

QUATERNARY PALAEOCLIMATES IN THE EASTERN CANARY ISLANDS

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Abstract

In the eastern Canary islands, aeolian formations interbedded with palaeosols have been studied. The sequences cover the last 40 ka, as evidenced by one ¹⁴C accelerator analysis and several classical radiocarbon dates. As in the Sahara, at least two wet episodes characterize isotopic stage 3. A short pedogenesis corresponds to the first deglaciation step at 15 ka. After a new aeolian episode, the Holocene wet phase begins at around 10 ka. The aeolian sedimentation is of Saharian dust, in particular during the stage 3 dry episode(s). U/Th and OSL dating are current.