



monthly data points commencing on the date of deposition and ending either at the time of recovery or at the terminus of the study (May 2016). Body numbers and dates were replaced by randomly generated numbers. This method produced 112 data points; each data point represented one body and one date. Each packet was independently scored by observers variably acquainted with the FIRS sample. Scores assigned by a senior study researcher were eliminated to avoid hindsight bias.

The preliminary results showed that correlations between TBDS and ADD and TBS and ADD were approximately equal for a TBS below approximately 20, but the TBDS did correlate better with ADD at higher TBS scores. Thus, gross changes presented throughout the trajectory of desiccation do carry analytical weight and may be used to refine methods for estimating the PMI using predictive models.

Reference(s):

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Taphonomy, Desiccation, Arid Environment