129. Micrantholithus? parvistellatus Varol (1991)

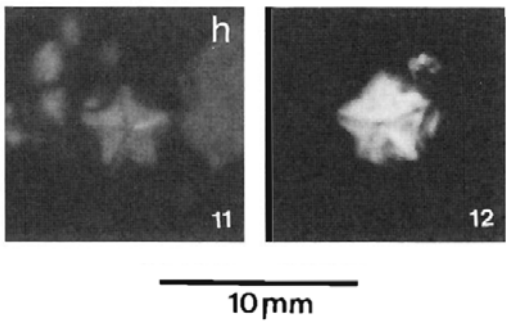

Fig. 8, 11-12

Diagnosis: Pentalith star-shaped, small but thick. The adjacent sides of the marginally concave segments form short pointed arms.

Derivation of name: From Latin *parvus*, small and *stellatus*, stary.

Holotype: Fig. 8 (11).

Type level and locality: Berriasian, Irian Jaya, Indonesia.

Description: This small pentalith consists of broad V-shaped segments. The adjacent sides of the segments form tapering arms with acutely pointed tips.

This star-shaped, small species has a thickness almost equal to the total diameter. The thickness of this form is distinctly seen in plane view from its strong birefringence, high relief and depth of focus.

Dimensions of holotype: Maximum diameter = 4.5µm, Thickness = 4.0µm.

Remarks: *M? parvistellatus* is distinguished from other Early Cretaceous *Micrantholithus* DEFLANDRE in DEFLANDRE & FERT (1954) species, namely *Micrantholithus obtusus* STRADNER (1963) and *Micrantholithus hoschulzii* (REINHARDT) THIERSTEIN (1971) by having segments with strongly concave margins, and by being thick and much smaller. The SEM micrograph of a small variety of *Micrantholithus* illustrated by COOPER & SHAFFER (1976, pl. 1, fig. 4) possibly belongs to this species. This new species shows similarity to *Polycostella* THIERSTEIN (1971).

Occurrence: *M? parvistellatus* is frequently observed in basal Berriasian sediments of Irian Jaya, Indonesia. There is no other *Micrantholithus* species present in basal Berriasian sediments.

Varol, O., 1991. New Cretaceous and Tertiary nannofossils. *Neue Jahrbuch fur Geologie und Paleontologie, Abhandlungen,* **182(2):** 211-237.