

Eprolithus STOVER, 1966

Description:

Calcareous nannofossils that have a more or less circular outline in plan view. The rim is composed of several or numerous segments of uniform or variable width surrounding a circular heliolithic central plate located at approximately mid-height. The vertical cross section is « H »-shaped. Individual segments of the rim extinguish separately under crossed nicols. Diameter 5–12 μ .

Remarks:

Comparison: *Eprolithus* differs from *Radiolithus* STOVER in having an « H »-shaped rather than a « U »-shaped cross section, and in lacking the radial spokelike pattern on the central plate. It differs from *Lithastrinus* STRADNER in having a conspicuous axial opening that is divided transversely by a central plate and in lacking strongly attenuated segments. The new genus differs from *Heliolithus* BRAMLETTE & SULLIVAN in having each of the segments of the rim, rather than the entire rim, respond optically as a single crystal.

Type species:

Lithastrinus floralis STRADNER, 1962.

Author:

Stover L. E., 1966, p. 149.

Reference:

Cretaceous coccoliths and associated nannofossils from France and the Netherlands. *Micro-paleontology*, vol. 12, n° 2, pp. 133–167, pls. 1–9.