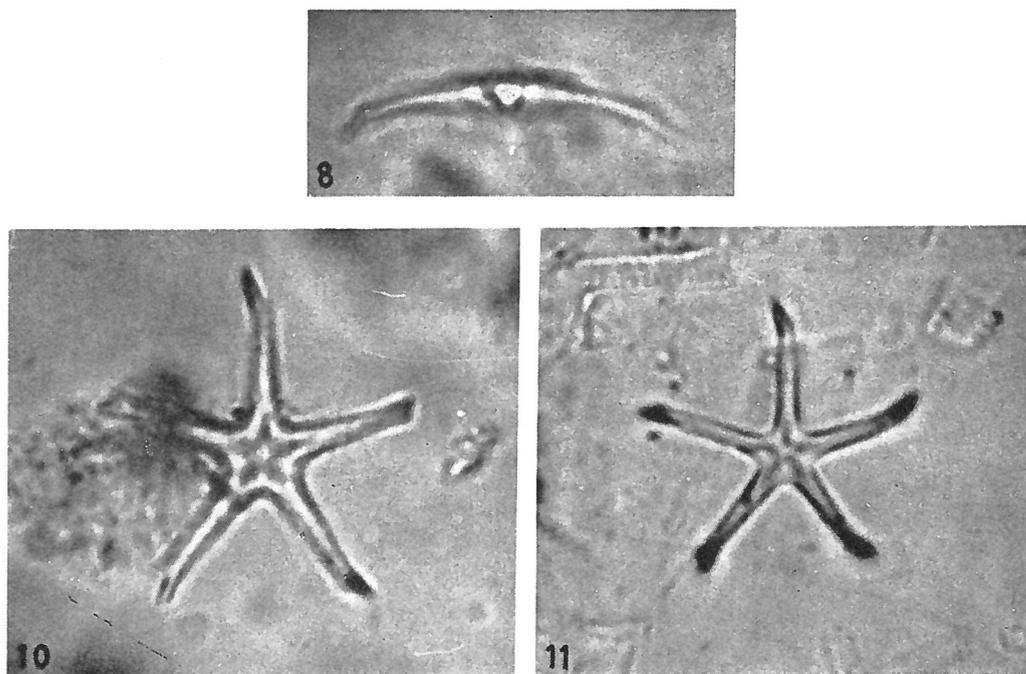


Discoaster hamatus MARTINI & BRAMLETTE, 1963



Figs. 8, 10, 11 — *Discoaster hamatus* n. sp.; 8) Side view, Trinidad, about 1 mile south of Princes Town, Lengua Formation, *Globorotalia menardii* Zone; 10) Holotype, USNM 647855, same sample as for fig. 8; 11) Mohole EM 8-11 (421-423 cm). x 2000.

Description:

Asteroliths normally with 5 or 6 rays, with 5 rays dominant. Rare specimens have 3, 4 or 7 rays. In the center of most specimens is a small knob on the concave side. The rays are long, somewhat curved, and turn sharply clockwise and downward near the end, as viewed on the convex side. A much smaller spine is usual as a bifurcation, although it appears to be a continuation of the main part of the ray as it extends in the same direction. Diameter 16-25 μ .

Remarks:

This species differs from *D. brouweri* in having the peculiar bifurcation at tip of rays and a slight curvature of rays in the same direction as the more conspicuous spine. Moreover, the rays of *D. hamatus* show less downward bending and it is normally larger than *D. brouweri*. *Discoaster pentaradiatus* has bifurcations commonly unequal in length but in the same plane and both at large angles to the ray.

Type level:

Miocene, *Globorotalia menardii* Zone.

Distribution: Few in the lower part of EM 8-11 and rare in EM 8-12 in the middle Miocene (Tortonian?). Common in the Lengua Formation (*Globorotalia menardii* Zone) of Trinidad, in sample W 46 (*G. menardii* Zone) of the Miocene of Haiti, and between 320 and 555 cm of Lamont Core A 185-19.

Type locality:

Trinidad, about 1 mile south of Princes Town (type locality of *Globorotalia menardii* Zone, Lengua Formation).

Depository:

U. S. National Museum, Washington D. C. Holotype: USNM 647855.

Author:

Martini E. and Bramlette M. N., 1963, p. 852; pl. 105, figs. 8, 10, 11.

Reference:

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