

STRATIGRAPHIC TRAPS IN THE WILCOX AND YEGUA OF THE UPPER GULF COAST

Stratigraphic loss of porosity and permeability accounts for oil production in the Milbur Wilcox Field, Milam County, Texas, and in several Yegua fields of central Beauregard Parish, Louisiana.

The Milbur field produces from a barrier bar which has formed a pure stratigraphic trap (one whose edges are entirely controlled by lithologic or permeability discontinuities). It is six miles long, two miles wide and has a maximum thickness of 30 feet. Only the updip lagoonal edge is productive. Although the field is small, it is significant because it extends a producing stratigraphic trend 100 miles to the north.

Combination stratigraphic-structural traps are common in the Yegua of Beauregard Parish. Longville and East Longville produce from dip-fed distributary channel sandstones. Hurricane Creek production is trapped in a strike-oriented redistributed sandstone which developed on a low relief roll-over fold along a major fault.

Environmental interpretations can be made by using a combination of subsurface and petrographic techniques. Isopach maps and electric log cross sections demonstrate the external form of the sandstone body. Quartz size/quartz content plots of sandstone cores show texture and composition which help confirm the interpretations made from the logs. The electric log character of strike-fed and dip-fed sandstone bodies can be diagnostic of depositional environment.



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Biographical Sketch

Stewart Chuber received a Geological Engineers Degree from the Colorado School of Mines in 1952, a Master of Science Degree in Geology from Stanford University in 1953 and a Ph. D. in Geology from Stanford in 1961.

He went to work in 1953 for Magnolia Petroleum Corp. in Midland, Texas as a geological trainee and worked from 1954-1956 as a field geologist and later worked from 1957-1958 as a party Chief in Libya for Mobil Oil. In 1956 he returned to school for his doctorate and after finishing the course requirements joined General Petroleum Corporation (now Mobil Oil) in California. From 1961 to 1965 he worked for the company as a subsurface geologist in Midland, California and Midland, Texas. He was a consulting geologist in Midland from 1965-1968 and came to Houston in 1968 as a Division Geologist for Buttes Gas & Oil Company. In December 1970 he left Buttes to set up offices as a consultant in Houston.

Stewart's professional activities include membership in the Houston Geological Society, AAPG, GSA, SEPM, and SIPES. He has been active in many local societies as the chairman of various committees and seminars, editor of various proceedings and symposiums and also as a lecturer. He has also published five papers.