

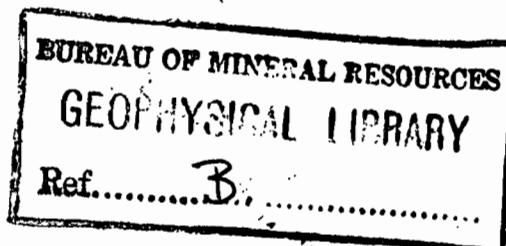
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DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.
BUREAU OF MINERAL RESOURCES
GEOLOGY AND GEOPHYSICS.

RECORDS.

1960/39



PLANT FOSSIL COLLECTIONS FROM THE GREAT ARTESIAN BASIN, QLD.

by
M.E. WHITE



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Plant fossils were collected by the Springvale geological party in 1959 from eleven localities in the Great Artesian Basin. Details of collection and specimens are as follows:-

1. Georgetown 4-mile sheet

Locality Geo. 3: 3 miles N. of Nonda Ck. on old Esmeralda - Stanhill Battery - Croydon track.

Indeterminate.

Locality Geo. 7a: Brennan's Knob Section; sample from sandstone in bottom 20' of section. (100' below invertebrate fossil horizon = Upper Blythesdale Group, Lower Cretaceous.)

Casts of wide, wrinkled stems, may be pith casts of Cycads. Indeterminate. Impressions of narrower stems with coaly film on surface are also indeterminate.

Locality Geo. 14: $\frac{3}{4}$ mile N.E. of bore on Rocky Creek, 8 miles E of Gilbert River crossing of main Georgetown - Croydon Road. (Forest Home Cattle Station)

Taeniopteris spatulata (McClelland) and a fragment of ribbed stem of Equisetites ? are the only determinate fossils.

2. Springvale 4-mile sheet

Locality S 205: Small hill, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile E. of no. 4 Bore, Lucknow station.

A small piece of silicified wood has some internal structure preserved by does not warrant sectioning.

Locality S 222: $\frac{3}{4}$ miles E. of Dilarrbidgerrie Waterhole, Lorna Downs Station.

Three pieces of fossil wood, portions of a large trunk, not suitable for sectioning.

Locality S 238: South end of Elizabeth Springs, from banks of Spring Creek.

One piece of silicified wood similar to those from S 222.

Locality S 246: From near track to Canary Bore, 7 miles from Lorna Downs station homestead.

Indeterminate stem casts.

3. Tambo 4-mile sheet

Locality Tam 11a: 9 miles S. of main Blackall Rd. to Minnie Downs. From conglomerate in shales with fossiliferous calcareous bands (Lower Cretaceous Tambo Formation).

A small, slightly compressed cylinder of Equisetalean wood has a node indicated by a faint transverse groove. Some preservation of cell structure is evident and sections will be cut for microscopic examination. A second specimen is a small piece of Equisetalean wood also showing a node.

4. Machettie 4-mile sheet

Locality Mac.2: 10 miles S. of Coorabulka No. 10 bore.

Two pieces of fossil wood show some preservation of cell structure.

5. Roma 4-mile sheet

Locality Rom. 86: 10 miles N. of Roma, on road to Injune (opposite Euthulla Sdg.) from freshwater-marine Roma beds.

Two large portions of fossil log, internal preservation poor, are indeterminate.

N.B. Although some cell structure is preserved in many of these specimens and microscopic investigation is possible, it is not expected that the results would be of more than academic value, as the very conservative structure of wood does not allow dating of the specimens. The Equisetalean wood will be fully investigated as little is known of wood of this sort and the results might be of considerable botanical interest.

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