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Report on the 1968 Collection of Plant Fossils from the Eromanga Basin

Queensland

by

Mary E. White

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RECORDS 1969/54

Contents

REPORT ON THE 1968 COLLECTION OF PLANT FOSSILS

FROM THE EROMANGA BASIN, QUEENSLAND.

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Plant fossils were collected at two localities in the Quilpie sheet area of Queensland in 1968 from Winton Formation. Leaves of Phyllopteris lanceolata Walkom are present in abundance at both localities, indicating Lower Cretaceous age.

1. Locality Q 7: Pt. 7, photo 5065, Run 7C-E, SG 55-9 Quilpie 3 miles W.S.W. of Quilberry No. 1.

Specimens No F 22958 Bulk of collection.
F 22959, F22960 and F22961 Illustrated.

In these specimens there are many examples of leaf pinnules of Phyllopteris lanceolata Walkom. Figure 1 of specimen F 22959 shows a well-preserved leaf pinnule which is typical of most of the leaves present. The oval-lanceolate pinnule tapers rapidly at its base. The denticulate margin and characteristic venation are clearly seen. The midrib is distinct and does not persist to the apex. Secondary veins make an acute angle with the midrib, arch outwards and bifurcate before reaching the margin.

Figure 1.

Phyllopteris lanceolata Walk.

Specimen F 22959. Magnification X 2.
Negative F/5427

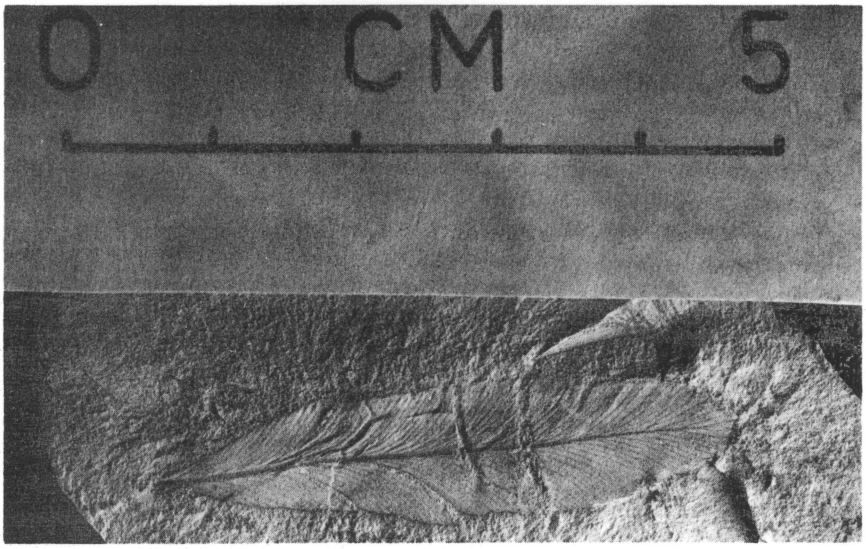

Figure 2 of specimen F 22960 shows part of a smaller pinnule in which the denticulate margin is clearly seen.
Figure 3 shows parts of larger leaves of the species.

Figure 2.

Phyllopteris lanceolata.

Specimen F 22960.
Negative F/5431

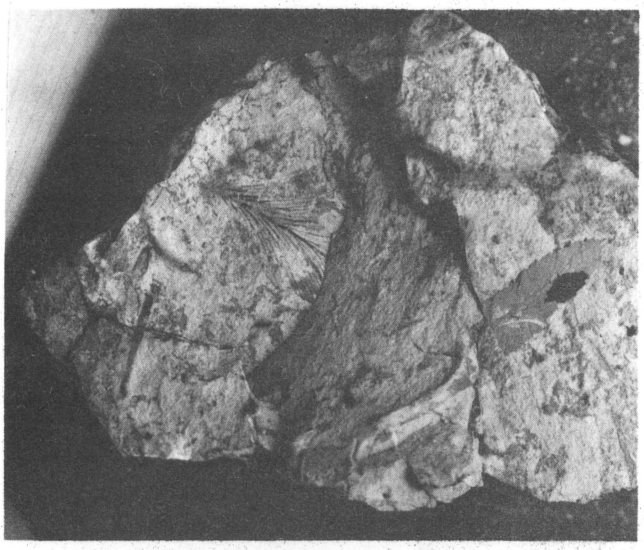

Figure 3.

Phyllopteris lanceolata.

Specimen F 22961.
Negative F/5430

2. Locality CH 87: Pt. 87, photo 74, run 7. SG 55-10.
$3\frac{1}{2}$ miles SE of Quilberry No.1.

Specimens F 22962
Pinnules of Phyllopteris lanceolata are present in these specimens.

Phyllopteris lanceolata Walkom was described from the Burrum Series in Queensland by Walkom in 1919 (A.B. Walkom , Mesozoic Floras of Queensland, III and IV. The Floras of the Burrum and Styx River Series). It is a characteristic and very abundant component of the Lower Cretaceous flora of Queensland, differing from the species of Phyllopteris (P. feistmanteli) characterising Jurassic horizons.

Age. Lower Cretaceous.