



The foraminiferal collections of the European Micropalaeontological Reference Centre

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Over the time frame of three years (2015–2017), the European Micropalaeontological Reference Centre has become an important repository for published micropalaeontological collections. As of December 2017, the foraminiferal collections consist of approximately 22,000 faunal slides.

The “gem” of the collection is a separate microscope slide cabinet that contains type specimens (holotypes, metatypes and paratypes) of species of foraminifera. Currently, type specimens of 237 species, including holotypes of 53 species, are housed in our centre. The largest group of species represent deep-water agglutinated foraminifera (DWAF), but other agglutinated, as well as calcareous benthic foraminifera, are also present. These species were described mainly by Amao, Barnard & Banner, Bubík, Cetean, Eickhoff, Geroch, Gradstein, Holbourn, Józsa, Jurkiewicz, Kaminski, Kender, Łuczowska, McNeil, Mikhalevich, Mjatluk, Neagu, Nagy, Podobina, Podobina & Orlov, Preece, Samuel, Setoyama, Tyszka, Vašíček, Waškowska, White, and their co-authors. Moreover, we also house the shipboard or shorebased micropaleontological samples from DSDP/ODP Legs 9, 12, 26, 27, 29, 44, 90, 94, 104, 105, 122, 123, 124, 151, 159, 162, 302, and 323, as well as industry boreholes from the North Sea, Labrador Sea, Norwegian Sea, Barents Sea, and offshore West Africa. The slides of type specimens are archived in cabinet drawers together with the reprints of papers in which the species or assemblages were described. The collection constantly enlarges, thanks to scientists who donate their recently described or archival specimens and picked slides.

The list of the type specimens, as well as the list of the publications in which the faunas housed in the European Micropalaeontological Reference Centre were described, are both available on-online (www.micropresseurope.eu/collections.html).