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BOOK REVIEW

Moore, P. D., Webb, J. A.: *An Illustrated Guide to Pollen Analysis*. — Hodder and Stoughton, London—Sydney—Auckland—Toronto 1978, 133 pp., 48 plates, £ 4.95.

The book summarizes various aspects of palynology. Its main concern is research of dispersed pollen grain and spores, which can be recovered from the sediments of Quaternary age (peats, lake sediments etc.). The authors discuss the types of sediments suitable for the preservation of palynomorphs and give a useful outline of field and laboratory techniques. A substantial part of the book is devoted to morphology of spores and pollen grains and to the structure of the wall. The pollen and spore key is modified to enable the identification of dispersed palynomorphs even to less experienced workers. The chapter is conveniently supplemented by plentiful illustrations, including SE micrographs.

Selected sets of microscope slides are available on request. The authors draw attention to potentialities and on the other hand limitations of pollen analysis, especially in constructing and interpreting the pollen diagrams. The volume can be recommended for its simple, lucid style, practical approach and condensed information to botanists, paleobotanists as well as undergraduates. It shows pollen analysis as a challenging field for original research of students, utilizable in dating of sediments, reconstruction of vegetational changes and in tracing the effect of man on his environment.

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