

# NEOGENE CORALS FROM THE INDO-PACIFIC: INDONESIA, PAPUA NEW GUINEA, AND FIJI

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## ABSTRACT

Twenty-two new, extinct species are described from a total of 155 Neogene coral species collected from the Indo-West Pacific. Samples are from three sites: the Salayar Limestone, in Sulawesi, Indonesia; the Yalam Limestone in New Britain, Papua New Guinea, and the Tokelau Limestone Group on Vanua Balavu, Fiji. The oldest are those from Fiji, which span the middle Miocene to the Pliocene, 16.9–6.7 million years ago (Ma). The Papua New Guinean sites occur in the middle Miocene, from 14.8–12.3 Ma. The youngest samples are those collected in Indonesia, from the late Miocene to the early Pleistocene, 5.8–1.4 Ma. The new, although now extinct, species are from the families Acroporidae (*Astreopora wallaceae* n. sp., *Montipora pandolfi* n. sp., *M. wilsonae* n. sp., *M. teresea* n. sp.), Agariciidae (*Leptoseris lauensis* n. sp.), Dendrophylliidae (*Turbinaria jacksoni* n. sp.), Euphylliidae (*Euphyllia romani* n. sp.), Faviidae (*Caulastraea cummingae* n. sp., *C. geoffreyi* n. sp., *Cyphastrea spinea* n. sp., *C. aliciae* n. sp., *C. buddae* n. sp., *Leptoria hayae* n. sp., *L. traba* n. sp., *Platygyra renemai* n. sp.), Mussidae (*Symphyllia densium* n. sp.), Oculinidae (*Galaxea salayarensis* n. sp., *G. kabairaensis* n. sp.), Pocilloporidae (*Madracis labrum* n. sp., *Madracis crassisepta* n. sp.), and Poritidae (*Alveopora jessicae* n. sp., *A. oliveri* n. sp.). Many of the species in this collection reset the age-range of numerous Indo-Pacific taxa and indicate that a Miocene cosmopolitan fauna likely existed prior to and during the closure of the Tethys.