

**COMPOSICIÓN Y GÉNESIS DE LA SECUENCIA CARBONÁTICA BERNARDI,  
PROVINCIA DE RIO NEGRO.**

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**ABSTRACT**

The purpose of the present contribution is the petrographic and mineralogic description of a chalk sequence, in order to establish its genesis. The outcrops occur 3.5 km NE of Estación Teniente Maza locality (40° 31 ' 15 " S - 66° 46 ' 12 " W), in Rio Negro province.

This chalk sequence has a reduced areal extension, occurring in a rounded depression, approximately 250 m in diameter and between 5 and 7 m depth. It is composed mostly by dolostones intercalated between clastic tuff and tuffy sandstones of the Puesto Piris formation.

The samples collected were studied on the microscope and X Ray Diffraction analyses were performed on powdered samples.

Based on the performed studies, the chalk sequence was deposited in a continental lake, with hypersaline water that allowed its precipitation. These dolostones were deposited during the Triassic, contemporaneously with the deposition of the clastic sediments of Puesto Piris Formation.