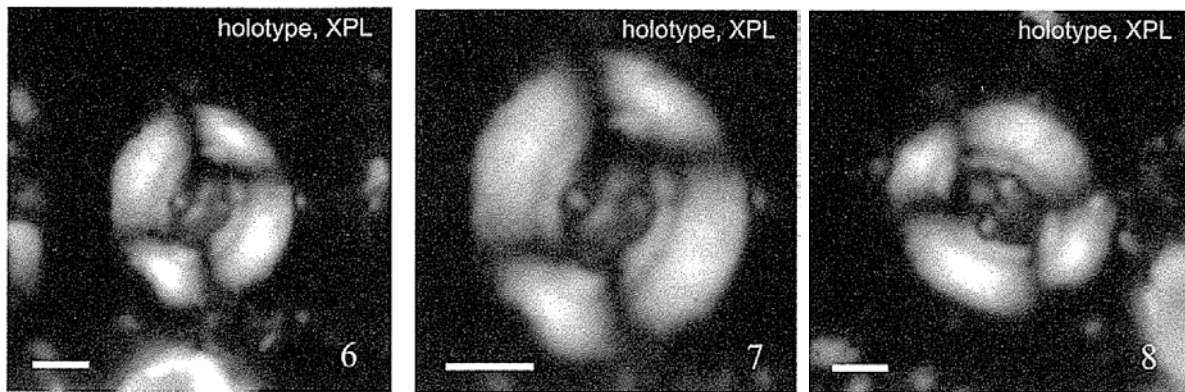


97. *Watznaueria okadai* Fernando (2014)



Scale bars=2 μ m

Pl. 1, figs 6-8

Plate 1. *Watznaueria* species from the Goguel core (all images taken in cross-polarised light-XPL). 6-8. *Watznaueria okadai* sp. nov. (holotype), 16-1 no. 15.

Derivation of name: Named after Prof. Hisatake Okada (Hokkaido University, Sapporo, Japan), noted nannofossil palaeontologist and biostratigrapher.

Diagnosis: Medium-sized, broadly-elliptical placolith coccolith (axial ratio \sim 1.1), with a sub-axial, asymmetrical cross occupying the central area. The short-axis arms are short and straight, whilst the long-axis bar is sigmoidal.

Remarks: This species was originally illustrated in Fernando (2006) as *Watznaueria* sp. A (Pl. 18, figs 18-20). *W. okadai* is different from *W. quadriradiata* and *W. bybelliae*, both *Watznauerias* with a central-area cross, in several aspects. The central areas of *W. quadriradiata* and *W. bybelliae* are spanned by axial crosses with straight bars, whilst *W. okadai* has a subaxial, asymmetrical cross. The geological ranges of the taxa are also different: *W. okadai* is, at present, only known from the Early Aptian, while *W. quadriradiata* and *W. bybelliae* are known from the Santonian to Maastrichtian (e.g. Burnett *et al.*, 1998; Self Trail, 1999).

Dimensions: Length= 7 μ m; width= 6.5 μ m.

Holotype: Pl.1, figs 6-8.

Type locality: Les Sauzeries section, Vocontian Basin, SE France.

Type level: Sample 16-1 no. 15, Core 16-I, G06-I shale interval, Goguel Level (Lower Aptian).

Occurrence: NC6A-NC7 A in the Les Sauzeries section, Vocontian Basin, SE France (Fernando, 2006). The species was recorded as rare in occurrence.

Fernando, A.S., 2014. Taxonomic note: *Watznaueria okadai*, a new species of calcareous nannofossil from the Vocontian Basin, southeastern France. *Journal of Nannoplankton Research*, **33(1)**: 47-48.