

Published on *American Geosciences Institute* (https://www.americangeosciences.org) Home > stomatal index

## stomatal index

**stomatal index**. In paleobotany, the ratio of the number of epidermal cells to the number of stomata in a given area of a leaf, times 100. The index is used to compensate for the differences in stomatal density between sun and shade leaves, dry-climate and wet-climate leaves of the same species, and in the reconstruction of past levels of CO2. Cf: *stomatal density*.

Tags:

• geotimes

## Website:

GeoWord of the Day