY BASIN

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## I SUMMARY

Drik Drik-1 : 616-21m(CORE) : middle *senectus* Zone (uppermost *aceras* Dino Zone)  
: Campanian : marginally marine : usually Paaratte Formation (not Pebble Point)

Glenaulin-2 : 1091-97m(CORE) : lower *apoxyximus* Zone : early Santonian :  
marginally marine : usually Flaxmans Formation or Belfast Mudstone

Kaladbro-2 : 1112-3m(CORE) : *distocarinatus* Zone (*infusorioides* Dino Zone) :  
Cenomanian : very nearshore marine : usually Flaxmans Formation or Waare Sandstone

Palpara-4 : 1126.8-32(CORE) : *longus* Zone (*druggii* Dino Zone) : Maastrichtian :  
marginally marine : usually topmost Paaratte Formation or Timboon Sandstone

Preity Hill-1 : 726-32m(CORE) : upper *apoxyximus* Zone : latest Santonian : usually  
lower Paaratte Formation or Belfast Mudstone : marginally marine

Wangoon-2 : 808-14m(CORE) : *longus* Zone (*druggii* Dino Zone) : Maastrichtian :  
nearshore marine : usually topmost Paaratte Formation or Timboon Sandstone.

## II INTRODUCTION

Steve Ryan, Geologist from the Basin Studies Group of the Victorian Geological Survey, submitted 5 samples for palynology, to detect the presence or absence of condensed Late Cretaceous Sherbrook Group.

Palynomorph occurrence data are shown as Appendix I and form the basis for the assignment of the samples to zones of Cretaceous age. Specimen counts were made on all assemblages and expressed in the raw data as percentages.

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.

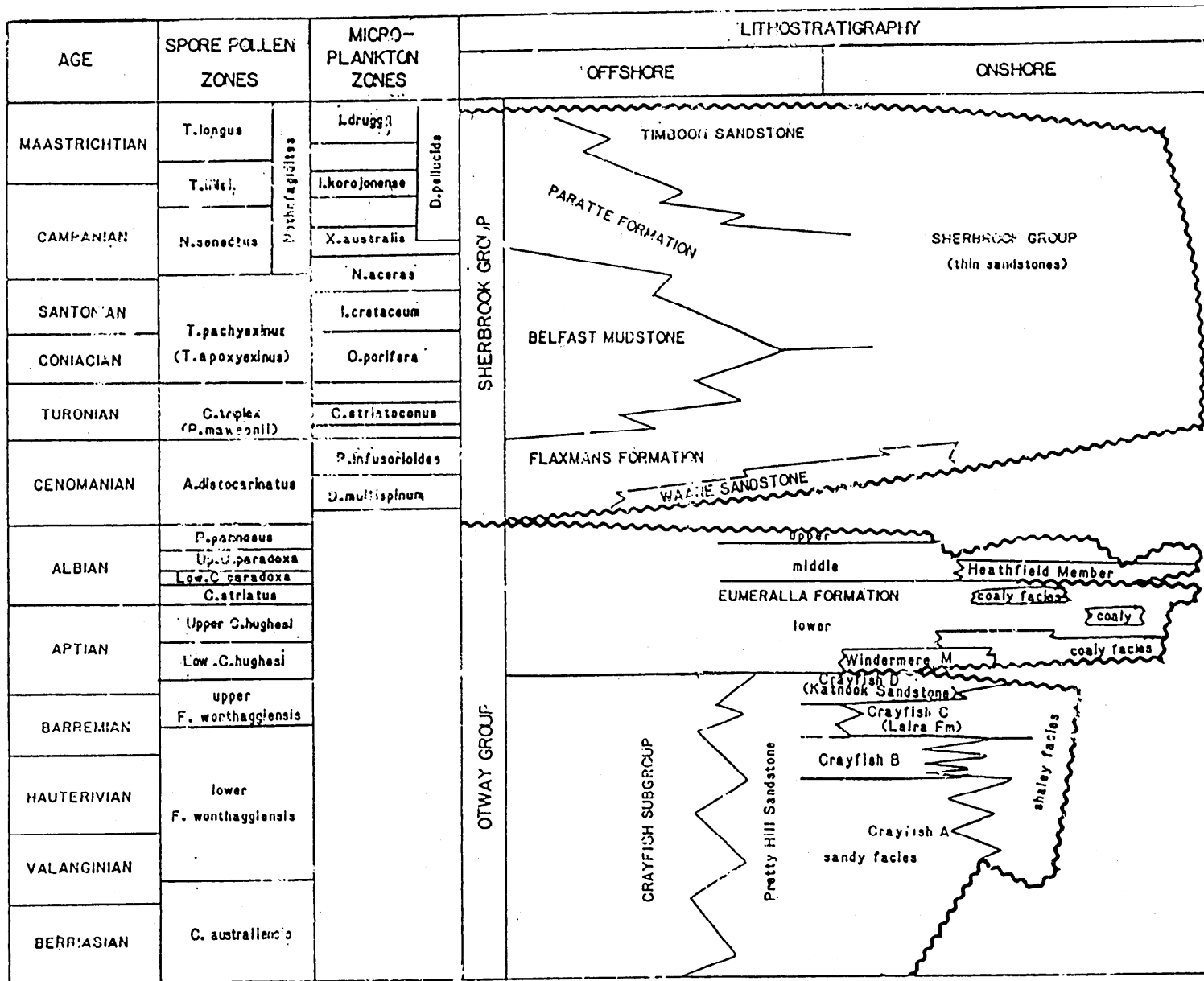


FIGURE 1. CRETACEOUS REGIONAL FRAMEWORK, OTWAY BASIN

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### III PALYNOSTRATIGRAPHY

#### A Drik Drik-1, 616-21m(CORE) : middle *senectus* Zone (uppermost *aceras* Dino Zone)

Assignment to the middle *Nothofagidites senectus* Zone of Campanian age is indicated at the top by the absence of younger markers, and at the base by oldest *Tricolpites sabulosus*. *Falcisporites similis* is common, with *Proteacidites* and *Microcachryidites* very frequent and *Australopollis obscurus*, *Cyathidites minor*, *Dilwynites granulatus*, *Nothofagidites senectus*, *Podosporites microsaccatus* and *Tricolpites scabulosus* frequent. Trace Permian reworking was seen.

Dinoflagellates are extremely scarce but the uppermost *Nelsoniella aceris* Dino Zone is indicated at the top by the spore pollen assignment with youngest *Nelsoniella semireticulata* and *N. aceris* and at the base by oldest *Xenikoon australis*.

Environments are marginally marine as shown by the very low dinoflagellate content (2%) and diversity. Spores and pollen are dominant and diverse and rare freshwater algae (*Botryococcus*) indicate minor lacustrine influence.

These features are normally seen in the Paratle Formation or topmost Belfast Mudstone.

#### B Glenatlin-2, 1091-97m(CORE) : lower *apoxyximus* Zone

Assignment to the lower *Tricolporites apoxyximus* Zone of early Santonian age is indicated at the top by youngest very frequent *Amospollis cruciformis*, and at the base by oldest very frequent *A. cruciformis* and the absence of older markers. *Falcisporites similis* and *Microcachryidites antarcticus* are common, with *Cyathidites*, *Podosporites minosaccatus* and *Phyllocladidites mawsonii* frequent.

Dinoflagellates are extremely scarce and not age diagnostic.

Environments are marginally marine as shown by the extremely rare dinoflagellates (<1%) and their very low diversity. Spores and pollen are abundant and diverse. Freshwater algae are rare.

These features are normally seen in the Flaxmans Formation or Belfast Mudstone.

**C Kaladbro-2, 1112-3m(COPE) : *distocarinatus* Zone (*infusorioides* Dino Zone)**

Assignment to the *Appendicisporites distocarinatus* Zone of Cenomanian age is indicated at the top by the absence of younger markers (and confirmed by the dinoflagellates) and at the base by oldest *A. distocarinatus* without older markers. Common are *Cyathidites*, *Dilwynites granulatus*, *Falcisporites similis* and *Microcachrydites*. Rare elements include *A. distocarinatus*, *A. tricornitatus*, *Coptospora pileosa*, *Hoegisporis triradialis* and *Phyllocladidites emuchus*. Rare Permian reworking was seen.

Dinoflagellates are scarce but include the age diagnostic *Cribroperidinium edwardsii* and *Cyclonephelium membraniphorum*, indicating the *Palaeohystrichophora infusorioides* Dinoflagellate Zone.

Environments are very nearshore marine, as shown by the low dinoflagellate content (8%) and their moderate diversity. Freshwater algae (8% *Botryococcus*) suggest large freshwater lake influence. Spores and pollen are abundant and diverse. Overall, estuarine or coastal tidal lagoons seem likely.

These features are normally seen in the lower Flaxmans Formation or Waare Sandstone.

**D Palpara-4, 1126-32m(CORE) : *longus* Zone (*druggii* Dino Zone)**

Assignment to the *Tricolpites longus* Zone of Maasrichtian age is indicated at the top and base by youngest and oldest *T. longus* respectively. Coincident with the zone top are *Tricolpites waipawaensis*, *Tricolporites lillei* and *Triporepollenites sectilis*. Very common are *Gambierina rudata* and *Proteacidites* spp with frequent *Nothofagidites endurus*. Minor Permian reworking was seen.

Dinoflagellates are rare but include *Canninginopsis bretonica*, *Manumiella coronata* and *M. druggii*, indicating the *Manumiella druggii* Dinoflagellate Zone.

Marginally marine environments are indicated by the very rare (2%) dinoflagellates, their very low diversity, frequent freshwater algae (*Botryococcus*) and abundant and diverse spores and pollen.

These features are normally seen in the topmost Paaratte Formation or Timboon Sandstone.

**E Pretty Hill-1, 726-32m(CORE) : upper *apoxyexinus* Zone**

Assignment to the upper *Tricolporites apoxyexinus* Zone of latest Santonian age is indicated at the top by very rare *A. cruciformis* without younger markers, and at the base by the absence of older markers, and the frequency of *Proteacidites* spp (6%). Overall, *Falcisporites similis* is very common, with common *Cyathidites* and frequent *Ditwynites granulatus*, *Microcathrydites*, *Phyllocladites mawsonii*, *Podosporites microsaccatus* and *Proteacidites*. Rare but distinctive are *A. cruciformis*, *Clavifera triplex* and *T. apoxyexinus*. Rare Permian reworking was seen.

Dinoflagellates are rare and not age diagnostic.

Marginally marine environments are indicated by the rare low diversity dinoflagellates, significant freshwater algae (3% *Botryococcus*) and the abundant and diverse spores and pollen.

These features are normally seen in the lower Paaratte Formation or Belfast Mudstone.

**F Wangoon-2, 808-14m(CORE) : *longus* Zone (*albigii* Dino Zone)**

Assignment to the *Tricolpites longus* Zone of Maastrichtian age is indicated at top by youngest *T. longus*, and at the base by oldest *T. longus* and *Tetracolporites verrucosus*. Consistent with the zone top are youngest *Tricolpites confessus* and *Triporopollenites sectilis*. Common is *F. similis* with frequent *Cyathidites*, *G. rudata*, *N. endurus*, *P. mawsonii* and *Proteacidites*. *G. rudata* (8%) outnumbered *N. endurus* (4%).



Dinoflagellates are subordinate but include *C. bretonica* and *M. druggii*, indicating the *Manumiella druggii* Dinoflagellate Zone. *Heterosphaeridium heteracanthum* is common, with other taxa rare.

Environments are nearshore marine with subordinate (23%) dinoflagellates of low to moderate diversity, minor freshwater algae (2%), and abundant and diverse spores and pollen.

These features are normally seen in the topmost Paaratte Formation or Timboon Sandstone.

#### IV CONCLUSIONS

All six samples are clearly Late Cretaceous Sherbrook Group. One (Kaladbro-2, 1112-3m) is from the base of the Group in Waare Sandstone or Flaxmans Formation equivalents (Cenomanian *distocarinatus* Zone). Two are from the mid sequence Belfast Mudstone correlatives (Santonian *apoxyevinus* Zone). One is from the upper part of the sequence in lower Paaratte Formation equivalents (Campanian *senectus* Zone). Two are from the very youngest Sherbrook Group from topmost Paaratte Formation or Timboon Sandstone equivalents (Maastrichtian *longus* Zone).

#### V REFERENCES

- Detmann ME and Playford G (1969) Palynology of the Australian Cretaceous: a review In *Stratigraphy and Palaeontology. Essays in honour of Dorothy Hill*, KSW Campbell ED. ANU Press, Canberra 174-210
- Helby RJ, Morgan RP and Partridge AD (1987) A palynological zonation of the Australian Mesozoic In *Studies in Australian Mesozoic Palynology Assoc. Australas. Palaeontols. Mem 4* 1-94.

DRIK DRIK, GLENAULIN, KALADBRO, PALPARA, PRETTYHILL, WANGOON

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C L I E N T: VICTORIAN DEPT ENERGY AND MINERALS  
W E L L: DRIK DRIK#1, GLENAULIN#2, KALADBRO#2, PALPARA#1, PHILL#1, WANGN  
F I E L D / A R E A: ONSHORE OTWAY BASIN, VICTORIA  
S E C T I O N: \_\_\_\_\_ T O W N S H I P: \_\_\_\_\_ R A N G E: \_\_\_\_\_

K B E L E V A T I O N: \_\_\_\_\_ T O T A L D E P T H: \_\_\_\_\_  
A N A L Y S T: ROGER MORGAN DATE: JULY 1994  
N O T E S: ALL DEPTHS IN METRES. ALL FIGURES ARE PERCENTAGES.  
X MEANS THAT SPECIES IS VERY RARE AND OCCURRED OUTSIDE GRAIN  
COUNT.

RANGE CHART OF OCCURRENCES BY ALPHABETICAL LIST WITHIN GROUP

DRINK DRINK #1	0616-21 CORE	GLENAULIN #2	1091-97 CORE	K-LADDERO #2	1112-3 CORE	PALPARA #1	1126.8-52CORE	PRETTY HILL#1	0726-32 CORE	WANGOON #2	0808-14 CORE		
2												1	BOTRYOCOCCUS
												2	ASCODINIUM PARVUM
												3	AVELLODINIUM FALSIFICUM
												4	CANNINGIA SP
												5	CANNINGINOPSIS BRETONICA
												6	CHATANGIELLA SVERDROPIANA
												7	CIRCULODINIUM DEFLANDREI
												8	CIRCULODINIUM SOLIDA
												9	CRIBROPERIDINIUM EDUARDOSII
												10	CYCLONEPHELIUM MEMBRANIPHORUM
												11	EXOCHOSPHAERIDIUM FRAGHITES
												12	HETEROSPHAERIDIUM HETEROCANTHUM
												13	ISABELDINIUM DRUGGII
												14	ISABELDINIUM PELLUCIDUM CF
												15	HANUMIELLA CORONATA
												16	HANUMIELLA DRUGGII
												17	NELSONIELLA ACERAS
												18	NELSONIELLA SEMIRETICULATA
												19	NUMMUS SP
												20	OLIGOSPHAERIDIUM COMPLEX
												21	PALAEOHYSTRICHOSPHORA INFUSORIOIDES
												22	SCHIZOSPORIS PARVUS
												23	SPINIFERITES FURCATUS RAMOSUS
												24	XENASCUS CERATOIDEUS
												25	XENIKOON AUSTRALIS
												26	AEQUITRIRADITES SP. A
												27	AEQUITRIRADITES TILCHAENESIS
												28	AMOSOPOLLIS CRUCIFORMIS
												29	APPENDICISPORITES DISTOCARINATUS
												30	APPENDICISPORITES TRICORNITATUS
												31	ARAUCARIACITES AUSTRALIS
												32	AUSTRALOPOLLIS OBSCURIS
												33	CALLIALASPORITES DAMPIERI
												34	CAMEROZONOSPORITES OHAIENSIS
												35	CERATOSPORITES EQUALIS
												36	DILAMHYDOPHORELLA NYEI
												37	CINGUTRILETES CLAVUS
												38	CLAUIFERA TRIPLEX

C

C

DRK DRK #1	DRK DRK #2	DRK DRK #3	DRK DRK #4	DRK DRK #5	DRK DRK #6	DRK DRK #7	DRK DRK #8	DRK DRK #9	DRK DRK #10	DRK DRK #11	DRK DRK #12	DRK DRK #13	DRK DRK #14	DRK DRK #15	DRK DRK #16	DRK DRK #17	DRK DRK #18	DRK DRK #19	DRK DRK #20	DRK DRK #21	DRK DRK #22	DRK DRK #23	DRK DRK #24	DRK DRK #25	DRK DRK #26	DRK DRK #27	DRK DRK #28	DRK DRK #29	DRK DRK #30	DRK DRK #31	DRK DRK #32	DRK DRK #33	DRK DRK #34	DRK DRK #35	DRK DRK #36	DRK DRK #37	DRK DRK #38	DRK DRK #39	DRK DRK #40	DRK DRK #41	DRK DRK #42	DRK DRK #43	DRK DRK #44	DRK DRK #45	DRK DRK #46	DRK DRK #47	DRK DRK #48	DRK DRK #49	DRK DRK #50	DRK DRK #51	DRK DRK #52	DRK DRK #53	DRK DRK #54	DRK DRK #55	DRK DRK #56	DRK DRK #57	DRK DRK #58	DRK DRK #59	DRK DRK #60	DRK DRK #61	DRK DRK #62	DRK DRK #63	DRK DRK #64	DRK DRK #65	DRK DRK #66	DRK DRK #67	DRK DRK #68	DRK DRK #69	DRK DRK #70	DRK DRK #71	DRK DRK #72	DRK DRK #73	DRK DRK #74	DRK DRK #75	DRK DRK #76										
0616-21 CORE	1091-97 CORE	KALADBRO #2	1112-3 CORE	PALPARA #1	1126-8-52CORE	PRETTY HILL#1	0726-32 CORE	WANGOON #2	0308-14 CORE	39	COPTOSPCRA PILEOSA	40	COROLLINA TOROSUS	41	CYATHIDIITES AUSTRALIS	42	CYATHIDIITES MINOR	43	CYCADOPITES FOLLICULARIS	44	CYCLOSPORITES HUGHESI	45	DILHYNITES GRANULATUS	46	DILHYNITES TUBERCULATUS	47	ERICIPITES "VERRUCATUS"	48	ERICIPITES SCABRATUS	49	FALCISPORITES GRANDIS	50	FALCISPORITES SIMILIS	51	FORAMINISPORIS DAILYI	52	GAMBIERINA RUDATA	53	GEPHYRAPOLLENITES WAHOEENSIS	54	GLEICHENIIDITES	55	HOEGISPORIS TRIRADIS	56	LAEVIGATOSPORITES OVATUS	57	LEPTOLEPIDITES VERRUCATUS	58	LILIACIDITES KAITANGATAENSIS	59	LYLISTIPOLLENITES BALMEI	60	MICROCACHRYIDITES ANTARCTICUS	61	NOTHOFAGIDITES ENDURUS	62	NOTHOFAGIDITES SENECTUS	63	OSMUNDACIDITES HELLHANNI	64	PEROTRILETES JUBATUS MORGANII	65	PEROTRILETES MAJUS	66	PHIMOPOLLENITES PANNOSUS	67	PHYLLOCLADIDITES EUNUCHUS	68	PHYLLOCLADIDITES MAUSONII	69	POOSPORITES MICROSACCATUS	70	PROTEACIDITES	71	PROTEACIDITES HAPUKUI	72	PROTEACIDITES LARGE	73	PROTEACIDITES PALISHOUS	74	RETITRILETES AUSTRICLAUATIDITES	75	REWORKING - PERHIAN	76	STERIESPORITES ANTIQUASPORITES

Sample	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86
DRIK DRIK #1										
0616-21 CORE				5						2
GLENDAULIN #2										
1091-97 CORE										
KALADBRO #2										
1112-3 CORE							X			2
PALPARA #1										
1126-8-52CORE			2		1		X			2
PRETTY HILL#1						X				
0726-32 CORE										2
WANCOON #2										
0808-14 CORE	X	X	1						1	
DRIK DRIK #1										
0616-21 CORE										
GLENDAULIN #2										
1091-97 CORE										
KALADBRO #2										
1112-3 CORE							X			2
PALPARA #1										
1126-8-52CORE										
PRETTY HILL#1										
0726-32 CORE										2
WANCOON #2										
0808-14 CORE	X	X	1						1	

77 TETRACOLPORITES VERRUCOSUS  
 78 TRICOLPITES CONFESSUS  
 79 TRICOLPITES LONGUS  
 80 TRICOLPITES SABULOSUS  
 81 TRICOLPITES HAIPAHUENSIS  
 82 TRICOLPORITES APOXYEXINUS  
 83 TRICOLPORITES LILLIEI  
 84 TRIPOROLETES RETICULATUS  
 85 TRIPOROPOLLENITES SECTILIS  
 86 VITREISPORITES PALLIDUS

## SPECIES LOCATION INDEX

Index numbers are the columns in which species appear.

INDEX NUMBER	SPECIES
26	AEGUITRIRADITES SP. A
27	AEGUITRIRADITES TILCHAENESIS
28	AMOSOPOLLIS CRUCIFORMIS
29	APPENDICISPORITES DISTOCARINATUS
30	APPENDICISPORITES TRICORNITATUS
31	ARAUCARIACITES AUSTRALIS
2	ASCODINIUM PARVUM
32	AUSTRALOPOLLIS OBSCURIS
3	AVELLODINIUM FALSIFICUM
1	BOTRYOCOCCUS
33	CALLIALASPOPIITES DAMPIERI
34	CAMEROZONOSPORITES OHAIENSIS
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8	CIRCULODINIUM SOLIDA
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39	COPTOSPORA PILEOSA
40	COROLLINA TOROSUS
9	CRIBROPERIDINIUM EDWARDSII
41	CYATHIDITES AUSTRALIS
42	CYATHIDITES MINOR
43	CYCADOPITES FOLLICULARIS
10	CYCLONEPHELIUM MEMBRANIPHORUM
44	CYCLOSPORITES HUGHESI
45	DILWYNITES GRANULATUS
46	DILWYNITES TUBERCULATUS
47	ERICIPITES "VERRUCATUS"
48	ERICIPITES SCABRATUS
11	EXOCHOSPHAERIDIUM PHRAGMITES
49	FALCISPORITES GRANDIS
50	FALCISPORITES SIMILIS
51	FORAMINISPORIS DAILYI
52	GAMBIERINA RUDATA
53	GEPHYRAPOLLENITES WAHOOENSIS
54	GLEICHENIIDITES
12	HETEROSPHAERIDIUM HETEROCANTHUM
55	HOEGISPORIS TRIRADIS
13	ISABELDINIUM DRUGGII
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68	PHYLLOCLADIDITES MAWSONII
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80	TRICOLPITES SABULOSUS
81	TRICOLPITES WAIPAWAENSIS
82	TRICOLPORITES APOXYEXINUS
83	TRICOLPORITES LILLIEI
84	TRIPOROLETES RETICULATUS
85	TRIPOROPOLLENITES SECTILIS
86	VITREISPORITES PALLIDUS
24	XENASCUS CERATOIDES
25	XENIKOON AUSTRALIS