



Supporting Online Material for

Transient Floral Change and Rapid Global Warming at the Paleocene-Eocene Boundary

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Ms. 1116913 - Supporting Online Material

Methods – Carbon Isotope Analysis

Samples for carbon isotope analysis were collected by digging through the weathered zone to expose solid rock, which was then removed in pieces 5-10 cm in diameter. Several grams of fresh rock were pulverized with a mortar and treated with 1N HCl to remove carbonate, then rinsed with distilled water, and dried at 50° C. More than 90% of samples showed no visible reaction with HCl. Carbon isotope ratios were measured in duplicate using an Elemental Analyzer (EA) and a ThermoFinnigan Delta Plus XP Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometer (IRMS). Replicate measurements of standards indicate a measurement precision of ± 0.1 ‰. Weight percent organic carbon of samples was measured using an off-line EA. (See Table S1 for measurements of samples and standards.)

Samples were divided into a PETM set, defined by occurrence in the stratigraphic interval that produced Wa-0 mammals, and a pre- and post-PETM set, which occurred either below the lowest intermittent red bed (lowest level for Wa-0 mammals) or above the highest Wa-0 mammals. We calculated a logarithmic regression of $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{org}}$ against wt. % C_{org} for each set of samples separately (Fig. S1). Anomaly values of $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{org}}$ in Fig. 2 were calculated as the observed minus expected $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{org}}$ values using the “Paleocene & Eocene” equation in Fig. S1 to calculate expected $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{org}}$.

The strong, negative exponential relationship between wt. % C_{org} and $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{org}}$ in these mud-rock paleosol samples (Fig. S1, Table S1) is consistent with soil profiles from modern fine-grained soils (Fig. S1, *S1*, *S2*), and may reflect isotopic enrichment due to assimilation of HCO_3^- (via PEP Carboxylase) for anaplerotic reactions by heterotrophic

soil microbes (S3). Fine soil particles probably also play a role in retaining the ^{13}C -enriched carbon in the soil (S2).

Methods – Pollen and Palynofacies Analysis

Splits of samples used in isotopic analysis were treated for standard palynological analysis: 10% HCl to remove carbonate, then rinsing, then treatment with concentrated HF to remove silica, followed by rinsing, then flotation of organic remains with ZnCl_2 , and mounting on glass slides for examination under light microscopy.

Slides were scanned by GJH for palynodebris (Table S2). Palynodebris composition is associated with wt. % C_{org} ; samples with low weight percent carbon tend to have less well-preserved, light-colored organic matter, whereas samples with higher weight percent carbon have a wide range of types of organic debris.

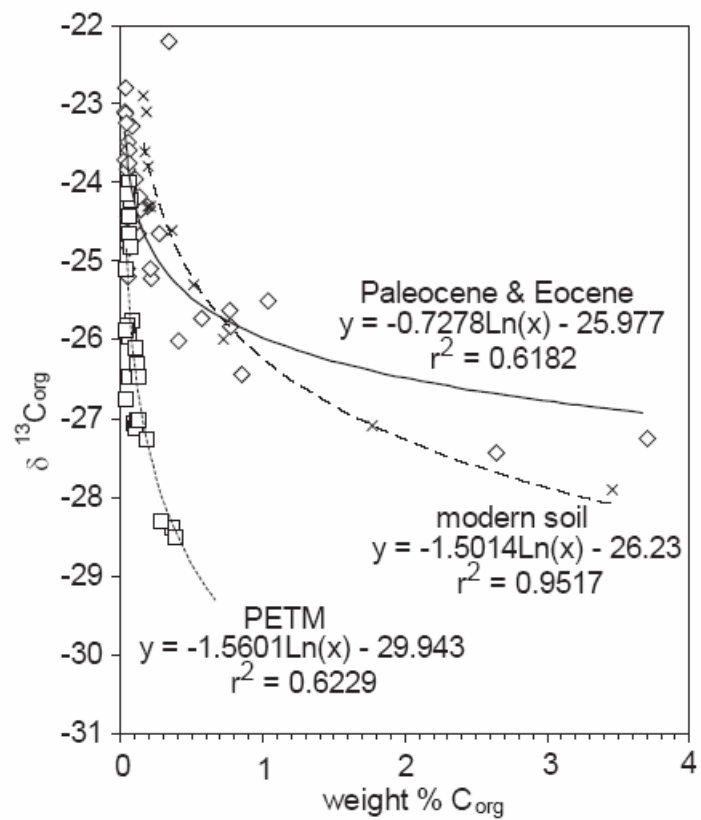


Figure S1. Relationship between wt. % C_{org} and δ¹³C_{org}. Symbols: ◇ - Paleocene and Eocene samples (solid line), × - modern soil samples (S2) (long dashes), □ - PETM samples based on faunal evidence (short dashes). All regressions are logarithmic.

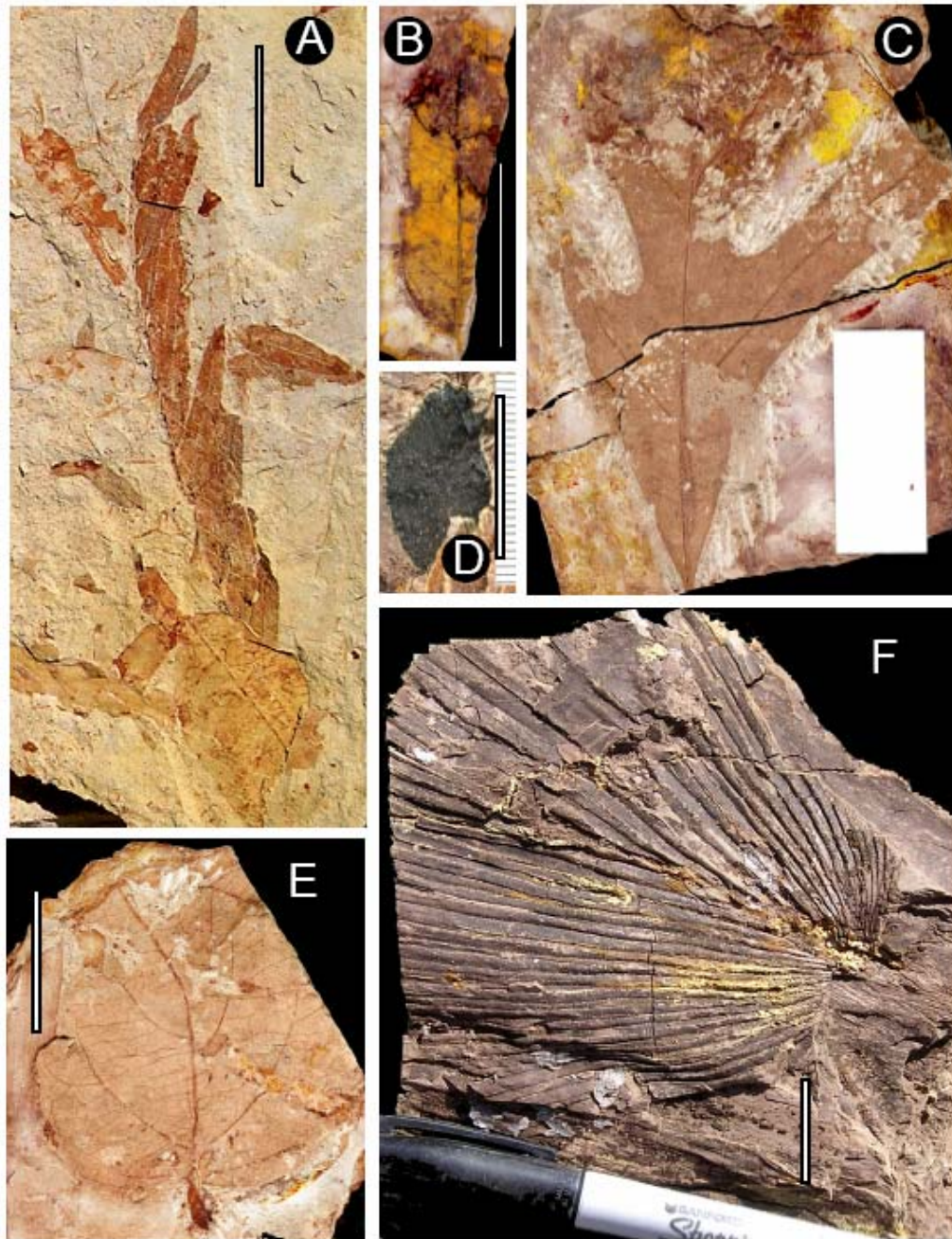


Figure S2. Plant fossils from the lower PETM. A. Indet. 0410-4 – probable mimosoid legume leaf with multiple leaflets; B. Indet. 0410-4 isolated leaflet; C. “*Artocarpus*” *lessigiana*; D. lump of fusain; E. Indet. 0410-2; F. palm leaf fragment. Scale bar is 2 cm in all except C, in which it is 5 cm.

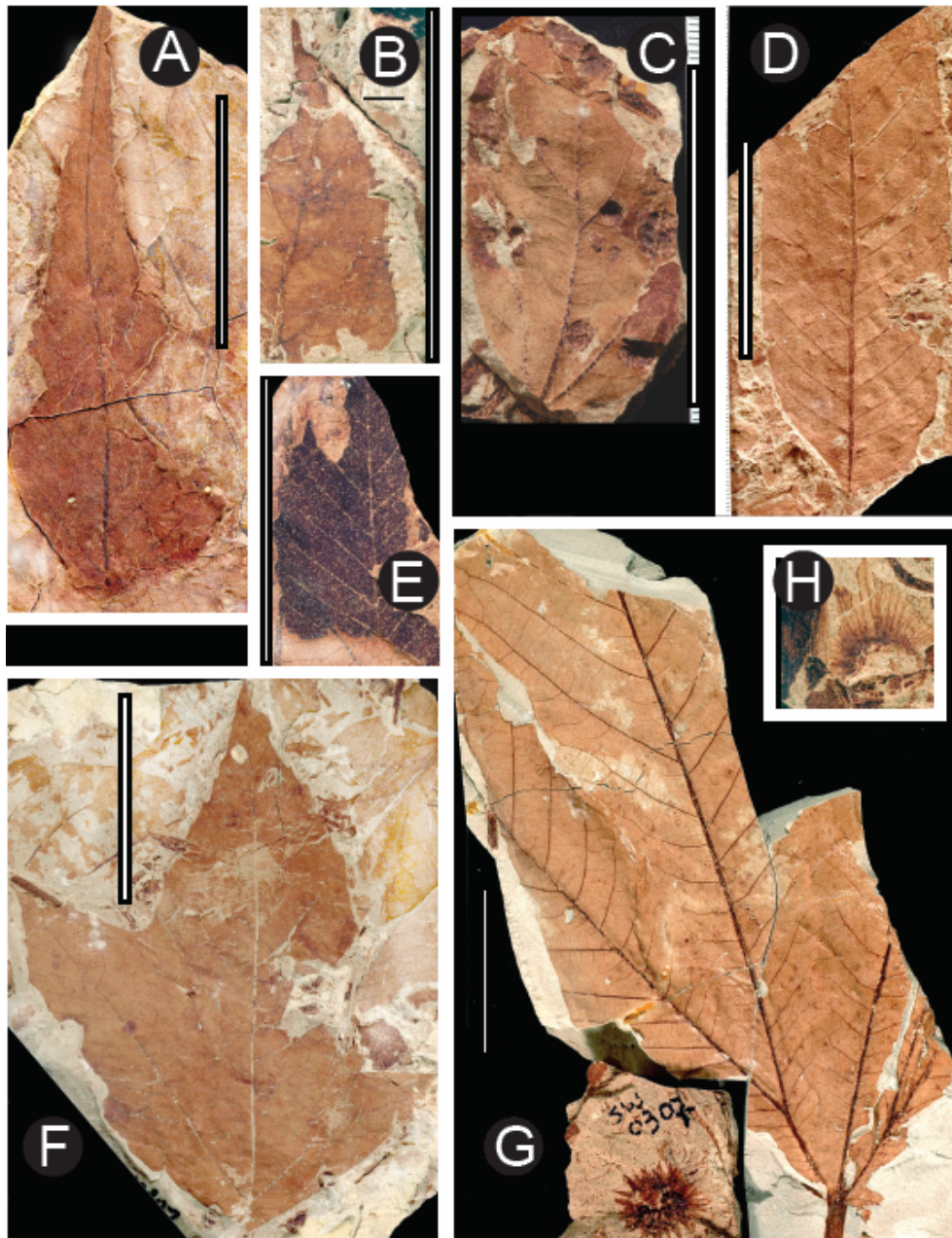


Figure S3. Plant fossils from the upper PETM (SW0307a,b). A. Indet. 0307-3 – a lauraceous leaf with long acuminate apex; B. Indet. 0307-7 – possibly Flacourtiaceae or Salicaceae; C. “*Ficus*” *planicostata*; D. Indet. 0307-10 – possibly Sapindaceae; E. *Fagopsis greenlandica*; F. *Platanus raynoldsii*; G. Leaf and fruit of *Macginitiea nobilis*; H. cyclocaryoid fruit. Scale bar is 5 cm in A-G, 2 cm in H.

Table S1. Measured values of wt. % C_{org}, and measured and predicted values of δ¹³C_{org}.

	δ ¹³ C _{org} (‰ VPDB)	Standard deviation δ ¹³ C _{org} (‰ VPDB)	Predicted δ ¹³ C _{org} (‰ VPDB)	Anomaly: observed- predicted δ ¹³ C _{org} (‰ VPDB)	Weight % C _{org}	Level (m)
CAB6-04-04	-26.44	0.31	-25.86	-0.57	0.85	73.30
CAB6-04-03	-24.84	0.12	-23.96	-0.88	0.06	56.80
CAB6-04-02	-25.89	0.60	-23.62	-2.27	0.04	49.70
CAB6-04-01.1	-28.52	0.13	-25.28	-3.23	0.39	37.30
CAB6-04-01	-25.84	0.03	-23.77	-2.07	0.05	33.80
CAB1-04-06	-28.39	0.07	-25.23	-3.16	0.36	8.20
CAB1-04-05	-24.66	0.16	-23.86	-0.80	0.05	6.20
CAB7-04-04	-26.12	0.90	-24.36	-1.75	0.11	2.85
CAB3-04-14	-27.02	0.15	-24.48	-2.55	0.13	2.55
CAB3-04-13.2	-27.02	0.34	-24.43	-2.60	0.12	2.10
CAB1-04-04	-25.77	0.10	-24.11	-1.66	0.08	1.70
CAB3-04-13.1	-27.12	0.07	-24.36	-2.76	0.11	1.15
CAB3-04-13	-27.08	0.19	-24.26	-2.82	0.09	0.75
CAB1-04-03.1	-26.48	0.21	-23.90	-2.58	0.06	0.00
CAB3-04-12.2	-25.97	0.24	-23.97	-1.99	0.06	0.00
CAB7-04-03	-26.32	0.02	-24.41	-1.91	0.12	-0.15
CAB7-04-02	-28.31	0.14	-25.05	-3.25	0.28	-0.85
CAB3-04-12.1	-24.01	0.06	-23.85	-0.16	0.05	-0.95
CAB7-04-01.3	-27.27	0.03	-24.74	-2.53	0.18	-1.25
CAB3-04-12	-24.45	0.00	-23.85	-0.60	0.05	-1.35
CAB3-04-11.2	-23.84	0.07	-23.75	-0.09	0.05	-1.90
CAB1-04-03	-24.24	0.12	-24.00	-0.24	0.07	-2.30
CAB3-04-11.1	-23.70	0.23	-23.44	-0.26	0.03	-2.80
CAB3-04-11	-25.09	0.52	-23.68	-1.41	0.04	-3.65
CAB7-04-01.2	-23.59	0.16	-23.90	0.31	0.06	-4.45
CAB3-04-10.1	-22.80	0.19	-23.48	0.68	0.03	-4.70
CAB7-04-01.1	-23.25	0.10	-23.59	0.34	0.04	-4.85
CAB3-04-10	-24.54	0.22	-24.25	-0.30	0.09	-5.65
CAB3-04-09.1	-22.20	0.07	-25.18	2.99	0.34	-6.65
CAB7-04-01	-24.33	0.03	-24.56	0.22	0.14	-8.15
CAB3-04-09	-23.96	0.09	-24.30	0.34	0.10	-8.25
CAB3-04-08.1	-23.12	0.19	-23.51	0.39	0.03	-8.85
CAB3-04-08	-23.10	0.03	-23.35	0.25	0.03	-9.75
CAB3-04-07.1	-23.29	0.14	-24.10	0.82	0.08	-12.00
CAB3-04-07	-27.43	0.17	-26.68	-0.75	2.64	-13.75
CAB2-04-02	-27.25	0.02	-26.93	-0.32	3.71	-13.75
CAB5-04-01	-25.10	0.10	-24.84	-0.26	0.21	-13.75
CAB1-04-02	-24.66	0.18	-24.37	-0.28	0.11	-14.05
CAB2-04-01	-25.50	0.13	-26.00	0.51	1.04	-19.55
CAB1-04-01	-25.23	0.06	-24.85	-0.38	0.21	-19.80
CAB3-04-06	-25.83	0.01	-25.79	-0.04	0.77	-19.95
CAB4-04-01	-25.73	0.06	-25.56	-0.16	0.57	-20.00
CAB3-04-05	-23.48	0.27	-23.80	0.32	0.05	-20.45
CAB3-04-04	-24.65	0.14	-24.46	-0.19	0.12	-25.65
CAB3-04-03	-26.02	0.17	-25.32	-0.69	0.41	-29.45
CAB3-04-02	-24.65	0.12	-25.03	0.38	0.27	-32.75
CAB3-04-01	-24.30	0.13	-24.75	0.45	0.19	-37.45

*highlighted samples are in the PETM based on faunal or stratigraphic evidence

Table S3. Taxonomic composition of megaflora from localities SW0307 and SW0410.

Morphotype number (brief description)	Toothed/ Entire	Area (ln)	# of specimens	
			SW0307a,b	SW0410
indet 0307-1 (pinnate, eucampto, crowded basal 2s, teeth closely	T	7.88	4	0
indet 0307-3 (pinnate, ovate, long acuminate apex, eucamptodromous secondaries with basal 2-3 pairs oppositely	E	7.88	116	0
indet 0307-7 (cf. Flacourtiaceae sp.3)	T	6.51	2	0
indet 0307-8 (pinnate, ovate, acute apex, brochidodromous	E	6.51	2	0
indet 0307-9 (cf. <i>Allophylus flexifolia</i>)	T	7.88	7	0
indet 0307-10 (cf. <i>Allophylus flexifolia</i> but with entire margin)	E	7.88	23	0
indet 0307-11 (pinnate, elliptical, sparse teeth near apex)	T	9.11	1	0
indet 0307-14 (pinnate, concentric eucamptodromous	E	8.56	2	0
indet 0307-15 (pinnate, secondaries brochidodromous with straight courses and originating at a very acute angle to the	E	8.01	1	0
indet 0307-17 (pinnate, complex agrophic veins or deeply forked secondaries, tertiaries opposite percurrent, teeth small)	T	8.01	1	0
indet 0307-18 (pinnate, cordate base, secondaries brochidodromous, 3 basal pairs of secondaries)	E	8.56	4	0
indet 0307-22 (branching axis with tiny pinnately veined leaves)	E	3.22	1	0
<i>Macginitiea gracilis</i>	E	9.34	13	0
" <i>Ficus</i> " <i>planicostata</i>	E	7.88	29	0
<i>Fagopsis greenlandica</i>	T	7.26	1	0
<i>Phoebe</i> (type 5)	E	7.26	4	0
<i>Platanus raynoldsii</i>	T	8.56	3	0
indet 0307-13 (woodybracts on axis)		non-foliar	3	0
platanoid bud scale		non-foliar	2	0
nutlike structure		non-foliar	1	0
<i>Macginicarpa</i>		non-foliar	1	0
<i>Amesoneuron</i> (fragments of palm leaves)		non-foliar	1	7
indet 0307-19 (fern with pointed pinnules)		non-foliar	2	0
indet 0307-20 (delicate fern)		non-foliar	1	0
cyclocaryoid fruit		non-foliar	1	0
" <i>Artocarpus</i> " <i>lessigiana</i>	E	8.56	0	18
indet 0410-2 (indefinite pinnate/palmate, ovate, three paris of	E	6.28	0	42
indet 0410-4 (pinnate, acute base, short petiole[ule], tertiaries opposite percurrent - aff. Leguminosae)	E	5.42	0	33
indet 0410-5 (pinnate, semicraspedodromous, secondaries	T	6.51	0	3
indet 0410-6 (pinnate, closely spaced eucamptodromous secondaries, tertiaries opposite percurrent)	E	6.51	0	2
indet 0410-11 (pinnate, strongly asymmetrical base, semicraspedodromous secondaries, large cvx/cvx teeth)	T	6.28	0	3
cf. <i>Lygodium</i> small		non-foliar	0	2
legume fruit		non-foliar	0	1

Table S4. Taxonomic composition of palynofloras from localities SW0307a,b (two subsamples of SW0307) and SW0410.

Pollen Types	Counts			Range	Origin	NOTES
	SLW0307a	SLW0307b	SLW0410			
<i>Deltoidospora</i>	8	7	0	r		
<i>Camarozonosporites</i> sp.	1	0	0	r		
<i>Laevigatosporites</i>	3	5	2	r		
<i>Punctatosporites</i>	3	1	2	E	Unknown	Eocene marker in Bighorn Basin
? <i>Lygodium</i>	0	0	8	?	Unknown	Not previously observed - fern
? <i>Stereisporites</i>	0	0	1	?	Unknown	
Bisaccate pollen	13	18	0	r		
<i>Cycadopites</i> sp.	5	0	0	r		
<i>Cycadopites scabratus</i>	2		0	r	PRB, WB	Paleocene-Eocene of Powder River and Williston Basins
<i>Monocolpopenites tranquilus</i>	0	0	4	r		
Taxodiaceae	43	30	39	r		
<i>Alnipollenites</i>	0	4	0	r		
<i>Aquilapollenites</i>	0	3	0	r		
<i>Arecipites</i>	1	0	0	r		
Betulaceae/Myricaceae	8	4	9	r		
Big tricolpate	1	0	0	?	Unknown	Not previously observed - large tricolpate pollen
? <i>Bombax</i>	1	1	0	?	Unknown	Not previously observed - ? <i>Bombax</i> not seen on Gulf Coast
<i>Brosipollis</i> sp.	0	0	1	E	Unknown	Eocene marker on the Gulf Coast
<i>Caprifoliipites</i>	1	0	0	r		
<i>Caryapollenites</i> spp.	25	8	2	r		
<i>Erdtmanipollis cretaceus</i>	0	0	1	r		
Ericaceae	1	1	0	r		
<i>Eucommia</i>	0	3	0	r		
<i>Fraxinipollenites</i>	5	3	1	r		
<i>Intratropipollenites</i> sp. cf. <i>I. tetraforaminipites</i>	0	2	0	r		
<i>Intratropipollenites vespipites</i>	1	0	0	r		
? <i>Lanagiopollis</i>	2	1	0	?	Gulf Coast	Palaecene and Eocene on the Gulf Coast.
?Leguminosae?	0	0	12	?	Unknown	Not previously observed - tricolporate/tricolpate morphotype
<i>Malvasipollis</i>	2	0	0	r		
<i>Momipites</i> spp.	11	8	0	r		
<i>Nyssa</i>	0	1	0	r		
<i>Pandaniidites typicus</i>	6	2	0	r		
<i>Periporipollenites</i> (chenopod type)	0	1	0	r		
<i>Platycarya platycaryoides</i>	0	5	0	E	Interoont.	Eocene marker in Bighorn Basin
<i>Platycarya swasticooides</i>	3	2	0	E	Interoont.	Distinctive form of <i>Platycarya</i> found on the Gulf Coast in the Eocene only
<i>Retitrescopites</i> sp.	0	0	1	r		
<i>Rousea</i>	4	6	0	r		
Sparganiaceae	0	0	4	r		
<i>Striatopollis</i> sp.	10	2	0	?	Unknown	Not previously observed - striate tricolpate pollen
TCP/tricolpate	0	0	1	?	Unknown	Not previously observed - tricolpate or tricolporate grain
<i>Tripoporipollenites granulatus</i>	0	4	0	r	PRB, WB	Paleocene-Eocene of Powder River and Williston Basins
<i>Tricolpites hians</i>	56	12	0	r		
Cf. <i>T. hians</i> (big type)	0	2	0	E	Unknown	Eocene marker on the Gulf Coast
<i>Ulimipollenites</i>	3	5	0	r		
Big psilate? TCP	0	1	0	?	Unknown	Not previously observed - large, psilate tricolpate pollen
TOTAL	219	140	88			
r - rangethrough, E - Eocene, ? - unknown						

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