Deflandrius cantabrigensis Black, 1967


Fig. 1 — Deflandrius cantabrigensis sp. nov., holotype 14268, x 6400, side view.

Description:

Diagnosis: Rhabdoliths with the generic characters of Deflandrius and with a whorl of four protuberances at the junction of the two bundles of crystals which form the stalk.

Dimensions of Holotype. Diameter of basal shield 4·6 μ; total height 6·5 μ.

Remarks:

The basal shield is nearly circular, and consists of two superimposed rings, each containing 16 crystals; seen from the distal side these show rhombohedral outlines, modified towards the inner side of the ring in such a way that neighbouring crystals interlock with each other along zig-zag sutures. Four buttresses arise from the surface of the distal ring and support the stalk, which consists of two bundles of plank-shaped crystals arranged end-to-end. The proximal half of the stalk is hollow, with a quadrangular canal; the distal half has four triangular fin-shaped expansions. Where the two halves join, the stalk bears four conspicuous protuberances. D. cantabrigensis differs from previously described species in having these well-developed protuberances on the stalk. In describing a closely associated species, D. columnatus, Stover (1966) mentions the occasional presence of specimens with protuberances; these may possibly be examples of D. cantabrigensis. D. cantabrigensis is abundant in the Cambridge Greensand; specimens have also been found in the Gault, but they are distinctly rare.

Type level:

Lower Cenomanian.

Farinacci 1974 - VII/77
Type locality:
Cambridge Greensand at Barrington, Cambridge, Great Britain.

Depository:
Sedgwick Museum, Collection of electron-micrographs. Holotype 14628.

Author:

Reference: