

NOTICE TO READERS

Half life of ^{14}C . In accordance with the decision of the Fifth Radiocarbon Dating Conference, Cambridge, 1962, all dates published in this volume (as in previous volumes) are based on the Libby value, 5570 ± 30 yr, for the half life. This decision was reaffirmed at the 9th International Conference on Radiocarbon Dating, Los Angeles/La Jolla, 1976. Because of various uncertainties, when ^{14}C measurements are expressed as dates in years BP the accuracy of the dates is limited, and refinements that take some but not all uncertainties into account may be misleading. The mean of three recent determinations of the half life, 5730 ± 40 yr, (*Nature*, v 195, no. 4845, p 984, 1962), is regarded as the best value presently available. Published dates in years BP, can be converted to this basis by multiplying them by 1.03.

AD/BC Dates. In accordance with the decision of the Ninth International Radiocarbon Conference, Los Angeles and San Diego, 1976, the designation of AD/BC, obtained by subtracting AD 1950 from conventional BP determinations is discontinued in Radiocarbon.

Authors or submitters may include calendar estimates as a comment, and report these estimates as AD/BC, citing the specific calibration curve used to obtain the estimate.

Meaning of $\delta^{14}\text{C}$. In Volume 3, 1961, we endorsed the notation Δ (Lamont VIII, 1961) for geochemical measurements of ^{14}C activity, corrected for isotopic fractionation in samples and in the NBS oxalic-acid standard. The value of $\delta^{14}\text{C}$ that entered the calculation of Δ was defined by reference to Lamont VI, 1959, and was corrected for age. This fact has been lost sight of, by editors as well as by authors, and recent papers have used $\delta^{14}\text{C}$ as the observed deviation from the standard. At the New Zealand Radiocarbon Dating Conference it was recommended to use $\delta^{14}\text{C}$ only for age-corrected samples. Without an age correction, the value should then be reported as percent of modern relative to 0.95 NBS oxalic acid. (Proceedings 8th Conference on Radiocarbon Dating, Wellington, New Zealand, 1972). The Ninth International Radiocarbon Conference, Los Angeles and San Diego, 1976, recommended that the reference standard, 0.95 times NBS oxalic acid activity, be normalized to $\delta^{13}\text{C} = -19\text{‰}$.

In several fields, however, age corrections are not possible. $\delta^{14}\text{C}$ and Δ , uncorrected for age, have been used extensively in oceanography, and are an integral part of models and theories. For the present, therefore, we continue the editorial policy of using Δ notations for samples not corrected for age.

Citations. A number of radiocarbon dates appear in publications without laboratory citation or reference to published date lists. We ask that laboratories remind submitters and users of radiocarbon dates to include proper citation (laboratory number and date-list citation) in all publications in which radiocarbon dates appear.

Radiocarbon Measurements: Comprehensive Index, 1950-1965. This index, covering all published ^{14}C measurements through Volume 7 of RADIOCARBON, and incorporating revisions made by all laboratories has been published. It is available to all subscribers to RADIOCARBON at \$10.00 US per copy.

Publication schedule. Beginning with Volume 15, RADIOCARBON has been published in three issues: Winter, Spring, and Summer. Contributors who meet our deadlines will be given priority but publication is not guaranteed in the following issue.

List of laboratories. The comprehensive list of laboratories at the end of each volume appears in the third number of each volume. Changes in names or addresses should be reported to the Managing Editor by May 1.

Index. All dates appear in index form at the end of the third number of each volume. Starting with Volume 22, RADIOCARBON published a new type of index, organized in chronologic order, according to sample type and by geographic distribution. Authors of date lists are requested to prepare index tables following the format shown in volume 22, No. 4, 1980. The editors of RADIOCARBON believe that this practice serves a more useful function. Our readers are encouraged to make further suggestions.

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All correspondence and manuscripts should be addressed to the Managing Editor, RADIOCARBON, Kline Geology Laboratory, Yale University, 210 Whitney Ave, PO Box 6666, New Haven, Connecticut 06511.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CONTRIBUTORS

Manuscripts of radiocarbon papers should follow the recommendations in *Suggestions to Authors*, 5th ed.* All copy (including the bibliography) must be typewritten in double space. Our deadline schedule is:

<i>For</i>	<i>Date</i>
Vol 24, No. 1, 1982	Sept. 1, 1981
Vol 24, No. 2, 1982	Jan. 1, 1982
Vol 24, No. 3, 1982	May 1, 1982

General or technical articles should follow the recommendations above and the editorial style of the *American Journal of Science* or the Proceedings of the Tenth International Radiocarbon Conference. Date lists should follow the format shown in the most recent issue of RADIOCARBON. More detailed instructions are available upon request. Separate mailings have been discontinued.

Illustrations should include explanation of symbols used. Copy that cannot be reproduced cannot be accepted; it should be capable of reduction to not more than 10 by 17.5, all lettering being at least 1/16 inch high after reduction. When necessary, one large map or table can be accepted, if it will not exceed 17.5 inches in width after reduction. Line drawings should be in black India ink on white drawing board, tracing cloth, or coordinate paper printed in blue and should be accompanied by clear ozalids or reduced photographs for use by the reviewers. Photographs should be positive prints. Photostatic and typewritten material cannot be accepted as copy for illustrations. *Plates* (photographs) and *figures* (line drawings) should each be numbered consecutively through each article, using arabic numerals. If two photographs form one plate, they are figures A and B of that plate. **All measurements should be given in SI (metric units).**

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Back issues and price lists may be obtained from the office of RADIOCARBON.

* *Suggestions to authors of the reports of the United States Geological Survey*, 5th ed, Washington, DC, 1958 (Government Printing Office, \$1.75).

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Radiocarbon, Volume 22, Numbers 2 & 3, 1980 @ \$60.00

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