

A NEW RECORD OF *MALAYAEASPORA COSTATA* TRIVEDI, AMBWANI & KAR FROM THE TERTIARY SEDIMENTS OF MEGHALAYA AND ASSAM

Trivedi, Ambwani and Kar (1981) instituted a new spore genus *Malayaeaspora* from the Tertiary (late Eocene) coal of Kuala Lumpur, Malaya and described under it a single species *M. costata*. During the course of the present palynological investigations of Barail and Surma (Oligocene-Lower Miocene) sediments of Sonapur-Badarpur Road Section, Meghalaya and Assam, quite a number of costate trilete miospores from the Bhuban Formation, (Lower Miocene) were recovered. They are identified as *M. costata*.

Malayaeaspora costata Trivedi *et al.* (1981) is an important element of the Bhuban Formation assemblage. It dominates the upper part of the formation. *M. costata*-Cenozoone has also been instituted. Stratigraphical results concerning this cenozoone will be published elsewhere. So far, the occurrence of *M. costata* was reported (TRIVEDI, AMBWANI & KAR, 1982) from the late Eocene sediments of Malaya but the present study reveals that it is distributed in the Lower Miocene sediments of the Bhuban Formation as well. Thus the present observation extends the stratigraphical range of *M. costata* up to Lower Miocene.

Genus—**Malayaeaspora** Trivedi, Ambwani & Kar, 1981

Type species—*Malayaeaspora costata* Trivedi *et al.*, 1981

Malayaeaspora costata Trivedi *et al.*, 1981

P. 1, Figs. 1-4

Description—Miospores triangular to sub-triangular, apices broadly rounded, interapical sides \pm convex. Size range 55-70 μ m. Trilete mark distinct, Y-rays reaching 3/4 of the spore radius. Exine laevigate on proximal side, distally verrucose-costate; proximal side thinner, concave, distal side thicker, convex; ornamentation on distal side well-developed. Costae in some specimens raised, distinctly running parallel to each other without any break, rarely branched. In some specimens verrucae closely placed and aligned in rows simulating costae.

Occurrence—Bhuban Formation, Surma Group, Lower Miocene and Tertiary coal of Malaya.

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REFERENCES

- TRIVEDI, B. S., AMBWANI, K. & KAR, R. K. (1981). *Malayaeaspora costata* Trivedi *et al.*, from the Tertiary coal of Malaya. *Curr. Sci.*, **50**(20) : 910-911.
TRIVEDI, B. S., AMBWANI, K. & KAR, R. K. (1982). Palynological studies on the coal from Malaya with comments on its age. *J. Indian bot. Soc.*, **61**(4) : 432-443.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE 1

(All figures $\times 500$).

Figs. 1-4 *Malayaeaspora costata* Trivedi *et al.*, Slide nos. 8226/2, Coordinates : 52.5×98.8 ; 8227/5, Coordinates : 47.6×109.5 ; 8228/2, Coordinates : 43.0×100.7 ; 8229.2, Coordinates : 60.9×105.6 .

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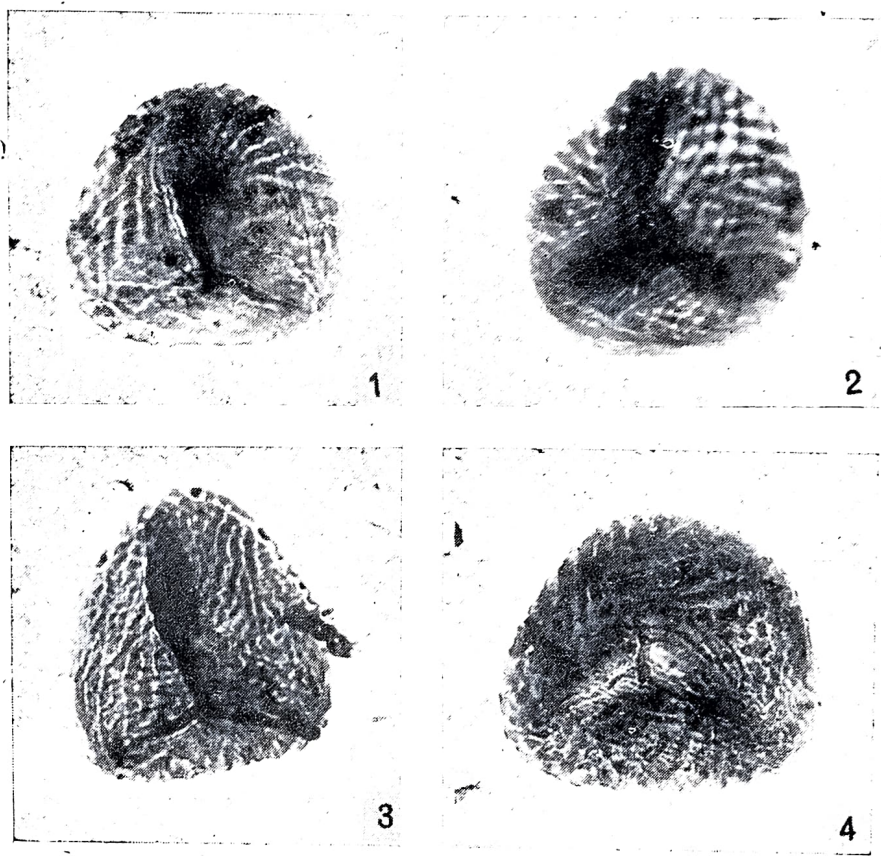


PLATE 1