

N. asperus Spore-Pollen Zone assignment.

Dinoflagellates are very scarce in the lower part of the interval (1826-1851m) indicating marginal marine environments. In the upper part of the interval, they are moderately diverse and comprise 25% of palynomorphs at 1800m (swc) and 3% at 1730-40m (cutts), indicating nearshore environments.

Yellow to yellow/light brown spore colours indicate immaturity for hydrocarbons.

C. 1887 (cutts)-2185m (swc) : lower N. asperus Zone

Assignment to the lower Nothofagidites asperus Zone is indicated at the top by the absence of younger indicators, and at the base by the oldest Periporopollenites vesicus in swc and dominant Nothofagidites spp., supported by the oldest Gemmatricolporites gestus at 2076-85m (cutts), and absence of older indicators. Myrtaceidites tenuis at 2139-48m (cutts) is considered reworked.

Dinoflagellates are very scarce, but the oldest occurrences of the age-diagnostic species A. arcuatum and Systematophora placacantha (2040-49m, cutts) and Phthanoperidinium comatum (2004-13m, cutts) indicate a lower N. asperus or younger Zonal assignment.

Dinoflagellates are very scarce to absent throughout, but since many samples are of cuttings, their presence may or may not be "in situ". At the base of the interval, two samples (2185m, swc and 2139-48m, cutts) totally lack dinoflagellates, and are considered non-marine. Above this point, dinoflagellates are very scarce in cuttings but absent from the only swc at 1933m, and marginal marine environments are presumed.

Spore colours of yellow/light brown above 2050m indicate immaturity but light brown/yellow colours below 2050m indicate