

Resúmenes de las comunicaciones de las Jornadas Temáticas de Arqueología de Andalucía "El Pleistoceno: cambio climático, dinámica de dispersiones y arqueología". Reunión de la Sociedad Internacional del Cuaternario (Granada, abril de 2003)

THE INSECTIVORES OF CASABLANCA 1 AND 3 (ALMENARA, CASTELLÓN, SPAIN) AND THE PALEOENVIRONMENTAL CONCLUSIONS BASED ON THEIR STUDY.

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The karstic complex of Almenara-Casablanca includes one Miocene and two Pleistocene infilled fissures. Those Pleistocene ones are known as Casablanca 1 and Casablanca 3. The locality of Casablanca 1 has been attributed in age to the Plio-Pleistocene boundary, while the sediments of Casablanca 3 were dated as somewhat older than 1.0 Million years. This way it is possible to compare two different faunas of the lower Pleistocene at the same place.

Hundreds of vertebrate fossil remains have been recovered from the Almenara's karstic fillings. Among them, the micromammals are the most frequent. Mainly Rodentia, but also Lagomorpha, Chiroptera and Insectivora are well represented in both sites. The insectivores (Insectivora, Mammalia) show great differences concerning to their representation, diversity and proportionality from one to another site. Their study sheds light on many aspects related to the evolution of the local conditions.