

A RECORD OF FORAMINIFERA FROM THE
LOWER TRIASSIC STRATA OF SPITI,
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IN the course of microfaunal investigations of Triassic strata in the Spiti region, the authors have recovered an assemblage of benthonic foraminifera from a limestone sample from the Lower Triassic sequence. The record of foraminifera from the Triassic rocks of the Indian region is more or less non-existent in the published literature (see also Sastri *et al.*, in Gowda, 1971)¹, except for the recent record of a single form, viz., *Glomospiranella shengi*, and some undifferentiated rotaliids from the early Lower Triassic strata of Kashmir (Nakazawa *et al.*)². Record of foraminifera, in general, is relatively poor from Triassic strata in the world (Cushman, 1959; p. 49)³. The present find, consisting of an assemblage of eight genera, may thus constitute a significant addition to the earlier record of a single foraminiferal genus from the Indian Triassic.

Location and stratigraphic horizon :

The rock sample, which has yielded foraminifera, was collected from the left bank of Spiti river, about 1.5 km downstream from the Lingti river confluence.

The sample yielding foraminifera comes from a limestone bed which occurs stratigraphically 0.55 m above the contact of Productus shale and the overlying Triassic limestone. Characteristic early Scythian ammonite species *Otoceras woodwardi* has been recovered by authors from this stratigraphic section at the base of the limestone bed. This indicates that the sample comes from the well-known *Otoceras* bed of Spiti, which in the Alpine Scythian scheme falls in Otoceratan (Pascoe, 1968; p. 862)⁴.

Check-list of foraminifera :

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| 1. <i>Ammodiscus</i> sp. | 5. <i>Glomospira</i> sp. |
| 2. <i>Ammodiscoides</i> sp. | 6. <i>Glomospirella</i> sp. |
| 3. <i>Ammovertella</i> sp. | 7. <i>Lituotuba</i> sp. |
| 4. <i>Bathysiphon</i> sp. | 8. <i>Usbekistania</i> sp. |

Of the genera listed above, *Ammodiscus*, *Ammodiscoides*, *Glomospira*, *Lituotuba*, and *Bathysiphon* are more prevalent in the assemblage than others. All these agglutinated foraminiferal genera, except *Bathysiphon*, belong to the Family Ammodiscidae (Moore, 1964)⁵.

The foraminiferal assemblage suggests a marine, and, in general, a shallow and warm water environment of deposition. Further work is in progress.

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A NOTE ON THE LATE EOCENE
NANNOFOSSILS FROM TARKESHWAR,
GUJARAT

THE present note records for the first time Twenty-five species of calcareous nannoplankton recovered from the brownish yellow fossiliferous marl exposed 1/2 km south-south-east of Tarkeshwar village in a nala. In addition to the nannofossils, the brownish yellow fossiliferous marl contains *Nummulites fabianii* (Prever), and *Pellatispira* sp. Rao¹ dated this marl as Late Eocene. The nannoplankton are represented by *Coccolithus* sp. a-sp., *g*, *Ericsonia mairi* (Bl ck), *Cyclococcolithina formosa* (Kamptner), *Reticulofenestra dictyoda dictyoda* (Deflandre and Fert), *R. placomorpho* (Kamptner and Deflandre), *R. pseudogammation* (Bouche), *Thoracosphaera* sp., *Discoaster barbadiensis* Tan Sin Hok, *D. distionctus* Martini, *D. elegans* Bramlette and Sullivan, *D. saipanensis* Bramlette and Riedel, *D. tani* Bramlette and Riedel, *Heliolithus* sp. a, *Braarudosphaera bigelowi* (Gran and Braarud), *B. discula* Bramlette and Riedel, *Micrantholithus crenulatus* Bramlette and Sullivan, *Triquetrorhabdulus inversus* Bukry and Bramlette, ? *Coccolithites* sp. and *Corannulus germanicus* Stradner. The present nannoplankton assemblage has been referred to *Reticulofenestra dictyoda dictyoda*-*Corannulus germanicus* Assemblage-zone which is confined to brownish yellow fossiliferous marl. It is 3 metres thick. The basal rocks which are overlain by the brownish yellow fossiliferous marl are not exposed at this locality. Therefore, lower limit of this assemblage zone could not be marked. The upper limit of this zone marks the top of the brownish yellow fossiliferous marl which does not contain any overlying strata. The present nannoplankton assemblage does not contain any characteristic nannofossils of the Middle Eocene age. Therefore, the brownish yellow fossiliferous marl has been referred to Late Eocene (? NP 19, *Isthmolithus recurvus* Zone, Martini²).