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1957/65

BOTANICAL REPORT ON A LEPIDODENDROID LOG FROM THE HARRIS SANDSTONE,

CARNARVON BASIN, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

by

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BOTANICAL REPORT ON A LEPIDODENDROID LOG FROM THE
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A portion of a fossilised tree trunk with *Lepidodendron* surface features was collected from the Harris Sandstone near Harris Well, Williambury Station by M.A. Condon in 1953.

The specimen is in the University of Western Australia's Geological Collection, No. 38163, in Perth. Rubber casts of the surface of the specimen were made on request and sent to the B.M.R. Canberra for examination.

These rubber casts show a pattern of roughly conical protruberances which correspond to the regularly arranged depressions on the specimen. In the base of each depression is an oval pit which represents the leaf trace.

Figure 1 is a photograph of part of a rubber cast of the surface of the specimen.

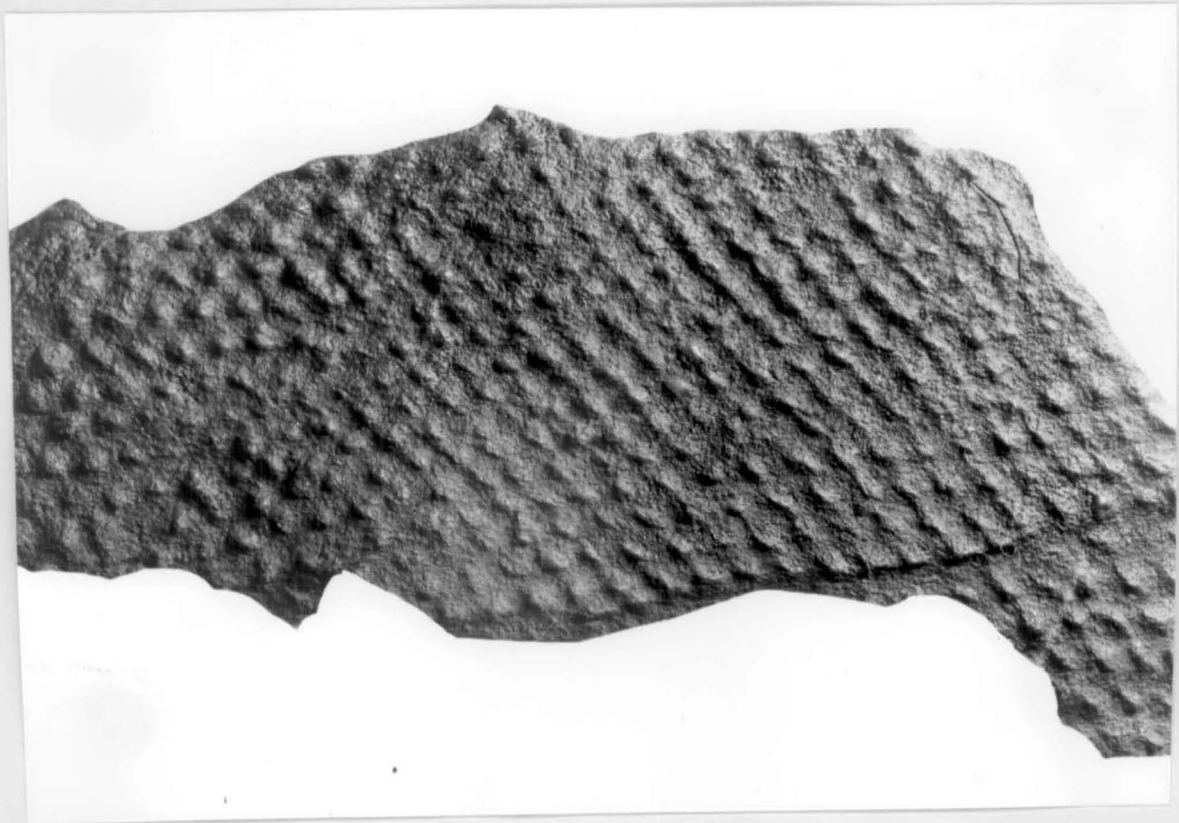


Figure 1

This type of decorticated *Lepidodendroid* impression is regarded by Edwards (1952) as a form of *Lycopodiopsis pedroanus* Carr which is typically Lower Permian and occurs in the Poole Range, West Kimberleys, W.A. (collected by Wade), and associated with the *Glossopteris* flora in South Africa and Brazil.

Lepidodendroid specimens collected near Arthur River Woolshed, Carnarvon Basin, W.A. from Basal Lyons Series

rocks have been referred to this species. (White, 1957).

Although an identification based on one decorticated specimen only cannot be completely satisfactory, there is little doubt in this case that the specimen is referable to Lycopodiopsis pedroanus Carr and that it indicates a Lower Permian age for the fossil horizon in the Harris Sandstone.

REFERENCES

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| EDWARDS, W.N., 1952 | - Lycopodiopsis, a southern hemisphere Lepidophyte. <u>Palaeobotanist</u> I, 159-164. |
| WHITE, MARY E., 1957 | - Lepidodendroid plant remains from near Arthur River Woolshed, Carnarvon Basin, W.A. <u>Bur.Min. Resour.Aust.Record</u> 1957/30. |