Introduction to Archaeology

Tehuacán Valley Cultural Sequence

Ajuereado Phase - 10-7,000 BC
- microbands
- seasonally brief occupations
- no food storage
- food resources
  - plants - maguey, cactus fruits, teosinte, amaranth
  - animals - deer, rabbits, mice
- technology
  - stone - projectile points, knives, scrapers, choppers, gravers

El Riego Phase - 7 - 5,000 BC
- microbands (dry season) and macrobands (wet season)
- seasonally brief occupations
- some food storage facilities
- food resources
  - plants - maguey, cactus fruits, teosinte, amaranth
  - animals - deer, rabbits, mice
- technology
  - stone - projectile points, scrapers, ground stone implements (mortars and pestles)
  - organics - nets, baskets, traps, woven blankets

Coxcatlan Phase - 5 - 3,400 BC
- microbands (dry season) and macrobands (wet season)
- seasonally brief occupations, single small possible permanent settlement
- some food storage facilities
- food resources
  - plants - maguey, cactus fruits, teosinte, amaranth
  - animals - deer, rabbits, mice
- technology
  - stone - ground stone implements (manos and metates)

Abejas Phase - 3,400 - 2,300 BC
- macroband settlements - wet and dry season occupations
- single central camp site -?permanent? with residential structures
- possible year round settlement
- food storage facilities

Puron Phase - 2.300 - 1,500 BC
- poorly known
- technology - marked by first appearance of pottery

Ajalpan - 1,500 - 850 BC
- 12 small hamlets/villages with permanent houses
- stream site locations
- public architecture by end of phase
- technology - marked painted pottery and ceramic figures

TEHUACAN VALLEY (7000 – 3400 BC)

RAINY SEASON

JUNE
RABBITS
CACTUS FRUIT

LARGE GROUPS
MACROBANDS

AUG/SEPT
SQUASH
CHILE
AVOCADO
WILD CORN

SMALL GROUPS
MICROBANDS

DEER
MAGUEY

DEER
MAGUEY

DRY SEASON
DECEMBER

SEASONAL ROUND
"ARCHAEOLOGICAL SYSTEMS THEORY"
Fig. 1. An idealized east-west transection of the central part of the Tehuacán Valley, Puebla, Mexico, showing microenvironments and the seasons in which the food resources are exploited.