

# BETA ANALYTIC INC.

## RADIOCARBON DATING SERVICES

Dr. JERRY J. STIPP  
Dr. MURRY A. TAMERS  
CO-CHAIRMEN

DARDEN G. HOOD, P.G.  
General Manager

RONALD E. HATFIELD  
Laboratory Manager

CHRISTOPHER PATRICK  
TERESA A. ZILKO-MILLER  
Associate Managers

May 16, 1995

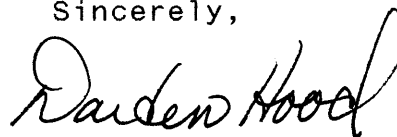
Dr. Michael D. Hylland  
Utah Geological Survey  
Applied Geology Program  
2363 South Foothill Drive  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84109

Dear Dr. Hylland:

Please find enclosed the results on material recently submitted for radiocarbon dating. This package includes the final date report, a letter outlining our analytical and reporting procedures, a glossary of pretreatment terms, calendar calibration information, billing documents and peripheral items to use with future submittals. Results were obtained on the portion of suitable carbon remaining after any necessary chemical and mechanical pretreatments of the submitted material.

As always, if you have any specific questions, please do not hesitate to fax, e-mail, or call us. We thank you for allowing us to participate in your research and appreciate your prompt attention to payment.

Sincerely,



### ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

The sample analyses proceeded normally and provided plenty of carbon for accurate measurements using the applied methodology.

Keep an eye out for literature being mailed to you at the end of May. It includes our new brochure, price list, and sample data sheets.



**BETA ANALYTIC INC.**

DR. J.J. STIPP and DR. M.A. TAMERS

UNIVERSITY BRANCH  
4985 S.W. 74 COURT  
MIAMI, FLORIDA, USA 33155  
PH: 305/667-5167 FAX: 305/663-0964  
E-mail: beta@analytic.win.net

## REPORT OF RADIOCARBON DATING ANALYSES

FOR: Dr. Michael D. Hylland  
Utah Geological Survey

DATE RECEIVED: Auth. April 7, 1995  
DATE REPORTED: May 16, 1995

| Sample Data                                                                                                                                                              | Measured<br>C14 Age | C13/C12<br>Ratio | Conventional<br>C14 Age (*) |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Beta-80450                                                                                                                                                               | 7310 +/- 60 BP      | -25.0* o/oo      | 7310 +/- 60* BP             |
| SAMPLE #: FST2-RC1<br>ANALYSIS: radiometric-standard<br>MATERIAL/PRETREATMENT:(organic sediment): acid washes<br>COMMENT: low carbon sediment requiring special handling |                     |                  |                             |
| Beta-80452                                                                                                                                                               | 1200 +/- 40 BP      | -25.0* o/oo      | 1200 +/- 40* BP             |
| SAMPLE #: FST3-RC1<br>ANALYSIS: radiometric-standard<br>MATERIAL/PRETREATMENT:(organic sediment): acid washes<br>COMMENT: low carbon sediment requiring special handling |                     |                  |                             |
| Beta-80453                                                                                                                                                               | 8350 +/- 80 BP      | -25.0* o/oo      | 8350 +/- 80* BP             |
| SAMPLE #: FST3-RC2<br>ANALYSIS: radiometric-standard<br>MATERIAL/PRETREATMENT:(organic sediment): acid washes<br>COMMENT: low carbon sediment requiring special handling |                     |                  |                             |
| Beta-80454                                                                                                                                                               | 7480 +/- 70 BP      | -25.0* o/oo      | 7480 +/- 70* BP             |
| SAMPLE #: FST3-RC3<br>ANALYSIS: radiometric-standard<br>MATERIAL/PRETREATMENT:(organic sediment): acid washes<br>COMMENT: low carbon sediment requiring special handling |                     |                  |                             |
| Beta-80455                                                                                                                                                               | 2440 +/- 70 BP      | -25.0* o/oo      | 2440 +/- 70* BP             |
| SAMPLE #: FST4-RC1<br>ANALYSIS: radiometric-standard<br>MATERIAL/PRETREATMENT:(organic sediment): acid washes<br>COMMENT: low carbon sediment requiring special handling |                     |                  |                             |

NOTE: It is important to read the calendar calibration information and to use the calendar calibrated results (reported separately) when interpreting these results in AD/BC terms.

Dates are reported as RCYBP (radiocarbon years before present, "present" = 1950A.D.). By International convention, the modern reference standard was 95% of the C14 content of the National Bureau of Standards' Oxalic Acid & calculated using the Libby C14 half life (5568 years). Quoted errors represent 1 standard deviation statistics (68% probability) & are based on combined measurements of the sample, background, and modern reference standards.

Measured C13/C12 ratios were calculated relative to the PDB-1 international standard and the RCYBP ages were normalized to -25 per mil. If the ratio and age are accompanied by an (\*), then the C13/C12 value was estimated, based on values typical of the material type. The quoted results are NOT calibrated to calendar years. Calibration to calendar years should be calculated using the Conventional C14 age.

# CALIBRATION OF RADIOCARBON AGE TO CALENDAR YEARS

(Variables: est. C13/C12=-25.0:lab. mult=1)

Laboratory Number: Beta-80450

Conventional radiocarbon age\*: 7310 +/- 60 BP

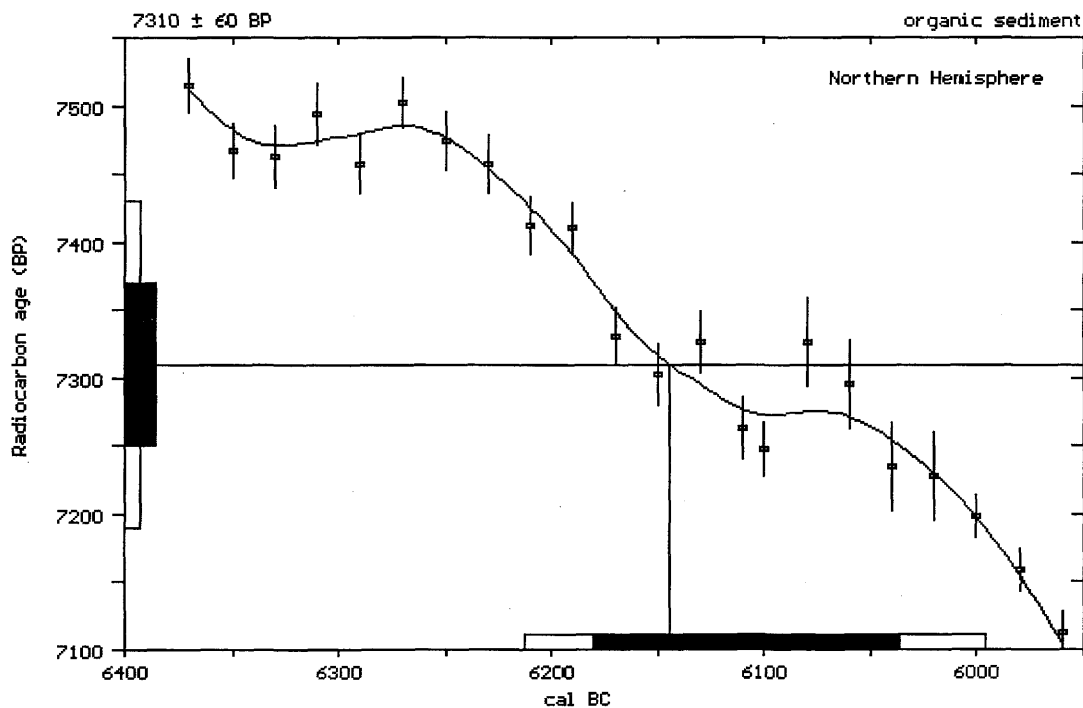
Calibrated results: cal BC 6215 to 5995  
(2 sigma, 95% probability)

\* C13/C12 ratio estimated

Intercept data:

Intercept of radiocarbon age  
with calibration curve: cal BC 6145

1 sigma calibrated results: cal BC 6180 to 6035  
(68% probability)



## References:

*Pretoria Calibration Curve for Short Lived Samples*

Vogel, J. C., Fuls, A., Visser, E. and Becker, B., 1993, *Radiocarbon* 35(1), p73-86

*A Simplified Approach to Calibrating C14 Dates*

Talma, A. S. and Vogel, J. C., 1993, *Radiocarbon* 35(2), p317-322

*Calibration - 1993*

Stuiver, M., Long, A., Kra, R. S. and Devine, J. M., 1993, *Radiocarbon* 35(1)

## Beta Analytic Radiocarbon Dating Laboratory

4985 S.W. 74th Court, Miami, Florida 33155 ■ Tel: (305)667-5167 ■ Fax: (305)386-0964 ■ E-mail: beta@analytic.win.net

# CALIBRATION OF RADIOCARBON AGE TO CALENDAR YEARS

(Variables: est. C13/C12=-25.0:lab. mult=1)

Laboratory Number: Beta-80452

Conventional radiocarbon age\*: 1200 +/- 40 BP

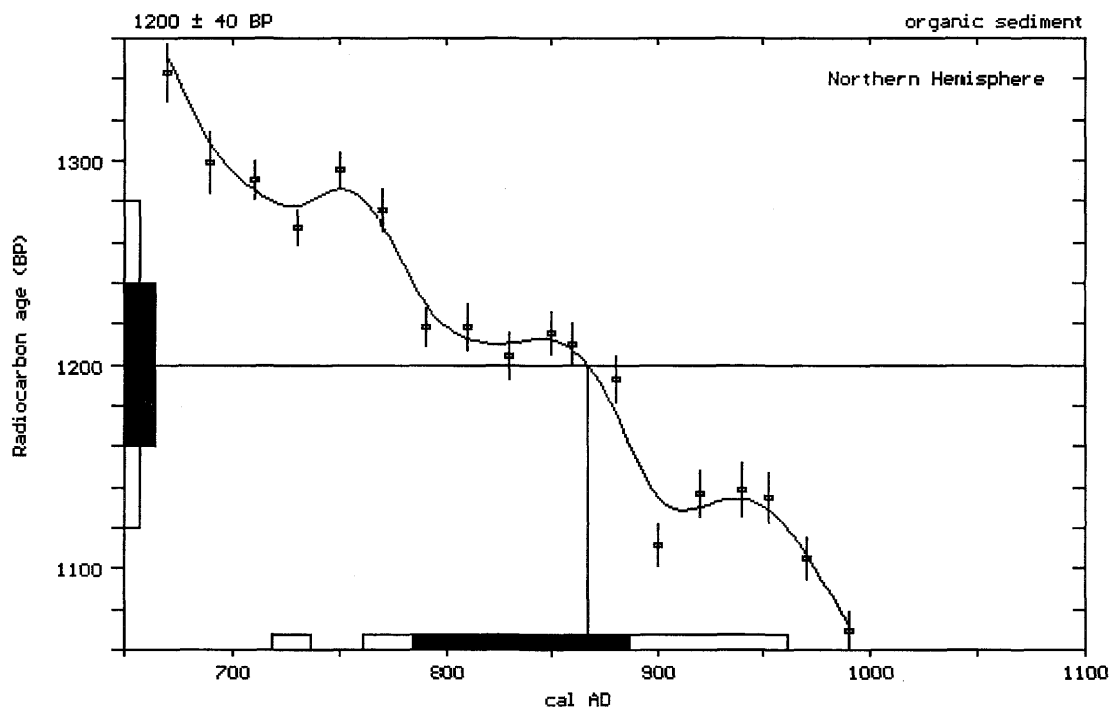
Calibrated results:  
(2 sigma, 95% probability) cal AD 720 to 735 and  
cal AD 760 to 960

\* C13/C12 ratio estimated

Intercept data:

Intercept of radiocarbon age  
with calibration curve: cal AD 865

1 sigma calibrated results: cal AD 785 to 885  
(68% probability)



## References:

*Pretoria Calibration Curve for Short Lived Samples*

Vogel, J. C., Fuls, A., Visser, E. and Becker, B., 1993, *Radiocarbon* 35(1), p73-86

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# CALIBRATION OF RADIOCARBON AGE TO CALENDAR YEARS

(Variables: est. C13/C12=-25.0:lab. mult=1)

Laboratory Number: Beta-80453

Conventional radiocarbon age\*: 8350 +/- 80 BP

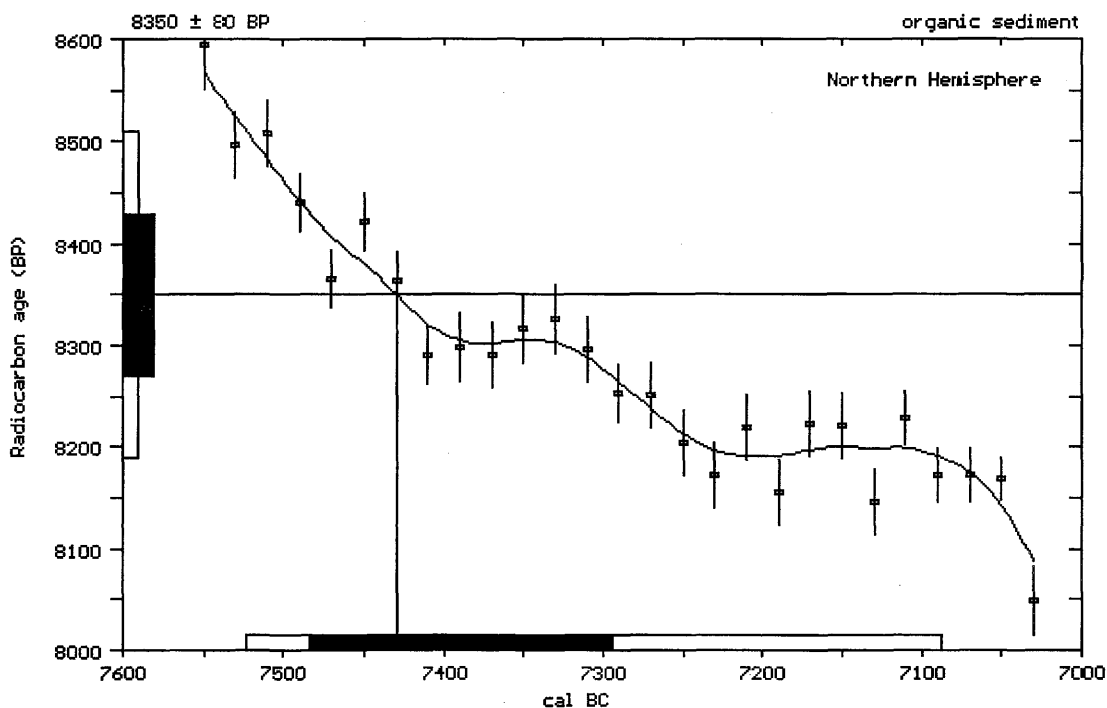
Calibrated results: cal BC 7525 to 7090  
(2 sigma, 95% probability)

\* C13/C12 ratio estimated

Intercept data:

Intercept of radiocarbon age  
with calibration curve: cal BC 7430

1 sigma calibrated results: cal BC 7485 to 7295  
(68% probability)



## References:

*Pretoria Calibration Curve for Short Lived Samples*

Vogel, J. C., Fuls, A., Visser, E. and Becker, B., 1993, *Radiocarbon* 35(1), p73-86

*A Simplified Approach to Calibrating C14 Dates*

Talma, A. S. and Vogel, J. C., 1993, *Radiocarbon* 35(2), p317-322

*Calibration - 1993*

Stuiver, M., Long, A., Kra, R. S. and Devine, J. M., 1993, *Radiocarbon* 35(1)

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# CALIBRATION OF RADIOCARBON AGE TO CALENDAR YEARS

(Variables: est. C13/C12=-25.0:lab. mult=1)

Laboratory Number: Beta-80454

Conventional radiocarbon age\*: 7480 +/- 70 BP

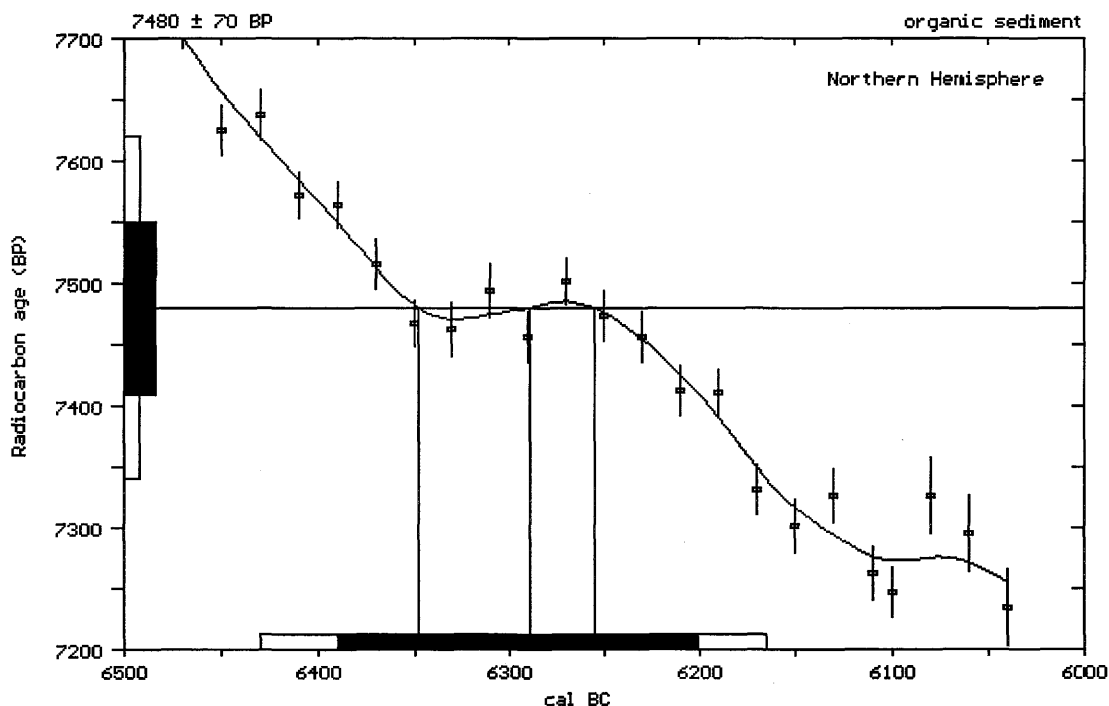
Calibrated results:  
(2 sigma, 95% probability) cal BC 6430 to 6165

\* C13/C12 ratio estimated

Intercept data:

Intercepts of radiocarbon age  
with calibration curve: cal BC 6350 and  
cal BC 6290 and  
cal BC 6255

1 sigma calibrated results:  
(68% probability) cal BC 6390 to 6200



## References:

*Pretoria Calibration Curve for Short Lived Samples*

Vogel, J. C., Fuls, A., Visser, E. and Becker, B., 1993, *Radiocarbon* 35(1), p73-86

*A Simplified Approach to Calibrating C14 Dates*

Talma, A. S. and Vogel, J. C., 1993, *Radiocarbon* 35(2), p317-322

*Calibration - 1993*

Stuiver, M., Long, A., Kra, R. S. and Devine, J. M., 1993, *Radiocarbon* 35(1)

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# CALIBRATION OF RADIOCARBON AGE TO CALENDAR YEARS

(Variables: est. C13/C12=-25.0;lab. mult=1)

Laboratory Number: Beta-80455

Conventional radiocarbon age\*: 2440 +/- 70 BP

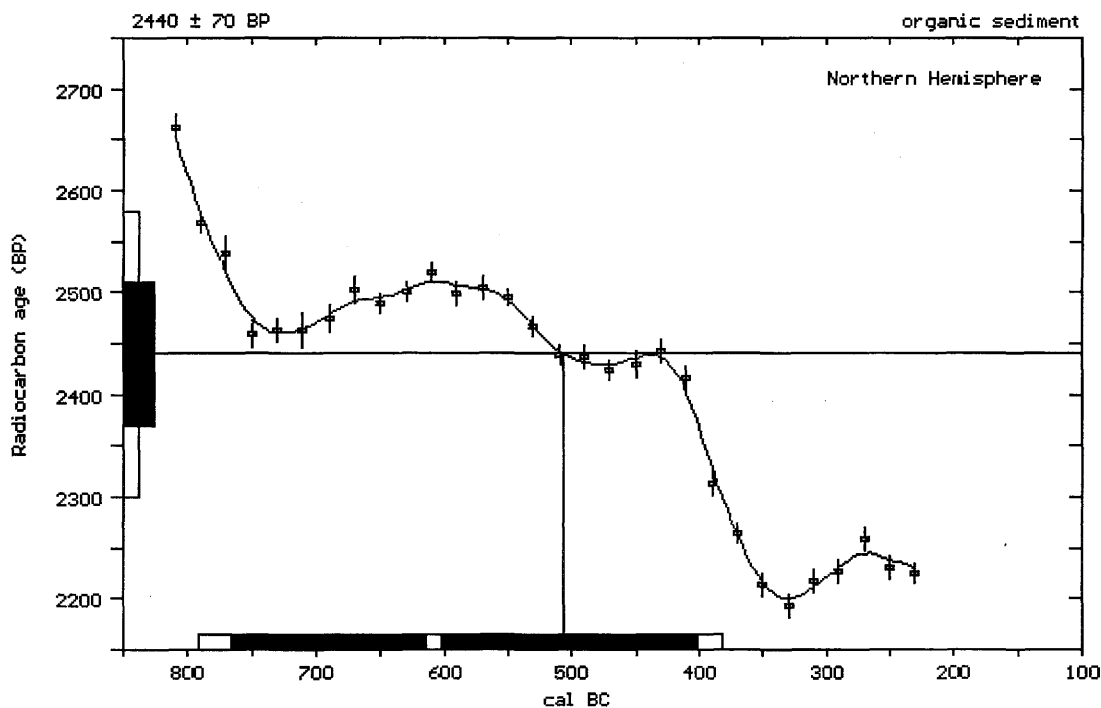
Calibrated results:  
(2 sigma, 95% probability) cal BC 790 to 380

\* C13/C12 ratio estimated

Intercept data:

Intercept of radiocarbon age  
with calibration curve: cal BC 505

1 sigma calibrated results:  
(68% probability) cal BC 765 to 615 and  
cal BC 600 to 400



## References:

*Pretoria Calibration Curve for Short Lived Samples*

Vogel, J. C., Fuls, A., Visser, E. and Becker, B., 1993, *Radiocarbon* 35(1), p73-86

*A Simplified Approach to Calibrating C14 Dates*

Talma, A. S. and Vogel, J. C., 1993, *Radiocarbon* 35(2), p317-322

*Calibration - 1993*

Stuiver, M., Long, A., Kra, R. S. and Devine, J. M., 1993, *Radiocarbon* 35(1)

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### ANALYTICAL PROCEDURES AND FINAL REPORT

#### FINAL REPORT

This package includes the final date report, this statement outlining our analytical procedures, a glossary of pretreatment terms, calendar calibration information, billing documents (containing balance/credit information and the number of samples submitted within the yearly discount period), and peripheral items to use with future submittals. The final report includes the individual analysis method, the delivery basis, the material type and the individual pretreatments applied. Please recall any correspondences or communications we may have had regarding sample integrity, size, special considerations or conversions from one analytical technique to another (e.g. radiometric to AMS). The final report has also been sent by fax or e-mail, where available.

#### PRETREATMENT

Results were obtained on the portion of suitable carbon remaining after any necessary chemical and mechanical pretreatments of the submitted material. Pretreatments were applied, where necessary, to isolate  $^{14}\text{C}$  which may best represent the time event of interest. Individual pretreatments are listed on the report next to each result and are defined in the enclosed glossary. When interpreting the results, it is important to consider the pretreatments. Some samples cannot be fully pretreated making their  $^{14}\text{C}$  ages more subjective than samples which can be fully pretreated. Some materials receive no pretreatments. Please read the pretreatment glossary.

#### ANALYSIS

Materials measured by the radiometric technique were analyzed by synthesizing sample carbon to benzene (92% C), measuring for  $^{14}\text{C}$  content in a scintillation spectrometer, and then calculating for radiocarbon age. If the Extended Counting Service was used, the  $^{14}\text{C}$  content was measured for a greatly extended period of time. AMS results were derived from reduction of sample carbon to graphite (100 %C), along with standards and backgrounds. The graphite was then sent for  $^{14}\text{C}$  measurement in an accelerator-mass-spectrometer located at one of three collaborating laboratories; Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (CAMS) in California, Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule University (ETH) in Zürich, or Oxford University (Ox) in Oxford, England.

#### CALENDAR CALIBRATION

The "Conventional C14 Age (\*)" is the result after applying C13/C12 corrections to the measured age and is the most appropriate radiocarbon age (the "\*" is discussed at the bottom of the final report). Applicable calendar calibrations are included for organic materials and fresh water carbonates between 0 and 10,000 BP and for marine carbonates between 0 and 8,300 BP. If certain calibrations are not included with this report, the results were either too young, too old, or inappropriate for calibration. It is important to read the calibration explanation sheet before interpreting the results (especially for calcareous materials).

BETA ANALYTIC INC.  
RADIOCARBON DATING LABORATORY  
CALIBRATED C-14 DATING RESULTS

Calibrations of radiocarbon age determinations are applied to convert BP results to calendar years. The short term difference between the two is caused by fluctuations in the heliomagnetic modulation of the galactic cosmic radiation and, recently, large scale burning of fossil fuels and nuclear devices testing. Geomagnetic variations are the probable cause of longer term differences.

The parameters used for the corrections have been obtained through precise analyses of hundreds of samples taken from known-age tree rings of oak, sequoia, and fir up to 7,200 BP. The parameters for older samples, up to 22,000 BP, as well as for all marine samples, have been inferred from other evidence. Calibrations are presently provided for terrestrial samples to about 10,000 BP and marine samples to about 8,300 BP.

The Pretoria Calibration Procedure program has been chosen for these dendrocalibrations. It uses splines through the tree-ring data as calibration curves, which eliminates a large part of the statistical scatter of the actual data points. The spline calibration allows adjustment of the average curve by a quantified closeness-of-fit parameter to the measured data points. On the following calibration curves, the solid bars represent one sigma statistics (68% probability) and the hollow bars represent two sigma statistics (95% probability). Marine carbonate samples that have been corrected for  $\delta^{13/12}\text{C}$ , have also been corrected for both global and local geographic reservoir effects (as published in Radiocarbon, Volume 35, Number 1, 1993) prior to the calibration. Marine carbonates that have not been corrected for  $\delta^{13/12}\text{C}$ , have been adjusted by an assumed value of 0 ‰ in addition to the reservoir corrections. Reservoir corrections for fresh water carbonates are usually unknown and are generally not accounted for in those calibrations. In the absence of measured  $\delta^{13/12}\text{C}$  ratios, a typical value of -5 ‰ was assumed for freshwater carbonates. There are separate calibration data for the Northern and Southern Hemisphere. Variables used in each calibration are listed below the title of each calibration page.

(Caveat: the calibrations assume that the material dated was living for exactly ten or twenty years (e.g. a collection of 10 or 20 individual tree rings taken from the outer portion of a tree that was cut down to produce the sample in the feature dated). For other materials, the maximum and minimum calibrated age ranges given by the computer program are uncertain. The possibility of an "old wood effect" must also be considered, as well as the potential inclusion of some younger material in the total sample. Since the vast majority of samples dated probably will not fulfill the ten/twenty-year-criterium and, in addition, an old wood effect or young carbon inclusion might not be excludable, these dendrocalibration results should be used only for illustrative purposes. In the case of carbonates, reservoir correction is theoretical and the local variations are real, highly variable and dependant on provenience. The age ranges and, especially, the intercept ages generated by the program must be considered as approximations.)

# EXPLANATION OF THE BETA ANALYTIC DENDRO-CALIBRATION PRINTOUT

## CALIBRATION OF RADICARBON AGE TO CALENDAR YEARS

Laboratory Number: Beta-12345

Radiocarbon age: 2400 +/- 60 BP

The uncalibrated radiocarbon age ( $\pm 1$  sigma)

The recommended calibration age range to be used for interpretation

Calibrated result: cal BC 770 to 380  
(2 sigma, 95% probability)

Intercept data:

Intercept of radiocarbon age with calibration curve:

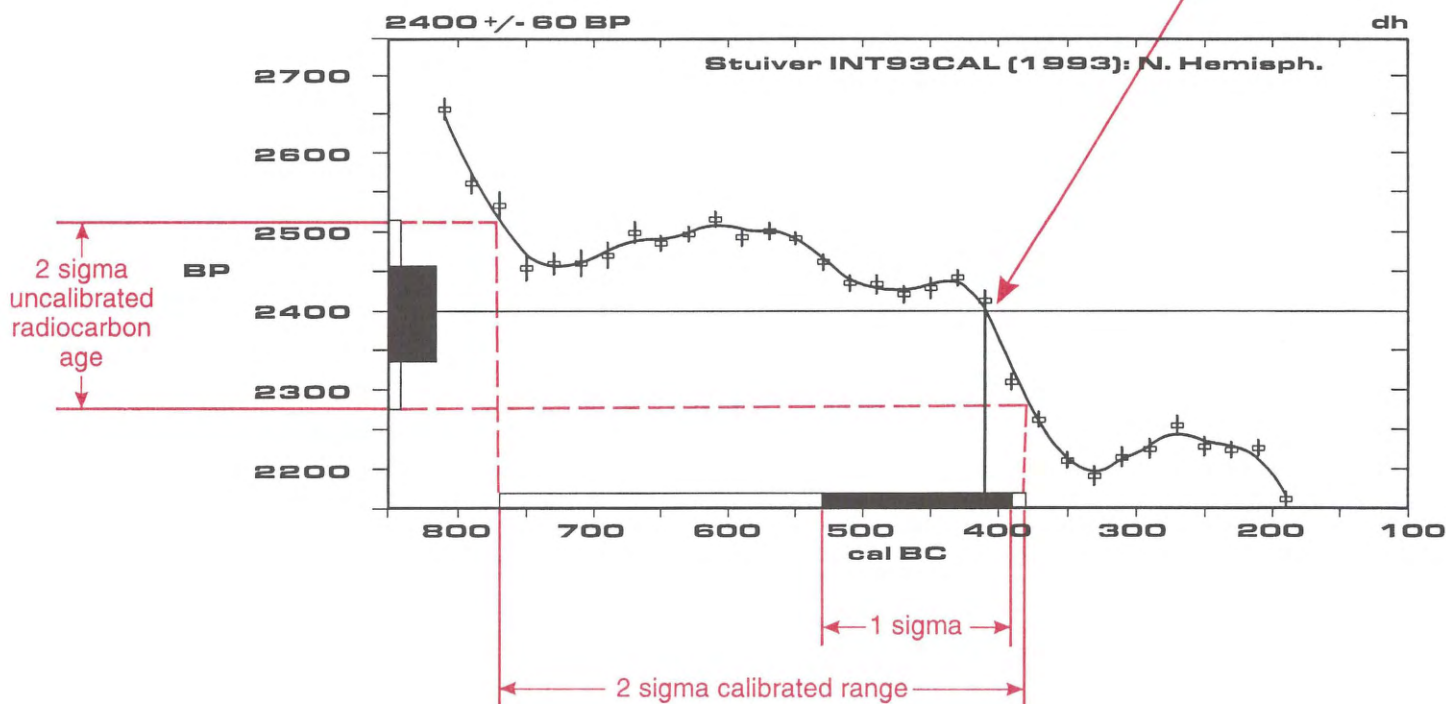
cal BC 410

The calibration result of the radiocarbon age  $\pm 1$  sigma

1 sigma calibrated result: (68% probability)

cal BC 530 to 390

The intercept between the radiocarbon age & the calibrated calendar time scale curve



### References:

Vogel, J. C., Fuls, A., Visser, E. and Becker, B., 1993, *Radiocarbon* 33(1), p73-86  
Talma, A. S. and Vogel, J. C., 1993, *Radiocarbon* 35(2), p317-322  
Stuiver, M., Long, A., Kra, R. S. and Devine, J. M., 1993, *Radiocarbon* 35(1)

Results prepared by: -

Beta Analytic, Inc., 4985 S.W. 74th Court, Miami, Florida 33155

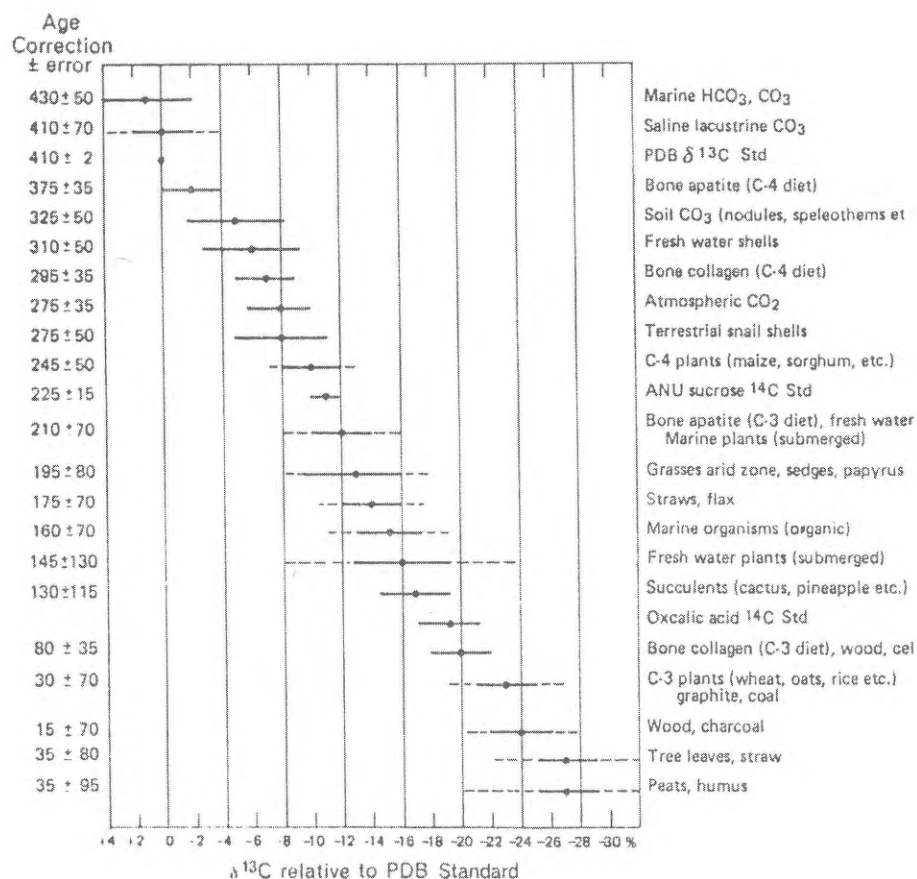
### Reporting results (recommended):

1. List the radiocarbon age with its associated 1 sigma standard deviation in a table and designate it as such.
2. Discussion of ages in the text should focus on the 2 sigma calibrated range.

Derivation of a radiometric or accelerator dendro-calibrated (CALENDAR) date requires use of a CONVENTIONAL radiocarbon date (Stuiver and Polach)<sup>1</sup>. The conventional date is a basic radiocarbon date that has been normalized to the modern standard through the use of C13/C12 ratios\* (analyzed or estimated). The statistical error (+/-) on an analyzed C13/C12 value is quite small and does not contribute significantly to the combined error on the date. However, use of an estimated C13/C12 ratio for an unknown sample may incur a very large combined error term. This is clearly illustrated in the figure below (Gupta & Polach; modified by J. Head)<sup>2</sup> where the possible range of C13/C12 values for a particular material type may be so large as to preclude any practical application or correction.

In cases where analyzed C13/C12 values are not available, we have provided (for illustration) dendro-calibrations assuming a mean "chart" value, but without an estimated error term.

Where a sample carbon reservoir different from the modern oxalic acid/wood modern standard (e.g. shell) is involved, a further correction must be employed; the necessary variables are displayed on the calibration sheet.



<sup>1</sup>Stuiver, M. and Polach, H.A., 1977. Discussion: Reporting of 14-C data, Radiocarbon, 19, 355-363.

<sup>2</sup>Gupta S.K. and Polach H.A., 1985. Radiocarbon dating practices at ANU Handbook, p.114. Radiocarbon Laboratory, Research School of Pacific Studies, ANU, Canberra.

\*Radiocarbon is incorporated into various materials by different pathways and this introduces differing degrees of isotopic fractionation. The C13/C12 ratio of any material is the millesimal difference of the sample to the carbonate PDB standard and is directly related to the C14/C12 ratio. The degree of sample C-14 enrichment or depletion then is normalized to that of the modern standard.

## PRETREATMENT GLOSSARY

Pretreatment of submitted materials is required to eliminate secondary carbon components. These components, if not eliminated, could result in a radiocarbon date which is too young or too old. Pretreatment does not ensure that the radiocarbon date will represent the time event of interest. This is determined by the sample integrity. The old wood effect, burned intrusive roots, bioturbation, secondary deposition, secondary biogenic activity incorporating recent carbon (bacteria) and the analysis of multiple components of differing age are just some examples of potential problems. The pretreatment philosophy is to reduce the sample to a single component, where possible, to minimize the added subjectivity associated with these types of problems.

### "acid/alkali/acid"

The sample was first gently crushed/dispersed in deionized water. It was then given hot HCl acid washes to eliminate carbonates and alkali washes (NaOH) to remove secondary organic acids. The alkali washes were followed by a final acid rinse to neutralize the solution prior to drying. Chemical concentrations, temperatures, exposure times, and number of repetitions, were applied accordingly with the uniqueness of the sample. Each chemical solution was neutralized prior to application of the next. During these serial rinses, mechanical contaminants such as associated sediments and rootlets were eliminated. This type of pretreatment is considered a "full pretreatment".

Typically applied to: charcoal, wood, some peats, some sediments, textiles

### "acid washes"

Surface area was increased as much as possible. Solid chunks were crushed, fibrous materials were shredded, and sediments were dispersed. Acid (HCl) was applied repeatedly to ensure the absence of carbonates. Chemical concentrations, temperatures, exposure times, and number of repetitions, were applied accordingly with the uniqueness of each sample. The sample, for a number of reasons, could not be subjected to alkali washes to ensure the absence of secondary organic acids. The most common reason is that the primary carbon is soluble in the alkali. Dating results reflect the total organic content of the analyzed material. Their accuracy depends on the researcher's ability to subjectively eliminate potential contaminants based on contextual facts.

Typically applied to: organic sediments, some peats, small wood or charcoal, special cases

#### **"collagen extraction"**

The material was first tested for friability ("softness"). Very soft bone material is an indication of the potential absence of the collagen fraction (basal bone protein acting as a "reinforcing agent" within the crystalline apatite structure). It was then washed in de-ionized water and gently crushed. Dilute, cold HCl acid was repeatedly applied and replenished until the mineral fraction (bone apatite) was eliminated. The collagen was then dissected and inspected for rootlets. Any rootlets present were also removed when replenishing the acid solutions. Where possible, usually dependant on the amount of collagen available, alkali (NaOH) was also applied to ensure the absence of secondary organic acids.

Typically applied to: bones

#### **"acid etch"**

The calcareous material was first washed in de-ionized water, removing associated organic sediments and debris (where present). The material was then crushed/dispersed and repeatedly subjected to HCl etches to eliminate secondary carbonate components. In the case of thick shells, the surfaces were physically abraded prior to etching down to a hard, primary core remained. In the case of porous carbonate nodules and caliche, very long exposure times were applied to allow infiltration of the acid. Acid exposure times, concentrations, and number of repetitions, were applied accordingly with the uniqueness of the sample.

Typically applied to: shells, caliche, calcareous nodules

#### **"neutralized"**

Carbonates precipitated from ground water are usually submitted in an alkaline condition (ammonium hydroxide or sodium hydroxide solution). Typically this solution is neutralized in the original sample container, using deionized water. If larger volume dilution was required, the precipitate and solution were transferred to a sealed separatory flask and rinsed to neutrality. Exposure to atmosphere was minimal.

Typically applied to: Strontium carbonate, Barium carbonate  
(i.e. precipitated ground water samples)

#### **"none"**

No laboratory pretreatments were applied. Special requests and pre-laboratory pretreatment usually accounts for this. This would never be the circumstance without the knowledge of the submitter.