

**Cruciellipsis** THIERSTEIN, 1971 emend. WIND & ČEPEK, 1979

**Description:**

Broad rim of imbricate elements surrounding a small central area spanned by four radial bars aligned with the long and short axes of the ellipse. A fibrous stem arising from the junction of the crossbars may be present. Narrow bars may pave the proximal surface of the coccolith between the crossbars and rim.

**Remarks:**

This genus is distinguished from *Cretarhabdus* BRAMLETTE & MARTINI by its wider rim and smaller central area. In *Cretarhabdus*, central area structures in addition to the four axial bars are more nearly the same size as the axial bars and are affixed to the distal portion of the shield. In *Cruciellipsis*, accessory structures, if present, lie on the proximal surface of the specimen, and might be interpreted as ornamental.

*Cruciellipsis* is distinguished from *Helenea* WORSLEY, 1971, and *Microstaurus* BLACK, 1971, by the presence of a more fibrous crossbar and stem complex, and by greater ellipticity. Five laths paving the area between crossbars and rim of specimens of *C. cuvillieri* have not been observed on specimens of *Helenea* and *Microstaurus* from Hole 397A.

**Type species:**

*Coccolithus cuvillieri* MANIVIT, 1966.

**Author:**

Wind F.H. & Čepek P., 1979, p. 228.

**Reference:**

Lower Cretaceous calcareous nannoplankton from DSDP Hole 397A (Northwest African Margin). Init. Repts. DSDP, vol. 47, pp. 221-255, 11 pls., 3 text-figs.