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ABSTRACTS

## AIRBORNE POLLEN DRUG DURING THE HOLOCENE IN EMILIA ROMAGNA, NORTHERN ITALY

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This paper outlines the presence and the variations in percentage of the airborne pollen taxa over the Emilia Romagna region (Northern Italy) during the Holocene, on the basis of published/unpublished past pollen diagrams and recent pollen spectra, coming from 61 sites. The pollen taxa on which this paper is based are those monitored by European aerobiological networks and chosen by SPIEKSMa for a survey on the airborne pollens being of interest both from the allergenic and from other scientific points of view. Pollen taxa may be divided up into several groups: 1) taxa with decreasing curves, namely from Preboreal to Subatlantic period: Betula, Quercus, Pinaceae (Pinus and Picea decrease while Abies reaches its peak during the Atlantic period and Cedrus is significant only in the modern pollen rain); 2) taxa whose % sharply increase from Preboreal to Subatlantic reaching their highest values in the modern pollen rain: Gramineae, Plantago, Castanea, Oleaceae, Corylaceae. 3) taxa more or less stationary or showing a decreasing trend during the mid-Holocene and subsequently increasing (Rumex, Urticaceae, Chenopodiaceae, Artemisia... 4) taxa with irregular sinuous curves: Alnus, Salix; 5) taxa which are significant or appear only in the modern pollen rain (Platanus, Ambrosia). The reading of the pollen spectra shows that the variations in % of several taxa are chiefly of climatic/ecological origin while other taxa, most of which being allergenic, largely reflect human activity in the environment.