

Discoaster? noelae BUKRY, 1969



Fig. 1 — *Discoaster? noelae* BUKRY, n. sp.,
holotype, distal view, x 9030.

Description:

This regular, 8-rayed discoaster has 8 straight median ribs which stand out in strong relief above the flanking ray areas. The ribs begin at tips of the rays and run directly to the slender cylindrical central stalk. The 8 rays have a free margin for only about half of the length of each rib. Interrib notches in the margin occur half-way between the ribs and produce a symmetric outline.

Maximum diameter: 6.3 μ .

Remarks:

This form bears closest resemblance to the Paleogene *Discoaster lodoensis* BRAMLETTE & SULLIVAN group figured by Stradner and Papp (1961). Both forms have ribs along each ray which terminate at a central stalk. However, none of Stradner's variations includes an 8-rayed form with very short free rays. Most distinctly, strong curvature of the rib in each ray is characteristic of *D. lodoensis*. Also, this rib always runs along one side of each ray. *Discoaster? noelae* ribs are practically straight and run along the center of each ray. Since discoasters are rarely reported in pre-Tertiary samples, this may be a forerunner of the *D. lodoensis* group.

Type level:

Early Campanian (Lower Taylor Marl).

Known range: Campanian.

Type locality:

Lake Waxahachie, Ellis County, Texas, U.S.A.

Depository:

Geology Department of the University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois. Holotype, UI-H-2918, distal view (fig. 1).

Author:

Bukry D., 1969, p. 65; pl. 39, fig. 1.

Reference:

Upper Cretaceous Coccoliths from Texas and Europe. Univ. Kansas Paleont. Contr., Art. 51, (Protista 2), 79 pp., 40 pls., 1 text-fig.