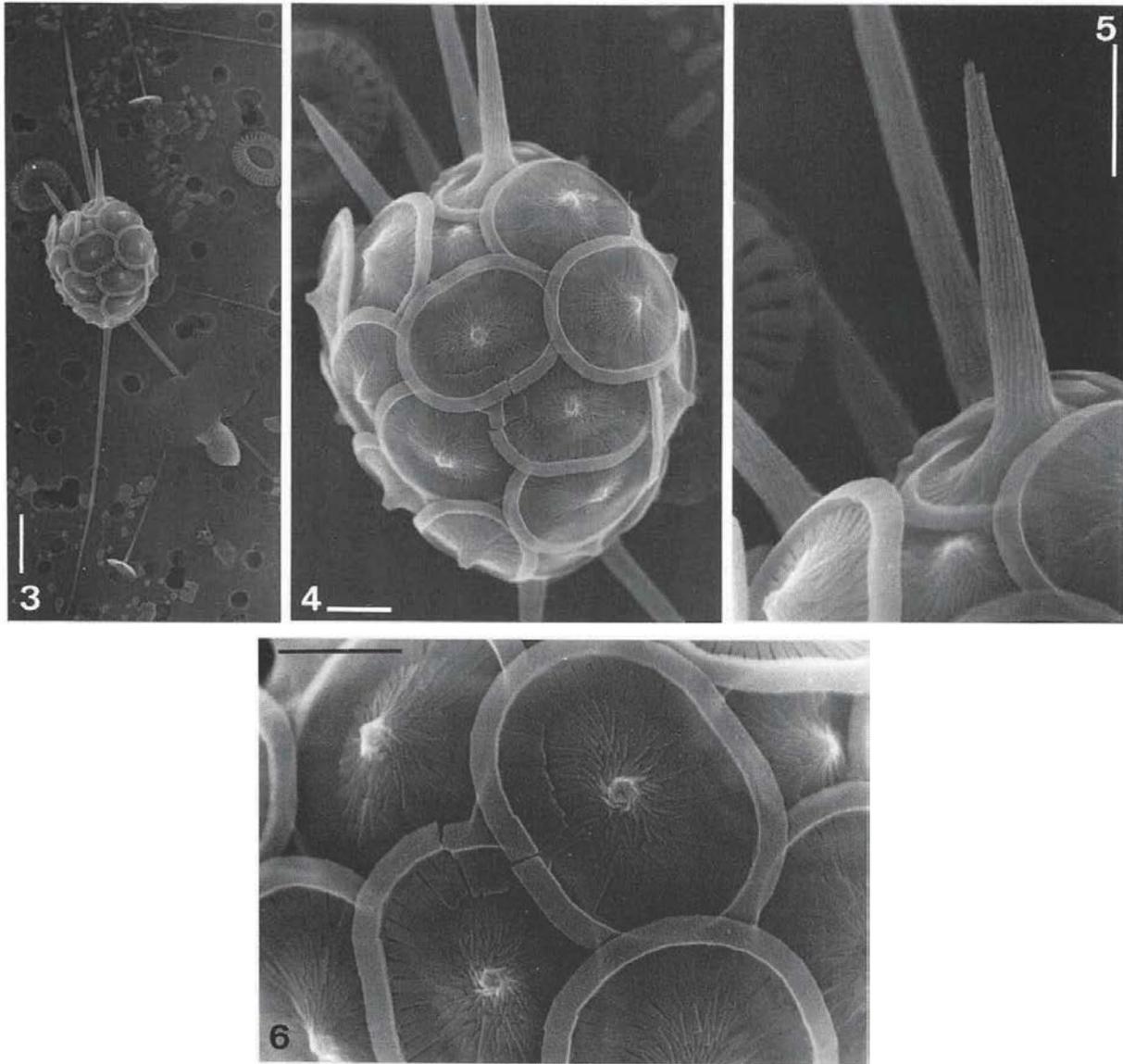


1. *Acanthoica biscayensis* Kleijne (1992)



Pl. 2, figs 3-6

Pl. 2. Figs 4-6: bar = 1 μ m; fig. 3: bar = 3 μ m. Figs 3-6. *Acanthoica biscayensis* sp. nov., holotype.

Fig. 3. Coccosphere with three long and three short spines; eastern North Atlantic (Station Gx-217).

Fig. 4. Detailed view of fig. 3, showing broad-elliptical body rhabdoliths.

Fig. 5. Detailed view of fig. 3, showing three apical pole rhabdoliths with a short process (and circular disc) and one with a long process.

Fig. 6. Detailed view of broad-elliptical body rhabdoliths of fig. 3, with a small peak of lamellar cycle and wedge-shaped cuneate cycle elements.

Diagnosis: Cocco-sphaera monothecata, polymorpha, ellipsoidalis, consistens ex 6 rhabdolithis polaribus et circa 30 rhabdolithis corporeis late-ellipticis. Rhabdolithi corporei cum area centrait fere plana. Cyclus radiatorum consistens ex 44-50 radiis plants sine spatiis distinctis interiacentibus. Elementa dextraliter imbricata cycli

lamellaris in forma extensionis parvae noduliformis, tectae elementis cycli cuneati, tegentibus partem circa 0.13µm clipei secus axem longiorem. Rhabdolithi polares inveniuntur in ambobus polis. Polus apicalis habet tres spinas cum brevi proceccu et cum clipeo, et unum rhabdolithum cum processu longo, latiore quam processus duorum rhabdolithorum polarium antapicalium.

Dimensiones: Coccosphaera 7.9 x 6.2 µm. Rhabdolithi corporei longitudine 2.7-3.0 µm, latitudine 2.2-2.4 µm; cyclus marginis externae latitudine 0.23 µm. Processus apicales breves longitudine 3.03.4 µm. Processus apicales longi longitudine 9.8 µm. Processus antapicales, basi inclusa, longitudine 15.7 µm.

Monothebate, polymorphic ellipsoidal coccosphere consisting of 6 pole rhabdoliths and ± 30 broad elliptical body rhabdoliths. Body rhabdoliths with an almost flat central area. Radial cycle consisting of 44-50 flat laths without distinct openings between them. Dextrally imbricated elements of the lamellar cycle form a small knob-like extension, surmounted by the elements of the cuneate cycle, on ± 0.13 part of the rhabdolith along the longer axis. Pole rhabdoliths occur at both poles. The apical pole has three rhabdoliths with a short process and circular disc, and one with a long process that is thicker than the processes of the two antapical pole rhabdoliths.

Dimensions: Coccosphere 7.9 x 6.2 µm. Body rhabdoliths 2.7-3.0 µm long, 2.2-2.4 µm wide; outer rim cycle 0.23 µm wide. Short apical spine, process 3.03.4 µm long. Long apical spine, process 9.8 µm long. Antapical spines, process including base 15.7 µm long.

Holotype: Pl. 2, figs. 3-6.

Type locality: 46°05.8'N, 7°19.1'W (Station Gx217, Bay of Biscay, depth 0-5m, July 31 1985).

Derivation of name: '*biscayensis*', from the Bay of Biscay, the place of first discovery.

Number of specimens studied: 2.

Remarks: *A. biscayensis* somewhat looks like *A. jancheni* in having body rhabdoliths with a relatively small, pointed central structure and no distinct openings between the radial laths (compare Pl. 2, figs. 4, 6 and Pl. 5, fig. 5). However, it differs from *A. jancheni* and all other here described *Acanthoica* species in having relatively large, broad-elliptical body rhabdoliths, with curved ends and subparallel sides.

A. biscayensis shows some resemblance to *Acanthoica rubus* Kamptner, 1941, however, its body rhabdoliths differ in being larger and broad-elliptical and in bearing a pointed central structure, instead of being normal-elliptical and lacking the elevation on the central area. The two species cannot be distinguished on the presence of up to seven spine-bearing rhabdoliths at only one pole in *A. rubus*, since the position of the pole coccoliths alone is not a good characteristic (see remarks on *Acanthoica*).

Distribution (Fig. 5b): Eastern North Atlantic, occasional (Bay of Biscay).

Kleijne, A., 1992. Extant Rhabdosphaeraceae (coccolithophorids, class Prymnesiophyceae) from the Indian Ocean, Red Sea, Mediterranean Sea and North Atlantic Ocean. *Scripta Geol.*, **100**: 1-63.