

Revision of the Tubarão Group (Upper Paleozoic) macrofloristic succession, northeastern margin of the Paraná Basin, Brazil*

¹BERNARDES-DE-OLIVEIRA, M.; ²ROHN, R.; ³RICARDI-BRANCO, F.; ¹ZAMPIROLI, A.; ⁴IANNUZZI, R.; ⁵ROSLER, O.; ²LONGHIM, M. and ²LAGES, L. ¹Instituto de Geociências, Universidade de São Paulo, SP; ²Instituto de Geociências e Ciências Exatas, Universidade Estadual Paulista, Rio Claro, SP; ³Instituto de Geociências, Universidade de Campinas, Campinas, SP; ⁴Instituto de Geociências, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, RS; ⁵Centro de Paleontologia, Universidade do Contestado, Maringá, SC; Brazil.

The late Paleozoic Tubarão Group of the Paraná Basin was deposited in marine and continental environments, under glacial and non-glacial climates. In this unit, the phytofossiliferous succession contains vertically and laterally discontinuous pre-glossopterid, proto-glossopterid and glossopterid associations throughout the basin. The available macrophytostratigraphic succession scheme for this basin established in the 70' s is informal and somewhat imprecise due to inaccurate systematic treatment and difficulties in establishing precise lithostratigraphical and chronostratigraphical correlations. The major problems involve the complex, thick, widespread glacial and interglacial sequences (Itararé Subgroup), which lack marker horizons and present scarce fossil occurrences. In the northeastern part of the basin several geographically separate taphofloras did not receive adequate taxonomic and biostratigraphic treatment. Revision studies suggest that four taphofloras represent pre-glossopterid associations of a late Carboniferous age, whereas one represents the transition between proto-glossopterid/glossopterid associations and is surely of early Permian age. Many taxa of these taphofloras are also found in other Gondwana regions but these similarities may be diachronous. *FAPESP Thematic Project n. 97/03639-8.