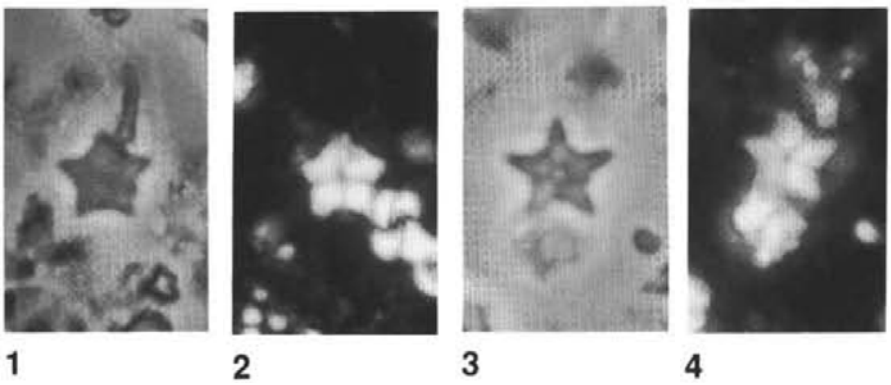
79. Discoaster ono Styzen (1994)



Pl. l, figs 1-4

Description. Asterolith minute (1.5-4 μm) and symmetric with five bluntly pointed rays with the free length one half or less than the diameter of the central area. The central area is usually unornamented, but a slight knob is sometimes present. Between crossed nicols, the asterolith shows birefringence similar to that of *Discoaster pentaradiatus.*

Remarks. *Discoaster ono* is distinguished from *D. pentaradiatus* by its much smaller size and shorter bluntly pointed, nonbifurcated rays.

Holotype. The specimen illustrated in Plate 1, Figures 1-2, is designated as the holotype. This specimen, from Sample 135-834A-8H-2, 100 cm, displays typical development of rays and central area.

Paratype. The specimen illustrated in Plate 1, Figures 3-4, is a designated paratype. This specimen, from Sample 135-838B-13R-CC, shows atypically well-developed rays and central area ornament.

Type level. late Pliocene, Zone CN12.

Type locality. Lau Basin Holes 834A and 838B. Similar specimens are present in Pliocene sediments in the Gulf of Mexico (MJ. Styzen, unpubl. data).

Epithet. For many years, this species has had the designation "*Discoaster* 6" in the Shell Offshore Inc. nannofossil dictionary. It was suggested in the post-cruise meeting that the designation be retained but in a local language. The word "ono" is "six" in both Tongan and Fijian.

Styzen, M.J., 1994. Calcareous nannofossil biostratigraphy of Sites 834-839, Lau Basin. In Hawkins, J., Parson, L., Allan, J. et al. *Proceedings of the Ocean Drilling Program, Scientific Results,* **135:** 191-205.