

is because they are defined on the first appearance of species within the section, without any concurrent extinction of species. The reasons for preferring an Upper M. diversus age are the occurrence of good assemblages obtained from coals down to 7630 feet which appear to contain only limited cavings and the consistent presence of Upper M. diversus Zone species in picked cuttings from 7830 - 50 feet and 7930 - 40 feet. These latter samples however do contain a minor but obvious proportion of species derived from cavings, that obscure the true age of the samples. The quality of the data from the M. diversus Zone is rated as poor.

The Proteacidites asperopolus Zone has its top defined by a sidewall core at 6800 feet and can be extended with good confidence based on coal cuttings down to 7100 feet. The zone could extend below 7100 feet but this cannot be determined from the cuttings. A close match however of the interval 6800 to 7100 feet is seen with this zone in Pelican 1 and 2.

The Lower Nothofagidites asperus Zone extends from the upper part of the Eastern View Coal Measures through the "Demons Bluff Formation", from 6628 to 5460 feet. A good suite of sidewall cores has enabled a complete sequence to be obtained through the Lower N. asperus Zone. On the basis of these samples division of this zone into the A and B subdivisions recognised in the Gippsland Basin is now possible in all three Pelican wells, and is given below:

Subdivisions of Lower N. asperus Zone

	<u>Pelican-1</u>	<u>Pelican-2</u>	<u>Pelican-3</u>
	( Depth in feet and Rating)		
<u>B. Subdivision</u>			
Highest Data	5748 (1)	5900 (1)	5460 (1)
Alternative Lowest Data		5900 (1)	5860 (1)
Lowest Data	5933 (1)	5949 (2)	5980 (2)
<u>A. Subdivision</u>			
Highest Data	6057 (2)	6242 (1)	6257 (1)
Alternative Highest Data	6100 (1)		
Lowest Data	6604 (1)	6825 (1)	6628 (1)