

**Catinaster** MARTINI & BRAMLETTE, 1963

**Description:**

Form basketlike, with rays which may extend beyond the outer border of the central part. The part between the rays is thin and may be partially open. Although the exact form can be determined only by turning the specimens in a viscous medium, the described species are easily recognized by distinctive features seen in plan view or the less usual side view. Polarized light shows the ortholithid character of being formed as a single unit of calcite. The optic (C) axis of the calcite unit is perpendicular in plan view, and thus the specimens so orientated show little or no birefringence but the maximum relief.

**Type species:**

*Catinaster coalitus* MARTINI & BRAMLETTE, 1963.

**Author:**

Martini E. and Bramlette M. N., 1963, p. 850.

**Reference:**

Calcareous nannoplankton from the experimental Mohole Drilling. Jour. Paleont., vol. 37, n° 4, pp. 845-856, 2 text-figs., pls. 102-105.