

INTRODUCTION

This issue of *RADIOCARBON* contains two sets of abstracts. The first set features abstracts from the 7th International Conference on Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (Tucson, 20–24 May 1996) and two associated workshops. AMS-7 continues the tradition of AMS conferences, focusing on the development of the method as well as new sample techniques and important applications of AMS. We also include abstracts from two important workshops highlighting these applications: the workshop on Applications of AMS to Global Climate Change (La Jolla, California, 18 May 1996) and Geological Applications of AMS (Tucson, 25 May 1996). The full papers from the AMS-7 conference will be published in *Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research*.

The second set of abstracts is from the Workshop on Secular Variations in Production Rates of Cosmogenic Nuclides on the Earth. This conference, held in Santa Fe, New Mexico from 2–5 February 1996, considered the technical aspects and interpretations of one growing application of AMS—cosmogenic radionuclides in geomorphology. An excellent conference summary and overview begins this section (Gosse *et al.* this volume, p. 135), together with an extensive bibliography of publications featuring the *in-situ* production rate method (p. 142).

Both conferences emphasize the diversity of AMS research and its applications. At *RADIOCARBON*, we encourage the publication of new work in the diverse field of cosmic-ray-produced isotopes other than ^{14}C . By highlighting these two important conferences, we also hope to encourage submissions from these fields to our journal.

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