



Calcareous Plankton Biostratigraphy and age of the Lower-Middle Miocene deposits of Levkas Island, Ionian Sea, Greece.

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Results of an integrated biostratigraphic (planktonic foraminifers and calcareous nannofossils) study of two Lower/Middle Miocene sections (Asprogerakata and Roupakias) in Levkas island, Ionian Sea, are presented for the first time.

The two sections (62 and 10 m thick respectively) are composed of grey marls rich in calcareous plankton and intensively burrowed, medium to fine-grained, calcareous sands. Seventy-six samples have been collected in total, at a mean spacing of 50 cm. Qualitative and quantitative analyses were performed on each sample.

This high resolution study allowed us to recognise several useful Lower-Middle Miocene bio-events in the Mediterranean and to provide a detailed distribution pattern of the recognised taxa.

This study represents the first detailed report of Lower-Middle Miocene marine sediments in Levkas island and contributes to the understanding of the evolution of the Neogene basins in Ionian Sea.