

The 7th International Palaeontological Congress



Vegetation change and plant–insect interaction from the Palaeozoic until modern times – Case studies from Africa and beyond

Modern ecosystems have undergone significant changes over time, with documented records in gymnosperms, angiosperms, cryptogams, dinoflagellates, algae and fungi, which reveal a wide range of interactions with insects, dating back to the Palaeozoic era. Their interactions were established due to the need of nutrition, shelter and reproduction for the organisms involved, both for the insects and plants and constitute a complex and intricate trophic network in terrestrial ecosystems. Specifically, the succession of floral evolution was suggested to have occurred together with a similar change in land arthropods with the plant-insect relations established. Understanding the history of ancient ecosystems but also the co-evolution between plants and insects provides valuable insights into ecological interactions and the functioning of terrestrial ecosystems.

This symposium invites studies that focus on vegetation change, plant evolution, and plant-insect interactions, with particular attention to changes in species diversity, biomass, and trophic integration within ecosystems from the Palaeozoic to modern times. We invite contributions from fields such as palynology, paleo- and archaeobotany, diatom-, dinoflagellate and phytolith analysis, anthracology and paleoentomology, as well as innovative methodological and interdisciplinary approaches and modelling techniques to explore these topics. With a special emphasis on case studies from Africa, research studies from all over the world are welcome.

Conveners:

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If you are interested in this symposium, please contact the conveners.

