

# 500 million year old poo

---

*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.geo.geology/2006-06/msg00099.html>

---

- *From:* Aidan Karley <[dollookDAFTenoughTOpost@xx](mailto:dollookDAFTenoughTOpost@xx)>
  - *Date:* Sun, 04 Jun 2006 19:00:44 +0100
- 

<http://www.thelocal.se/article.php?ID=3542&date=20060412>

Published: 12th April 2006 18:14 CET

Swedish scientists have found half-billion-year-old droppings thought to be from an aquatic worm and hope the discovery will contribute to the understanding of prehistoric ecosystems, researchers announced on Wednesday.

Some people think that the development of guts capable of producing pelleted poo was a major geochemical event, with the high mass of coprolites and their high organic content acting in synergy to remove carbon from the atmosphere and biosphere, helping O<sub>2</sub> levels to climb around the start of the Phanerozoic (reasonably well accepted, these days), and so enabling the development of new, more complex body plans.

—  
Aidan Karley, FGS  
Aberdeen, Scotland  
Written at Sun, 04 Jun 2006 18:24 +0100, but posted later.