

Fossil Amber and Ancient Oxygen Levels

These ancient amber specimens, according to modern geologic theory, are supposedly between 40-55 million years old from the Eocene epoch. They are from the Lithuanian Baltic Sea area.

Amber forms by resins that oozed out of extinct pine trees (*Pinus succinifera*). These resins trapped insects, air, water, and wood particles. Later these resins chemically changed and hardened into amber. They are literally windows into the past.

If you look closely, inside the amber specimens you will notice many inclusions. These inclusions include various insects. These insects are midges and various flies (order-Diptera). Also many air bubbles are trapped in these amber specimens. These air bubbles tell us much about the earth's atmosphere before the flood of Noah occurred.

Ancient air bubbles from hundreds of amber specimens, predating the Noachian Flood, have been analyzed by using quadrupole mass spectrometry (Landis 2001). It has been found that the atmosphere before the flood contained 50% more oxygen than the present atmosphere. (35% compared to 21%). Increased oxygen content of the atmosphere was one of several factors that would have accounted for the long life spans given in the book of Genesis.

The increased oxygen content of the atmosphere would have allowed many organisms to reach gigantic proportions as compared to their present size. There are many examples of large bodied vertebrates and invertebrates in the pre-Noachian world. These would include large insects, reptiles, dire wolves, woolly mammoths, and giant cave bears.