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Palynology of the Albian Makhtesh Qatan site, northern Negev (Israel),  
with descriptions of two new pollen species

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## ABSTRACT

Three levels of an independently dated Early Cretaceous succession in the northern Negev have yielded palynofloras of Albian age. The *Afropollis jardinus-Tricolpites-Trisectoris-Qatanipollis* Assemblage is from the lowermost level, a shale bed of about 60 cm thickness intercalated in the predominantly fluvial sandstones of the upper Hatira Formation at Makhtesh Qatan (IQ1 locality). The IQ1 palynoflora is dominated by psilate trilete spores, which are interpreted as influx from a fern bog. Altogether 46 formal and informal taxa were identified among the pteridophytic and bryophytic spores of this locality. The gymnosperms yielded 33 taxa including the new species *Partitisporites krassilovii*. The angiosperms are represented by 36 mono- and

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