

Miocene dinoflagellate cyst assemblages - preliminary correlation between the Lower Tagus and Algarve Basins (Portugal)

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Biostratigraphical studies, established in several sections and a borehole (Belverde) of the Lower Tagus Basin, based on Miocene dinoflagellate cyst assemblages, have allowed a detailed stratigraphical investigation. Assemblages are very diverse and abundant and can be used as important biostratigraphical guides. More recently, a palynostratigraphical study based on dinoflagellate cysts was developed in two offshore wells, Ruivo-1 and Corvina, from the Algarve Basin (South of Portugal). The recovered dinoflagellate assemblages are less abundant and diverse than those obtained in the Lower Tagus Basin. New inferences are made regarding the correlation between the dinoflagellate cysts known from the Lower Tagus Basin with the recently recovered assemblages from the Algarve Basin. Species of selected dinoflagellate cyst assemblages recovered are similar in both basins.

Continuing progress within these new palynological studies and biostratigraphical data will help to refine and correlate Portuguese Miocene deposits.

Keywords: Dinoflagellate cysts, Lower Tagus Basin, Algarve Basin, Miocene, Portugal.