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SYMPOSIUM

Deciphering mid-Cretaceous terrestrial ecosystems

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The onset and evolutionary success of angiosperms led to a re-organization of terrestrial ecosystems in the middle Cretaceous. Coevolutionary events of plants and animals provided a basis for radiation and speciation. Archaic gymnosperms declined and modern gymnosperm and fern families diversified in the shadow of the angiosperms. As a result, there was tremendous macroscopic change in terrestrial ecosystems that influenced many groups of insects, fungi and liverworts, and probably also amphibians and mammals.

This session is dedicated to current progress in the study of mid-Cretaceous terrestrial ecosystems and to the systematics and evolution of relevant late Mesozoic groups of terrestrial organisms. Contributions from the fields of botany, zoology, palaeoecology including plant-animal-interactions and palaeoclimatology that aim to enlighten mid-Cretaceous terrestrial ecosystems and biota will be considered for this session.