



PROYECTO N° 201 DEL PROGRAMA DE CORRELACION GEOLOGICA (IGCP-UNESCO)
"CUATERNARIO DE AMERICA DEL SUR"
____ REUNION FINAL ____

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RECENT TECTONIC MOVEMENTS IN RIFT BASINS OF SOUTHEASTERN BRAZIL

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ABSTRACT

The Serra do Mar Rift System is the most expressive Cenozoic tectonic feature of continental emerged area of southeastern Brazil. It has a twofold tectonic evolution, marked by a distensive synsedimentary stage in Paleocene-Oligocene times and a strike-slip stage of post-Oligocene age.

Recent investigations in Resende Basin and re-examination of previously described outcrops in Taubate Basin, depressions of rift system, have related sedimentary deposits younger than Oligocene also affected by strike-slip faulting.

In the Taubate Basin some colluvium and stone-lines are faulted with the development of negative flower-structures along the NNE Taubaté Transtensional Zone. On the other hand, positive flower-structures of the NE Resende Transpressional Zone have tilted sedimentary terraces linked with the evolution of the Paraíba do Sul River Valley. Both situations are related with a major E-W transurrence.

No absolute dating are available for this deposits. Colluvium and associated stone-lines, as well as alluvial terraces are thought to be Pleistocenic, and recent radiocarbon datings in the Paraíba do Sul River Valley seems to confirm this statement.

Fault plane solutions of two swarms of reservoir-induced events, close to the area, had strike-slip and overthrust focal mechanism, also related with an average E-W compressive regional stress direction.

Detailed studies of the most recent Quaternary (Holocene) deposits could indicate the age of the last faulting event which appear to have been active, at least a residual tectonics, until the present time.