



# 3rd International Conference on Aerobiology

August 6–9, 1986 Basel, Switzerland

ABSTRACTS

Pollen grains in smears of nasal secretion

C.A.Accorsi°,M.Bandini Mazzanti°,L.Forlani°,F.Rivasi\*°°,G.Trevisan°°°

°Institute of Botany,Bologna,Italy;°°Institute of Morbid Anatomy,Modena,Italy;°°°Institute of Botany,Modena,Italy

This work aims at estimating pollen content of nasal secretion of patients affected by rhinitis.We have carried out pollen analysis on 109 cytological slides of nasal secretion collected during the same period April-June in 1983-1985 from 33 patients living in the Modena area(Northern Italy).Patients were subjected to prick test and RAST;slides of nasal secretion was examined by cytological point of view.Pollen analysis, carried out on the same slides,has given the following results:

- 95% of slides contain pollen; - nasal secretion contains a few pollen grains(up to 7/slide)when rhinitis was not caused by pollinosis or when patients were subjected to desensitization; - nasal secretion contains a larger number of pollen grains(up to 428/slide)in pollinosis.Pollen spectra show high % of Gramineae and smaller % of other allergenic taxa (Ostrya,Urticaceae,Plantago,ecc).We think that pollen analysis may contribute to recognize the causes of the disease and,in suspected cases of pollinosis,to trace causative agent.