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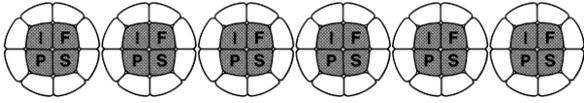
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BOOK REVIEWS

Stuchlik, L. et al. (2009, eds.): Atlas of Pollen and Spores of the Polish Neogene. Volume 3 – Angiosperms (1)

Szafer Institute of Botany, Polish Academy of Sciences, Krakow, 233 pp. ISBN 978-83-89648-74-7. Available from W. Szafer Institute of Botany, Polish Academy of Sciences, Lubicz 46, PL-31-512 Krakow, Poland Tel/fax 4812 4241731, e-mail: <wydawnictwa@botany.pl> or <ed-office@ib-pan.krakow.pl> Price 55.00 euro postage included.

In the series *Atlas of pollen and spores of the Polish Neogene* the third volume has been published. Volume 1 (2001) focussed on fern spores, volume 2 (2002) on the gymnosperms, and the volumes 3 (2009) and 4 (in preparation) deal with the angiosperms. This series presents a synthesis of numerous palynological studies of the Polish Neogene. From 63 sites with important palynofloras the location is shown in a map and the stratigraphical position in a table. Results were published in Polish and international journals during the last fifty years, but also unpublished materials have been included in this synthesis. All taxa have been ordered after pollen morphological apertures, from inaperturate to monoporate, triporate, zonoporate, and pantropate. The botanical affinity to recent families is given which makes this atlas also relevant for Quaternary palynologists. The largest part of this book (pages 8 to 82) deals with the pollen morphological descriptions, botanical affinity, geographical occurrence of corresponding recent taxa, phytogeographical relationship, stratigraphical distribution, and the distribution in Poland. The references (pages 83 to 89) are followed by 67 full page plates. Light microscopic photographs and scanning electron micrographs form a rich illustration. This atlas is completed with an index of Latin names (pages 227 to 233). This book is meticulously prepared and information is

clearly presented. Polish sites are to a high degree informative for the Neogene of Western Eurasia which makes this compilation to a key reference. As such synthesis reflects a large effort it is not surprising that the completion of this series required more time as was anticipated in the preface of volume one almost ten years ago. All palynologists starting a series of pollen morphological publications risk to disappoint the readers and themselves by realizing after due time that completion is not feasible. Our Polish colleagues have almost proven their perseverance and a monumental work is nearly completed. The books of this series are bound, produced with a soft cover and reasonably priced. I warmly recommend this pollen atlas.

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