

PLIOCENE CHELONIAN FOSSIL EGGS FROM GRAN CANARIA, CANARY ISLANDS

Karl F. Hirsch^a & Luis Felipe Lopez-Jurado^b

^a University of Colorado Museum, Campus Box 218, Boulder, Colorado 80309, USA.

^b Departamento de Biología, División de Medicina, Colegio Universitario de Las Palmas, 35016 Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Islas Canarias, Spain.

Abstract

Thirty years ago Macau-Vilar (1958) reported chelonian eggs from Gran Canaria. Analysis of the microstructure of these eggs corroborates this identification. Field studies show that these eggs, which were originally thought to be Miocene in age, are from Pliocene pyroclastic sediments about 3.5–4.5 my old.