

Interactive comment on “Zoogeography of the bottom Foraminifera of the West-African coast” by V. Mikhalevich

V. Mikhalevich

Received and published: 17 March 2008

The purpose of the article was to give to the species studied their zoogeographic characteristic representing only the final result of this work as publication of all the data for more than a hundred species needs a separate monograph.

The purpose of the article was to outline the geographic distribution of each of the species met in the region of the shelf of West Africa under the study, to give to each of them their zoogeographic characteristic – tropical, tropical-subtropical, tropical-boreal, ect., up to cosmopolitan. The zoogeographical analysis was as follows: for each of the species ALL the available literary data (beginning from D’Orbigny, 1826) of their whereabouts all round the world were searched. In addition materials and collections of different parts of the Oceans were also analyzed. The morphological study of each of the mentioned species permitted to make their more detailed descriptions and to con-

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

Discussion Paper



sider the range of their variability, to define the morphological borders of each species. Only those descriptions which coincided with the original description of the species were included. In the process of study in many cases the species considered to be previously as widely distributed were split into the several species. As a result the geographical distribution of such species turned to be not so wide as it was described in the literature. The places of the locations of such morphologically revised species were mapped and the borders of their geographical distribution outlined. For each of the species studied the new taxonomic descriptions, illustrations, full synonymy and full list of the previous locations were done. But the publication of all of these data needs monograph and is impossible in a short paper.

This paper gives only the final result of this work. The species studied are not given in it as a united list (as it is often given with the columns of their depth or other ecological data), but are split into the several groups according to the character of their geographic distribution. These 5 lists (not one) are rather long as in reality the majority of these groups contain multiple foraminiferal species.

So, “a 'detailed zoogeographical analysis with the thorough revision” (citation from this comment) could not be included in detail into this article because of its restricted volume. The article represents only results and conclusions of this big work. The knowledge of the geographic character of the species composing the faunal complexes may help in the ecological analysis of the fauna as it was shown in the “Results” and “Conclusions”. A separate “Discussion” section may be absent in such a short article. Some elements of such discussion are included into the sections “Results” and “Conclusions”.

I would be thankful to the colleague R. Speijer if he would be so kind to name the other works where the geographic character of all of these species is described.

Interactive comment on eEarth Discuss., 3, 1, 2008.

[Full Screen / Esc](#)[Printer-friendly Version](#)[Interactive Discussion](#)[Discussion Paper](#)