

LAVRADOSPHAERA

De Schepper & Head

Genus **LAVRADOSPHAERA** gen. nov.

TYPE. The holotype of *Lavradosphaera crista* gen. et sp. nov. (Pl. 5, figs 1-4)

DIAGNOSIS. Small spheroidal to subspheroidal acritarchs whose vesicle wall comprises a thin, smooth inner layer, a continuous or discontinuous spongy to cancellous middle layer and a thin, continuous outer layer. All layers closely adpressed. Middle and outer layers form crests, ridges or cones or combinations thereof that are spongy to cancellous internally. Pylome polygonal to rounded-polygonal in shape.

ETYMOLOGY. Named with reference to the Labrador Sea where the stratigraphical utility of this genus was first established (de Vernal & Mudie 1989*b*). The origin of the name Labrador is widely assigned to João Fernandes Lavrador, a Portuguese explorer and landholder (= *lavrador* in Portuguese) in the Azores.

