Chapter 25

Aptian–Albian Carbonate Platforms: Central Basque–Cantabrian Basin, Northern Spain

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SUMMARY

Name: Gorbea massif carbonate platforms
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Location: From 2° 35' to 55' W longitude and 42° 97' to 43° 07' N latitude, Bizkaia, northern Spain
Geologic time interval: Aptian–middle Albian
Tectonic-sedimentary setting: Platforms growing on tectonic blocks
Basin type: Pericratonic
Paleoclimate: Humid, subtropical
Platform type: Ramp to rimmed shelf to ramp evolution
Platform geometry: Tabular to stepwise prograding; 50–250 m thick, at least 5 km wide, and 11 km long
Facies and fossils: Fine- to coarse-grained carbonates, minor amounts of marls and sandstones; rudists, corals, chondrodontids, orbitolinids, pelagic and benthic foraminifera, and algae
Systems tracts: Siliciclastic shelf, carbonate bank interior, carbonate ramp, platform margin, foreslope, basin
Stacking patterns: Progradational, retrogradational, and aggradational parasequences