



VII INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM
ON MESOZOIC TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS

September 26 - October 1 - 1999

Buenos Aires, Argentina

ABSTRACTS



Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales "Bernardino Rivadavia"
Av. Angel Gallardo 470, (1405) Buenos Aires, Argentina

CRETACEOUS CONCHOSTRACANS FROM ALAGOAS BASIN (NORTHEASTERN BRAZIL)

Mitsuru Arai¹ & Ismar de Souza Carvalho²

- ¹ Palynological Laboratory of the PETROBRAS' Research Center PETROBRAS / CENPES / DIVEX / SEBIPE, Ilha do Fundao-Q.7, 21949-900 Rio de Janeiro-RJ, Brasil. E-mail: arai@cenpes.petrobras.com.br
- ² Depto de Geologia, Instituto de Geociencias, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Cidade Universitaria, Ilha do Fundao. 21949-900 Rio de Janeiro-RJ, Brasil. E-mail: posgeo@igeo.ufrj.br

The studied conchostracans come from an outcrop of the Maceio Formation (Aptian-Albian, Alagoas Basin) located at Japaratinga Beach (Alagoas State, Brazil). The fossils comprise a monospecific fauna of *Cyzicus pricei* Cardoso, 1966, a frequent species during the Early Cretaceous in some Brazilian

rift basins. *Cyzicus pricei* occurs during the Neocomian widespread at Uirauna, Mangabeira, Malhada Vermelha, Mirandiba, Padre Marcos and Reconcavo basins. This a very conservative species is also found in Alagoas stage strata (Aptian to lowermost Albian) of Barro, Araripe and Cedro basins. The conchostracans from Maceio Formation occur as non-articulated and articulated valves of brownish color. The articulated valves and well preserved isolated ones are indicative of local burial without expressive transportation. These valves, three-dimensionally preserved, always show clear growth lines and microalveolar ornamentation. No other fossil groups were found associated with the *Cyzicus pricei* specimens in Japaratinga Beach outcrops. Their ecological setting was probably similar to that ones of recent environments: such as temporary ponds of alkaline freshwater. There is a Lower Cretaceous (post-Wealdenian) African species from Congo Basin - *Cyzicus kasaiensis* - that presents great morphological similarities with *Cyzicus pricei*, in general morphology, umbo position and growth lines. Probably Brazil and Africa shared common conchostracofaunas during Early Cretaceous, despite the splitting number of species presented in the literature due to differences in the taxonomic procedures. The systematic revisions of conchostraca from Gondwana will certainly allow their use in the biostratigraphy of the continental Cretaceous deposits and improve the knowledge of the ecological changes of terrestrial ecosystems.