



Middle and Late Eocene planktonic foraminiferal study of Beni Suef- El Zaafarana District, North Eastern Desert, Egypt

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The examination of ninety seven rock samples collected from the Eocene succession at Beni Suef – El Zaafarana District resulted in the identification of seventy species and subspecies, which are belonging to sixteen genera and seven families of the planktonic foraminifera. The identified species are recorded from three rock units, arranged from older to younger: El Fashn, Beni Suef and Maadi formations.

The stratigraphic distribution and associations of the estimated species enabled us to subdivide the studied succession into four planktonic foraminiferal biozones covering a time interval from the late Middle to Late Eocene age. These biozones are: Truncorotaloides rohri Zone (late Middle Eocene); Turborotalia pseudoampliapertula Zone; Globigerinatheka semiinvoluta Zone and Turborotalia cerrozulensis Zone (Late Eocene). The established biozones are well described and show a good correlation with the standard planktonic foraminiferal biozones in Egypt and the Tethyan province.