

tors, *e.g.*, Atlantic city, New Jersey, where the MSL rise is 4.1 mm/yr, or 28.7 cm in 70 years. One may question the high value of real estate there.

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Ecological Atlas of Foraminifer of the Gulf of Mexico, by C.W. Poag, 1981. Marine Science International, Woods Hole, Massachusetts, 174p. \$US 34.00, ISBN 0-87933-900-4.

There is already an abundance of literature available on foraminiferal distribution, but much of this can be considered no more than extended systematic monographs concentrating on taxonomic description. This book endeavours to identify the benthonic foraminiferal provinces of the Gulf of Mexico using the Generic Predominance Facies model. This is an ambitious undertaking and it is to the author's credit that he succeeds in conveying to the reader both an understanding of foraminiferal distribution in the Gulf and of the concept of Generic Predominance Facies. The latter is particularly useful in increasingly older rocks, as species assemblages tend to diverge markedly from their modern analogues whereas resemblance is often maintained at the genus level.

The work falls neatly into two parts. Environmental and distributional data is crammed into the 31 page long Part 1. Here the author reviews the general environmental characteristics and benthonic foraminiferal distribution of the Gulf and examines their relationships. There then follows a short discussion of the Generic Predominance Facies model as it applies to the Gulf area and some examples of its use in palaeoenvironmental analysis. The author reverts to a slightly more traditional approach in Part 2. Here he highlights the major morphological characteristics of 138 diagnostic and/or common species. Each species is illustrated from three different angles on 64 scanning electron photomicrograph plates. The descriptions, which take the form of figure captions, are arranged alphabetically, whilst the plates are grouped according to facies. Data on species distribution in relation to facies is included.

This book is to be recommended as a primary text for students commencing work on Gulf Foraminifera, but should also be of use to micropalaeontologists in all walks of life. The Gulf of Mexico is presented here as a working example of

how the Generic Predominance Facies approach can be applied in both environmental analysis and palaeoenvironmental reconstruction. This is the major theme throughout, owing perhaps to the author's own experiences in industry and government institutions. Part 1 is extremely condensed, but a lucid, if decidedly American style is maintained and little is lost by way of important information. A little more attention might however, have been placed on describing the facies of the shelf down to the abyssal deep using published examples, as was done for the inshore facies.

The illustrations are of an excellent standard and will go a long way to promoting identification. Taxonomic problems are inherent in all foraminiferal studies, but Poag has endeavoured to avoid getting trapped in taxonomic complexities. This may be the reason why he left 8 species in open nomenclature. In addition, some workers might dispute the usage of certain generic and specific names. But these are details which can be overlooked in the early stages of identification. The work is not intended to be a monograph in any case.

The author has included some new data from the Mexican side of the Gulf, thus establishing a more comprehensive sampling framework from which to identify facies distribution. Despite this complexity of facies in the north as opposed to their simplicity in the south may be biased by an uneven data spread. Hopefully this book will encourage further research to fill in these gaps.

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Salt, Evaporites and Brines: An Annotated Bibliography, by Vivian S. Hall and Mary R. Spencer, 1983. Oryx Press, Phoenix, Arizona, 216p. \$US 87.50, ISBN 0-89774-042-4.

Salt may be bad for the health but it appears good for career enhancement! This bibliography contains approximately 3500 references on the geological aspects of salt, covering sedimentology, tectonics, structures, chemistry and mining. The references stretch back to the early 1900s and are arranged in alphabetical order. (The most recent references are from the early 1980s). There are also subject and geographic indexes, although as the former only covers five topics it may not prove as useful as it might have done. The geographic index is more helpful, down to US county level (always assuming you know which county you are in), although