SYSTEMATIC ORGANIZATION OF MICROFOSSILS. MICROPALEONTOLOGICAL CENTER "P. J. BERMUDEZ"

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The "P.J. Bermudez" Micropaleontological Center exhibits the largest collection and associations of foraminifers, palynomorphs and calcareous nannofossils of Venezuela and the Caribbean. This center is located at INTEVEP, S.A., Research and Technological Center of Petroleos de Venezuela.

The foraminifer collection consists of taxonomic and faunal association slides, assemblages of wells studied in Venezuela by different companies and other collections of different localities in the Caribbean. The palynomorph collection comprises Venezuelan wells, and a collection of 320 species from isolated grains. The calcareous nannofossil collection consist of assemblages found in wells drilled throughout Venezuela.

The center, additionally, contains bibliographic material related to different biostratigraphic disciplines, as well as catalogs and technical reports.

All this information is compiled in a data set using Power Builder. This data set is possible to obtain on screen or through a print out, a great amount of information that includes: species, collections, references, geographic locations, and many other topics related biostratigraphic studies.

Another facility of the center is the SABIOTM system which consists of an automated biostratigraphic system, with an extensive image and database of more than 29,000 foraminifer species. This system allows one to identify, compare and count foraminifer species by an identification module MAIF that includes complete visual help menus for morphological features, which is useful for the training of new professionals.

The P. J. Bermudez Center offers the opportunity to study efficiently any taxon or species assemblages of the different fossil groups of the Venezuelan and Caribbean area.