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patterns and their relationship to climate; Carbonate grain associations: their use and environmental significance, a brief review

Temperate and tropical carbonate-sedimentation episodes in the Neogene Betic basins (southern Spain) linked to climatic oscillations and changes in Atlantic-Mediterranean connections: constraints from isotopic dataFacies models and geometries of the Ragusa Platform (SE Sicily, Italy) near the Serravallian-Tortonian boundary; The sensitivity of a tropical foramol-rhodalgal carbonate ramp to relative sea-level

change: Miocene of the central Apennines, Italy; Facies and sequence architecture of a tropical foramol-rhodalgal carbonate ramp: Miocene of the central Apennines (Italy)

Facies and stratigraphic architecture of a Miocene warm-temperate to tropical fault-block carbonate platform, Sardinia (Central Mediterranean Sea)Coralline algae, oysters and echinoids - a liaison in rhodolith formation from the Burdigalian of the Latium-Abruzzi Platform (Italy); Palaeoenvironmental significance of Oligocene-Miocene coralline red algae - a review; Molluscs as a major part of subtropical shallow-water carbonate production - an example from a Middle Miocene oolite shoal (Upper Serravallian, Austria)

Echinoderms and Oligo-Miocene carbonate systems: potential applications in sedimentology and environmental reconstructionCoral diversity and temperature: a palaeoclimatic perspective for the Oligo-Miocene of the Mediterranean region; Late Oligocene to Miocene reef formation on Kita-daito-jima, northern Philippine Sea; Carbonate production in rift basins: models for platform inception, growth and dismantling, and for shelf to basin sediment transport, Miocene Sardinia Rift Basin, Italy; Index

Sommario/riassunto

The Oligocene and Miocene Epochs comprise the most important phases in the Cenozoic global cooling that led from a greenhouse to an icehouse Earth. Recent major advances in the understanding and time-resolution of climate events taking place at this time, as well as the proliferation of studies on Oligocene and Miocene shallow-water/neritic carbonate systems, invite us to re-evaluate the significance of these carbonate systems in the context of changes in climate and Earth surface processes. Carbonate systems, because of a wide dependence on the ecological requirements of organisms producing