Axopodorhabdus WISE & WIND, 1976

Description:

Forms with a podorhabdid rim and hollow spine supported by four wide bars aligned parallel to the major and minor axes of the coccolith.

Type species:

Podorhabdus cylindratus NOËL, 1965.

Remarks:

In 1965, Noël intended to erect the genus *Podorhabdus*, with the type species *P. grassei*, for specimens which possessed a spine supported by four large pillars. Although the holotype of *P. grassei* is described by Noël (1965), as being constructed of four large pillars separated from each other by raised arches, our examination of the electron micrographs of the holotype reveals the presence of only two pillars and arches. The holotype and original description are therefore not in agreement.

We have, therefore, in this report, redefined the genus *Podorhabdus* NOËL to include forms with two broad pillars separated by arched excavations. The new genus, *Axopodorhabdus*, is proposed for those species bearing four spine-supporting struts aligned parallel to the axes of greatest and least dimension. We designate *P. cylindratus* NOËL, 1965, p. 103-104, fig. 30, pl. 9, fig. 3, 7 as the type of this new genus.

This genus can be distinguished from *Podorhabdus* NOËL, 1965, emend. WIND & WISE, in that the latter genus possesses only two bars supporting a central stem (and only two perforations), and from *Tetrapodorhabdus* BLACK, 1971, in which the four perforations, and not the bars supporting the stem, are aligned along the ellipse axes.

The following species validly described under *Podorhabdus* are here included under the new genus *Axopodorhabdus*.

Author:

Wise S. W. & Wind F. H., 1976, p. 297.

Reference:

Mesozoic and Cenozoic calcareous nannofossils recovered by DSDP Leg 36 drilling on the Falkland Plateau, southwest Atlantic sector of the southern ocean. Initial Reports of the Deep Sea Drilling Project, vol. 36, pp. 269-491, 89 pls., 3 figs., 7 tbs.