

GULF COAST STRATIGRAPHIC TRAPS IN THE LOWER CRETACEOUS CARBONATES

Richard H. Sams¹

ABSTRACT

Prolific oil and gas production is being obtained from carbonate patch-reef reservoirs within Lower Cretaceous formations along the Gulf Coast from Florida to Mexico. Many of these reservoirs are trapped stratigraphically where facies changes within a formation or patch-reef unit establish an updip permeability barrier. Examples of such traps from the literature illustrate oil and gas fields in Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, and east Texas. A geological model provides the explorationist with an actual drilling target suitable to a multiple-well exploratory program.

¹Sams Exploration, Inc., San Antonio, Texas 78209