

Amaurolithus GARTNER & BUKRY, 1975

Description:

The genus *Amaurolithus* consists of a group of horseshoe-shaped calcareous bodies, usually slightly asymmetrical and occasionally ornamented. Individual specimens behave as a single crystallographic unit, as with *Ceratolithus*, but the optic orientation is such that if specimens in preferred orientation are rotated in cross-polarized light they remain dark gray because the optic (*c*) axis is approximately perpendicular to the preferred orientation (with the plane of the ceratolith perpendicular to the direction of illumination).

Type species:

Ceratolithus tricorniculatus GARTNER, 1967.

Author:

Gartner S. and Bukry D., 1975, p. 454.

Reference:

Morphology and Phylogeny of the Coccolithophycean Family Ceratolithaceae. Journ. Research U.S. Geol. Surv., vol. 3, no. 4, pp. 451-465, 5 pls.