

Flabellites THIERSTEIN, 1973

Description:

Definition: The elements of the inner cycle of the distal shield are elongated, one or two clusters of these elements often extend beyond the elliptical periphery of the coccolith.

Differentiation: *Kamptnerius* DEFLANDRE, 1959, has a much more complex proximal shield and its central area consists of elongated crystal plates instead of small blocky crystals.

Remarks:

In those parts of the coccolith where the inner cycle of the distal shield is extended, the elements of the outer cycle are smaller or even fused with the elongated elements. Several specimens of the type species without asymmetric shape have been recognized (Pl. 5, Fig. 5-8). Taxonomic assignment of this genus to the family *Cretarhabdaceae* n. fam. is provisional.

The "overgrowth" of one cycle of elements seems to be primary and not due to diagenetic overcalcification or corrosion for the following reasons:

1. Elongation of the elements is not regular.
2. No overgrowth or corrosion has been recognized in the central area of the asymmetric specimens, nor was it seen in other coccoliths of the same samples.

Type species:

Flabellites biforaminis THIERSTEIN, 1973.

Author:

Thierstein H. R., 1973, p. 41.

Reference:

Lower Cretaceous Calcareous Nannoplankton Biostratigraphy. Abh. Geol. Bundesanst., Wien, vol. 29, pp. 1-52, 6 pls.