

CALCAREOUS NANNOFOSSILS OF THE TALARA GROUP (MIDDLE TO LATE EOCENE), TALARA BASIN, PERU.

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The Talara Group (Talara Basin, Eocene of northwest Peru) mainly comprises the Talara Shales, the Talara Sandstones, and the Pozo Formation. Thirty-four taxa calcareous nannofossils are registered from the Talara Group in well cuttings from the Negritos and Carpitás wells in the Talara Basin. Of these, thirty-three taxa are registered for the first time from this unit. The preservational quality of the taxa in the section sampled from the Negritos well reveals that the majority of these taxa were little affected by dissolution, suggesting that deposition must have taken place in the relatively shallow depths (that is, above the carbonate compensation depth). The moderate quality of preservation and low diversity of nannofossils in the Carpitás section is considered result of dissolution at the greater depths than in the Negritos section. Biozones are recognized on the basis of the extinction of taxa *Discoaster sublodoensis* (NP 14), *Chiasmolithus solitus* (NP 15/NP 16), *Helicosphaera seminulum* (NP 15/NP 16/NP 17) and *Discoaster barbadensis* (NP 19/NP 20), which allow the Talara Group to be dated as Middle to Late Eocene. The most frequent and most diversified taxa in both sections are characteristic of low latitudes and shelf environments.