
The non-metric features of the calcaneus and talus in El Hormiguero

Samuel James Cockerill*[†] and Richard Giovanni Guamán¹

¹Department of Geography and History, Universidad de La Laguna, San Cristóbal de La Laguna –
Espagne

Résumé

Non-metric features consist of morphological characteristics in the bone that can be observed macroscopically and can give us information about kinship relationships and the lifestyle of past populations. El hormiguero is a pre-Hispanic archaeological site consisting of a group of six burial caves located on a cliff on the north coast of Gran Canaria in the municipality of Firgas. Of these six caves, two of them contained well-preserved calcaneus and astragalus. Therefore, a study of the non-metric features was carried out in 15 calcanea and 17 astragali from these two caves. The results show that the distribution of the non-metric traits between the two caves is entirely homogeneous. No significant difference ($P > 0.05$) was found except for one trait: The anterolateral facet of the posterior facet of the calcaneus ($P < 0.05$) with a considerably large effect size ($\phi = 0.66$), indicating a substantial difference between these two caves concerning this trait. Thus, this difference could be indicating a slight epigenetic difference between these two groups in the Hormiguero.

Mots-Clés: non, metric features, El Hormiguero

*Intervenant

†Auteur correspondant: