

AN UPDATE ON THE PALAEOLOGICAL ASSEMBLAGE FROM VERACRUZ 1 SITE, TREMP FM, UPPER MAASTRICHTIAN, UPPER CRETACEOUS (SOUTHERN PYRENEES, HUESCA, NE SPAIN)

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The Veracruz 1 (VE1) palaeontological site dates from the late Maastrichtian (chron C29r) within the Tremp Formation, in the Southern Pyrenees, NE Spain (Ribagorza County, Huesca Province). VE1 is located in a 5.7 m-thick marly mudstone succession within the 'Grey Garumnian' unit and was deposited in a low-energy peritidal environment, yielding an exceptionally diverse multitaxic fossil assemblage. Two samples of bulk rock were collected from the VE1 outcrop in two different stratigraphic positions (VE1-Inf and VE1-Sup), with the fossil remains mostly concentrated in the upper sample (VE1-Sup). A sample of 50 kg of sediment from VE1-Sup was dried and disaggregated in water with hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) and then sieved through different sized meshes (2, 1 and 0.5 millimeters). The remains recovered from this sample consist of bone fragments of fishes and lissamphibians, crocodylomorph teeth, eggshell fragments, plant remains, charophytes, gastropods, bivalves and decapod crustaceans. Over 1850 eggshell fragments were either handpicked directly at VE1 site or recovered during microfossil picking, and have been studied using a stereomicroscope, radial thin sections, and SEM imaging. The assemblage includes eggshells attributable to testudines, crocodylomorphs, and theropod dinosaurs. Testudines eggshells are rare in the assemblage, being represented by two different ootaxa referable to the Testudoolithidae oofamily. Crocodylomorphs are represented by three ootaxa, two thin eggshells attributable to Krokolithidae indet, and one to *Pachykrokolithus excavatum*, being VE1 the type locality of this oospecies. Theropod ootaxa are the most diverse group represented, by *Pseudogeckoolithus* cf. *nodosus*, *Pseudogeckoolithus* cf. *tirboulensis*, cf. *Prismatoolithus* oosp., *Prismatoolithus* cf. *trempii* and aff. *Ageroolithus* oosp. This oological assemblage is similar to other upper Maastrichtian assemblages described in the Pyrenees, which are characterized by the presence of crocodylomorph and theropod ootaxa, and lacking of sauropod eggshells, characteristic from most Campanian–early Maastrichtian Iberian ooassemblages.

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