

BIOSTRATIGRAPHY OF THE NABEUL-HAMMAMET AREA (TUNISIA) PLIOCENE SERIES

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The analysis of numerous samples taken from marine Pliocene outcrops of the North-Eastern part of Tunisia (Nabeul-Hammamet area) allows to recognize all the biozones known in the Mediterranean realm, as specified by Cita (1975). These biozones correspond to :-the acme zone of *Sphaeroidinellopsis subdehiscens* BANNER and BLOW, also named MPL1 zone ; -the interval zone of *Globorotalia margaritae margaritae* BOLLI and BERMUDEZ, named MPL2 zone ; -the concurrent range zone of *Globorotalia margaritae* BOLLI and BERMUDEZ / *Globorotalia puncticulata* (Deshayes), named MPL3 zone ; -the interval zone of *Sphaeroidinellopsis subdehiscens* BANNER and BLOW, also named MPL4 zone ; -the interval zone of *Globigerinoides elongatus* (d'ORBIGNY) named MPL5 zone ; -the interval zone of *Globorotalia inflata* (d'ORBIGNY), named MPL6 zone. The MPL1, MPL2, MPL3 and MPL4 zones are especially englobed in argillaceous and yellow sandy lithological units specified in north-eastern Tunisia, such as Argiles des Potiers, Sables Jaunes de Nabeul , Argiles de Sidi Barka . These units are together equivalent to the Raf-Raf formation developed toward the North in the Bizerte area. Besides, the MPL5 and the MPL6 zones are included in sands and sandstones composing the Hammamet unit, equivalent to the Porto-Farina formation.