

PLANKTIC FORAMINIFERA FROM CRETACEOUS - TERTIARY BOUNDARY AND REPORT OF “SPHERULES” IN MONCADA FORMATION, SIERRA DEL ROSARIO, WESTERN CUBA.

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The pattern of massive extinction of planktic foraminifera across the Cretaceous – Tertiary boundary shows a significant decline in species diversity during the latest Maestrichtian and a drastic and permanent alteration of the planktonic foraminiferal communities. One of the last theories accepted of the massive extinction is the paleontologic cocktail (Bralower et al., 1998). Moncada formation is a good example to comprobe this theory.

A detailing sampling of Moncada formation (NW of Pinar del Rio province, western Cuba) let us confirm the model of planctonic foraminiferal extinction about the paleontologic cocktail theory. Of the Cretaceous - Tertiary boundary.

The outcrops is represented by calcarenites with lenses of the limestones, laminated limestones scare layers of clays where has been found a rich paleontological assemblage with more than 20 species of planktonic foraminifera, corresponding to ***Abathomphalus mayaroensis*** biozone, with abundant reworked species from Aptian to Santonian.

The presence of glass spherules of the small size is reported in the upper part of the outcrop, probably referred to the extraterrestrial origin of the Cretaceous- Tertiary boundary.