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Morphologic change and evolution of *Acarinina sibaiaensis* and its descendants during the earliest Eocene CIE/PETM interval in southern Egypt

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**Morphologic change and evolution of  
*Acarinina sibaiaensis* and its descendants  
during the earliest Eocene CIE/PETM interval in  
southern Egypt**

By

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**Abstract**

*Acarinina sibaiaensis* is a very distinctive and short-lived planktonic foraminiferal taxon that is restricted to the temporally short Carbon Isotope Excursion (CIE) interval characteristic of the Paleocene-Eocene Thermal Maximum (PETM) event. It is confined to the planktonic foraminiferal Zone E1 which in southern Egypt corresponds to the Dababiya Quarry Member (DQM). This member yields a complete record of the biotic changes induced by the intense warming during the basal Eocene.

Although this distinctive taxon is widely distributed throughout the tropic to the temperate regions, its morphologic changes and phylogenetic relations during the CIE/PETM interval have not yet been documented. The present study discusses and documents the morphologic changes which affected the short-lived *Ac. sibaiaensis* probably caused by the extreme warming during the very brief (175-200 ka) CIE/PETM interval in southern Egypt. These

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