

REVIEW

PALYNOLOGICAL STUDIES ON HUNGARIAN EARLY TERTIARY DEPOSITS. By M. Kedves, Akademiai Kiado, Publishing House of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, 84 pp., 22 pls., 14 figs. 1969. Price: dollars 7.20.

The book is mostly a compilation of the author's earlier studies on the palynology of the Eocene deposits of Hungary. The history of palaeobotanical and palynological research in Hungary is summarised in the introductory chapter; other important reference works in Eocene palynology from other countries are also included in the literature survey.

The chapter on material and methods mainly concerns with listing of locations of samples investigated and other field data. A detailed resume of techniques adopted to recover fossils from the sediments and mounting media used would have been of value.

The systematic descriptions are well documented and substantiated, with numerous illustrations which are of good quality; this forms the most useful part of the book. An artificial system is followed for the nomenclature of spore-pollen taxa which are grouped under a natural system of classification. It is advisable to follow the rules of priority as outlined in the international code of Botanical nomenclature in naming and typification of taxa which is not throughout followed. Many specimens classed under *Leiotriletes* could easily have found a place under *Lygodiumsporites* and the genus *Toroispora* is a heterogenous grouping of folded trilete spores. *Stephanocolpopollenites* used to describe ephedalian pollen is a junior synonym of *Ephedripites*.

The following taxa, to cite a few, could have rightly been classed under different valid names:

Tricolpoporopollenites ilacus and *Tricolpoporopollenites margaritatus* as *Ilexpollenites* Thierg; *Tetracolpopollenites obscurus* and *T. abditus* and *T. oculatus* and other similar ones as *Sapotaceoidaepollenites*, Pot. Thoms. & Thierg; *Tricolpoporopollenites Kruschi* as *Nyssoidites* Pot. Thoms. & Thierg; *Polyvestibulo pollenites verus* under *Alnipollenites* Pot.; *Tricolpoporopollenites cf. macrodurensis* as *Araliaceoipollenites* Pot., *Tricolpoporopollenites megaexactus* as *Cyrillaceae pollenites* Mürr. & Pfl.; *Tricolpoporopollenites geminus* and *T. villensis* as *Fagus-pollenites* Raatz.

The chapter on analysis of spore-pollen assemblages is well documented and illustrated with diagrams, charts and histograms showing the distribution of taxa in the subsurface sediments. The assemblages are grouped on the basis of ecological affinity, thereby giving significance and meaning to the diagrams plotted alongside the lithological columns.

Palaeoecological reconstructions are well attempted in the final chapter on the survey of the Eocene vegetation of Transdanubia. It is noteworthy that the author has correlated all available macrofossil evidences with palynological data. A range table showing the distribution of significant taxa in various subdivisions of the Eocene would have enhanced the value of the work.

The bibliography is extensive. The printing and binding of the volume is good. The book is a welcome and useful addition to the palynologists' shelf, and catalogues under one cover the pollen flora of the Eocene deposits of Hungary.

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