

Discosphaera regalis GAARDER, 1954



Fig. 5a-c — *Discosphaera regalis* n. sp. St. 64. Somewhat diagrammatic figures, a. equatorial cross section, diameter (incl. coccol.) 44 μ , b. different shape of rhabdolith tops, c. profiles of two rhabdoliths, and bases of three at low focusing.

Description:

The cell is globular, diameter 21–27 μ , and is densely covered with rhabdoliths, the basal plates of which form a fragile crust which breaks off in large flakes by pressure. The basal plates are perforated, forming more or less regular asteroid figures (see fig. 5c, somewhat schematically) with the stalks placed centrally. These taper gradually from the base, flaring abruptly at the top into small «trumpets» which are mostly quadrangular, though sometimes triangular or circular in outline (see fig. 5b). In some a luminous, round spot may be distinguished in the centre indicating a hollowness of the stalks. The stalks may be broken but not loosened from the basal crust. Now and then, by crushing, single rhabdoliths may be distinguished and a few measurements have been made. The basal plate has a diameter of about 4.5 μ and a height of about 1.5 μ . The stalks vary considerably in length in different cells, from 9 to 16 μ , and have a basal diameter of about 1.5 μ .

No organized cell content, no flagellar area and no flagella have been observed.

Diameter (incl. coccoliths) 31–63 μ .

Remarks:

The closest relative of this species is *D. crucifera*.

Type level:

Recent.

Type locality:

Area III: St. 64. Atlantic Ocean.

This species was observed in all samples from the Sargasso Sea station, and was most numerous in the samples from the upper water layers, associated with *D. crucifera*.

Depository:

Not given.

Author:

Gaarder K.R., 1954, p. 8, fig. 5.

Reference:

Coccolithineae, Silicoflagellatae, Pterospermatataceae and other forms from the « Michael Sars » North Atlantic Deep-Sea Expedition 1910. Rep. Sc. Results « Michael Sars » North Atlantic Deep-Sea Exped. 1910, vol. 2, n° 4, 20 pp., figs. 1-21.