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Sommario/riassunto

Calcretes are an important component of many ancient fluvial, lacustrine and shallow-marine carbonate sequences, and they are widely developed in many parts of the world at the present time. Calcretes are useful to the earth scientist involved in reconstructing ancient environments, palaeoclimates and palaeogeographics, and they may also reveal details of soil biota and chemistry. Over the last two decades the journal *Sedimentology* has published a number of articles on this subject and a compilation of them is presented here. In addition to the five main sections, this volume also includes

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