

## ON THE STRATIGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF THE TINTINNID GENUS *COLOMIELLA*

by

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The genus *Colomiella* was originally described by Bonet (1956, p. 42-46) as belonging to the Superfamily Tintinnidea (sic.). According to him (op. cit.), *Colomiella* ranges in age from Upper Barremian to Upper Aptian. For fourteen years, *Colomiella* has been regarded as restricted to that geological interval wrongly assigned by Bonet, causing great confusion and miss-correlation in the stratigraphy of Lower Cretaceous strata.

During the detailed stratigraphic study of Aptian planktonic foraminifera from the La Peña Formation undertaken by the author (Longoria, 1972), as well as from the Tamaulipas Limestone by Longoria and Gamper (1974) it was possible to define the stratigraphic position of the genus *Colomiella* as uppermost Aptian-Lower Albian, top of the *Hedbergella trocoidea* Zone to the top of the *Ticinella primula*-Zone.

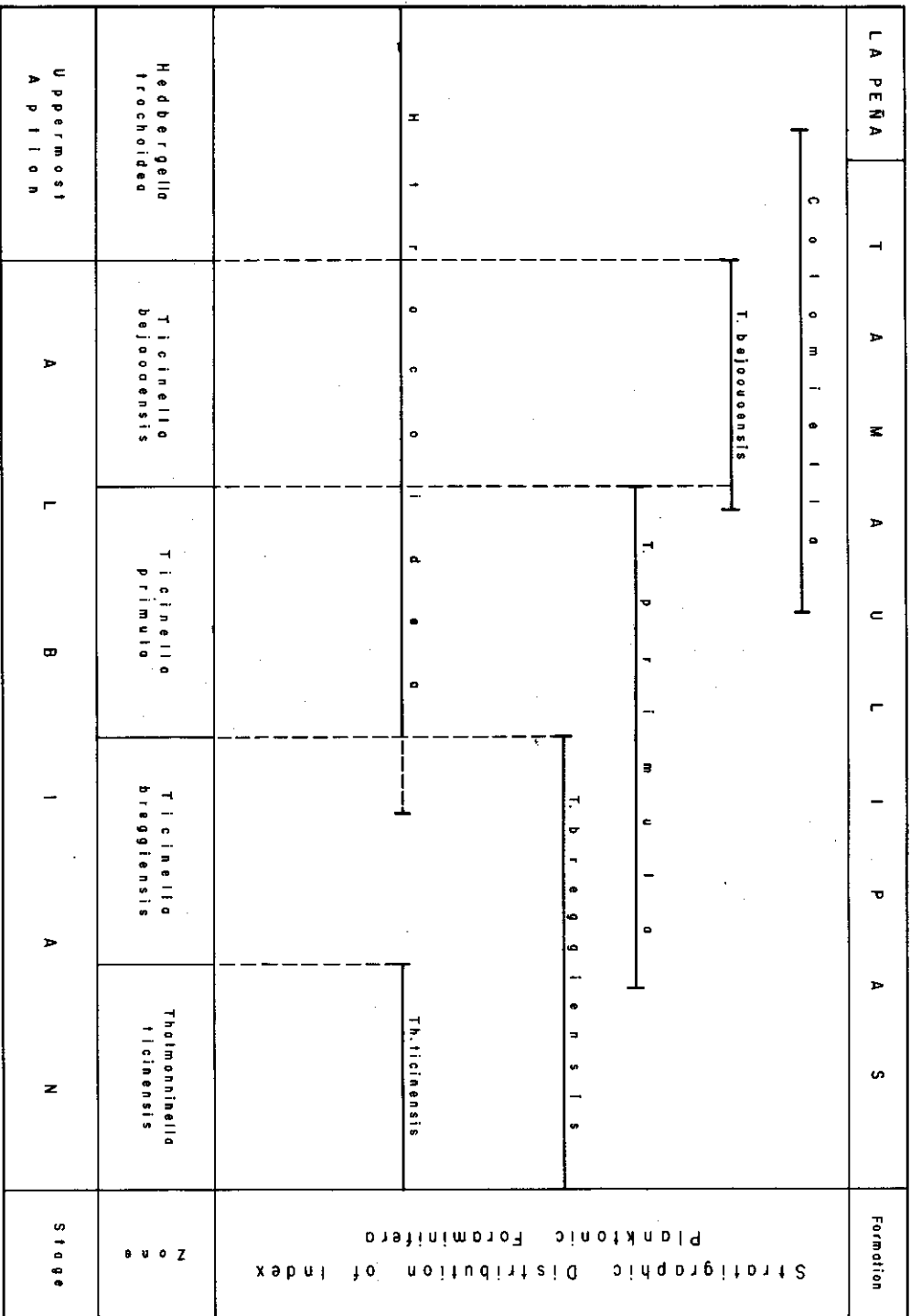
The age misinterpretation assigned by Bonet (1956) to *Colomiella* was mainly due to the lack of an adequate bio-stratigraphic control of Lower Cretaceous strata. The distribution of *Colomiella* was integrated to the planktonic foraminiferal scheme of zonation elaborated by Longoria (1972) and Longoria and Gamper (1974) allowing to the present author to establish the precised stratigraphic position of *Colomiella* (Text-figure 1).

The stratigraphic position of the samples studied is shown elsewhere (Longoria, 1972, Text-figure 3; Longoria and Gamper, 1974, Text-figure 2).

In all the samples studied both *Colomiella recta* Bonet and *C. mexicana* Bonet occur together. They first appear at the top of the *Hedbergella trocoidea*-Zone associated with *Hedbergella trocoidea* (Gandolfi), *H. planispira* (Tappan), *H. infracretacea* (Glaessner) *H. gorbachikae* Longoria *H. delrionensis* (Carsey), *Nannoconus truiti* Bronnimann, *N. minutus* Bronnimann and *N. elongatus* Bronnimann.

*Colomiella* is always present in samples from the *Ticinella bejaouaensis*-Zone and the *Ticinella primula*-Zone. Its last occurrence is at the top of the *Ticinella primula*-Zone where it is associated with *Ticinella primula* Lutherbacher, *T. roberti* (Gandolfi), *T. floresae* Longoria and Gamper *Favusella washintensis* (Carsey), *F. planata* Longoria and Gamper and *Loeblichella pessagno* Longoria and Gamper.

It is hoped that the present note will contribute to the better use of *Colomiella* as a stratigraphic index and that in the future it will be considered as an index fossil for the Late Aptian-Early Albian instead of Barremian-Aptian as originally regarded by Bonet (1956).



TEXT-FIGURE 1: Integration of the Stratigraphic Distribution of the genus *Colomiella* to the Planktonic Foraminiferal Zonation elaborated by Longoria (1972) and Longoria and Gamper (1974).

REFERENCES CITED

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