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Grazing activities in the Southern Central Pyrenees during the last millennium as deduced from the non-pollen palynomorphs (NPP) record of Lake Montcortès

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Abstract

Human activities during the last millennium have shaped most of the present-day landscapes. During this time, in the southern central Pyrenees several climate periods and phases of variable human disturbance have driven varied landscape responses. In previous studies of the sediment deposits in Lake Montcortès (southern central Pyrenees) several climatic shifts (including the Medieval Climate Anomaly and the Little Ice Age), as well as forest clearance by fire, agriculture and cattle raising as the main human impacts were recorded since Medieval times. In this work we use non-pollen palynomorphs (NPP) on the same sequence to reconstruct the different human activities, with a special focus on grazing, at an average resolution of around 30 years per sample. Independent NPP proxies for fire and forest Download English Version:

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