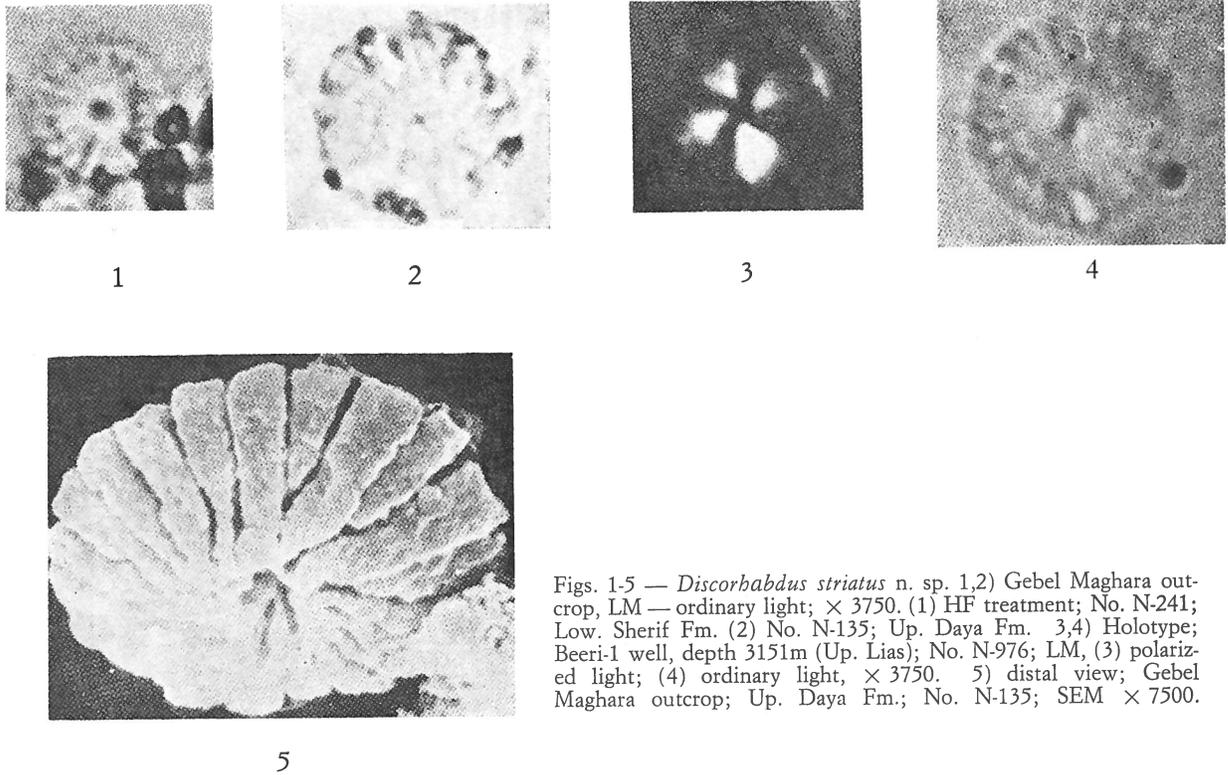


Discorhabdus striatus MOSHKOVITZ & EHRLICH, 1976



Figs. 1-5 — *Discorhabdus striatus* n. sp. 1,2) Gebel Maghara outcrop, LM — ordinary light; $\times 3750$. (1) HF treatment; No. N-241; Low. Sherif Fm. (2) No. N-135; Up. Daya Fm. 3,4) Holotype; Beeri-1 well, depth 3151m (Up. Lias); No. N-976; LM, (3) polarized light; (4) ordinary light, $\times 3750$. 5) distal view; Gebel Maghara outcrop; Up. Daya Fm.; No. N-135; SEM $\times 7500$.

Description:

Study by L.M. shows a circular coccolith with two monocyclic shields and a very small central opening. The distal shield is somewhat wider than the proximal one, a characteristic well observed under ordinary and polarized light. When an auxiliary gypsum plate is used, the blue colours of the distal shield are deviated by 90° in relation to the blue colours of the proximal shield (Figure 2a). The number of the radial elements amounts to 20-24 and the total diameter of the distal shield is about $5.5-7.0 \mu\text{m}$. The general outlines and the figure in polarized light, are similar to *Striatococcus nebulosus* from the Upper Lias of Western Europe (vide Prins, 1969, pl. 2, fig. 16 — invalid ICBN, Art. 43, par. 1).

By S.E.M., this coccolith could not be recognized with certainty, but it seems that the specimen on Plate 7, Figure 5 is a distal side of it. In that case, this form may be related on the genus *Discorhabdus* (Noël, 1965, p. 148 "Embases isolées de *Discorhabdus*", Pl. 23, figs. 10, 11, 13). Such generic interpretation is also expressed by Rood, Hay and Barnard (1973), who consider the possibility that *Striatococcus nebulosus* of the Lias, is to be related to *Discorhabdus*

sp. (op. cit. p. 381). *Discorbabodus striatus* nov. sp. is somewhat similar to *D. rotatorius* (BUKRY) THIERSTEIN (Thierstein, 1973, pl. 5, figs. 13-16) from the Upper Albian of Folkstone. It differs, however, from this species by its larger dimensions and by the smaller size of the central opening.

Type level:

Bajocian-Bathonian.

Type locality:

Israel. This form is restricted to the Upper Daya and Lower Sherif Formations in Gebel Maghara outcrop, where it seems to be a characteristic constituent of the *Hexalithus magharensis* Zone. Its last occurrence in this area is noted at the very base of the *Stephanolithion speciosum* Assemblage Zone. Few specimens were also recorded from the Beer-1 well, in the Coastal Plain, at a depth of 3151,5 m (Upper Lias - Maync, 1966).

Depository:

Geological Survey of Israel.

Author:

Moshkovitz S. and Ehrlich A., 1976, p. 14; pl. 7, figs. 1-5.

Reference:

Distribution of Middle and Upper Jurassic calcareous nannofossils in the North-eastern Negev, Israel and in Gebel Maghara, Northern Sinai. Geol. Surv. Israel Bull., no. 69, 47 pp., 8 pls.