

ABSTRACTS



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THE CRAZY CLAM DEPOSIT: A MODEL FOR TIME-AVERAGED MOLLUSKS IN PATAGONIA ARGENTINA

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The North-western coast of the San Matías Gulf (SMG) shows a spectacular shell deposit above the intertidal zone. This shell bed, located at La Almeja Loca Beach, consists of 2.5 meters thick deposit mostly composed by valves of *Amiantis purpurata* (Bivalvia) from the Late Holocene. The accumulation is a multievent deposit, characterized by a lateral continuity of hundreds of meters. Some reworked Foraminifera species has been found showing low abundance. Although this shell deposit could be the result of the evolution of an *A. purpurata* bank through time, some storms could be responsible for the accumulation of this shell bed. The knowledge of the origin, as well as age's ranges of the shell bed, will allow us to generate a time-averaging model for this kind of accumulation. In order to shed light to the origin of this accumulation, we are going to (1) characterize this deposit in terms of stratigraphic, taphonomic and faunistic composition; (2) interpret the origin of the deposit, (3) analyse of ages ranges and inter-quartile values to understand its time-averaging, (4) correlate it with other similar deposits from the San Matías Gulf, (5) propose a model of formation for molluscan deposits in littoral environments that could be also useful for older deposits (Paleozoic, Mesozoic, Cenozoic deposits).