Definition and use of the Bormidian stage.
A critical review 1)

By Maria Bianca Cita 2)

With 4 fig.

Abstract: The Bormidian stage was defined by Pareto (1865) in Southern Piedmont, to represent the lower part of the Miocene subsystem. The formations included in the Bormidian, however, are Oligocene in age as demonstrated by their fossil content. A stratotype section was designated at Spigno Monferrato by Vervloet (1966), who also studied the foraminiferal content of the section.

A discussion of the Spigno section, described by Vervloet (1966) and by Gelati (1968) and of the Millesimo section, described by Lorenz (1964, 1969) and by Blow & Smout (1968) leads to a criticism of the recent use of the term Bormidian and to some factual proposals.

Riassunto: Il piano Bormidiano, definito da Pareto (1865) nel Piemonte meridionale, è stato proposto originariamente come suddivisione inferiore del Miocene. Le formazioni in esso incluse, tuttavia, contengono faune chiaramente oligoceniche.


Introduction

The main purpose of the present paper is to give a critical review of the present state of our knowledge concerning the Bormidian stage in its type-area.

A correlation with the type-sections of the Chattian and Rupelian stages, as defined in Northern Europe, is beyond our present intentions; this will be illustrated better by the investigations now in progress on the Foraminifera 3) and on the calcareous nannoplankton 4) of the Spigno Monferrato and Millesimo sections.

---

1) With a grant of Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Comitato per le Scienze Geologiche e Minerarie.
2) Institute of Paleontology of the University of Milan, Italy, Director Prof. C. Rossi Ronchetti.
3) By the present author and collaborators, University of Milan.
4) By Dr. E. Martini and Dr. C. Müller, University of Frankfurt.