

NEW LOCALITIES OF THE FOSSIL WOODS IN THE UPPER NEOGENE DEPOSITS OF THE TAMAN' PENINSULA (RUSSIA)

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New collection of the Late Neogene woods from three localities was gathered during the geological field-trip in the Taman' Peninsula during the last summer period. The first locality is situated in the north coast of the Taman' Peninsula, close to the town of Taman'. The deposits are represented by the thick clay layer of the Meotian regional stage. There was found single low-petrified trunk of the wood; which was located vertically to enclosing rocks. Petrified wood from the locality of the north coast is related to Angiosperms, due to the vessels discovered in the thin section during the investigation using scanning electron microscope (SEM) CAMSCAN. The second locality is situated on the south coast of Taman' Peninsula, 2.5 km eastward the Gelezny Rog cape. There the monotonous clay layer has been intercalated by argillites. The age of the rocks has been determined to Pontian time interval. Low-petrified wood trunks of the conifers were vertically oriented in the layer. Third locality is situated near the Gelezny Rog cape. In the ferruginous sandstones of the Cimmerian regional stage, the coniferous fossil woods have been found. Two methods has been applied during the study of the wood remains – using standard SEM and microsections study. Volumetric anatomical structures of radial and tangential sections of the wood can be observed in SEM, but it is very difficult to install the cross wood section for SEM. There are six coniferous wood remains from two last localities, which were studied by using SEM. The preliminary fossil wood data from three new localities point to the presence of conifers such as *Taxodioxylon* and some of Angiosperms.

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