

RADIALORHACHIA

Xiao Yaping & Hu Xiawo
in DING Lianfang et al.
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Genus *Radialorhachia* Xiao et Hu (gen. nov.)

Type species *Radialorhachia robustispina* Xiao et Hu (gen. et sp. nov.)

Diagnosis Vesicles spheroidal or hemispheroidal, 2—20 μm in diameter, with numerous sword-shaped spines on the surface, occurring singularly, or socially. Spines have blunt tip, wide base, which smaller than the height generally, branched or not, with rough surface. There is a round or elliptical "fixer" with smooth surface or not on the base of vesicle.

Comparison and discussion In the published issues on the fossil of the Precambrian acritarcha, we can't find specimen with this form, so we set it to be new genus. Compared with *Baltisphaeridium*, the difference is that the diameter of the new genus is smaller than 20 μm , but compared with *Micrhystridium*, the difference is that the new genus has the distinct "fixer". According to the situation of preserved fossil, the plant lived in fixed living before the Precambrian, at least at the beginning of their living period, they lived on the base with its particular "fixer". In the last period of their living, they lived in a floating form. That is to say, there are two kinds of form of living in its life cycle, fixing and floatation. There may be two conditions in their living, one is that they stucked to some floating animals or plants at the beginning of their life, but the possibility of this kind is very small, because we can't find the relation between the "fixer" and "fixed-base". from the rock slice; another possibility is that they stucked to the bottom rock or some bases, when they grow large, senile, the "fixer" fell off or departed from the base. If the "fixer" exists, then, in their floating period, it will act as air sac more or less, and benefit to the fossil. Because the breeding structure has not been found, so the exact systematic classification can't be defined.

acritarch

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English translation
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