Octopodorhabdus Noël, 1965 emend. Wind & Čepek, 1979

Description:

Large podorhabdid with eight or more large perforations in one or more cycles surrounding a central stem. The central area is dominated by large perforations. When eight windows are present, they are situated in a generally symmetrical configuration around the outer portion of the central area. Specimens with more than eight perforations may have the windows on several levels surrounding the central stem, and the deployment of perforations is not symmetrical with respect to the axes of the ellipse.

Remarks:

The type series,*Octopodorhabdus praevisus Noël,* 1965, consists of eight perforations, two of which are on the long axis of the ellipse. *Octopodorhabdus decussatus* (Manivit) Rood, Hay, & Barnard, 1971, has eight large windows defined by thin buttresses which are generally subparallel to the ellipse axes. Although Black (1972,p. 38) notes that the eight large windows in *Octocyclas magnus* (= *Octopodorhabdus decussatus*) are arranged symmetrically about the major buttresses, and that these buttresses lie along the principal axes of the ellipse, several of the specimens illustrated (especially Black, 1972, pl. 8, fig. 1-5) have an asymmetrical buttress and window configuration.
The main differences between *Octopodorhabdus* and *Hexapodorhabdus* are in size of the coccolith, and dimensions and arrangement of central area perforations. Specimens of *Hexapodorhabdus* (and *Perissocyclus* Black, 1971) are generally between 5.0 and 7.0 μm in greatest diameter, while those of *Octopodorhabdus* are usually greater than 10.0 μm in greatest dimension. Central area windows in *Octopodorhabdus* are large and rounded, while the perforations in other genera are small and angular.

Type species:

Octopodorhabdus praevisus Noel, 1965.

Author:

Wind F.H. & Čepek P., 1979, p. 230.

Reference:

Lower Cretaceous calcareous nannoplankton from DSDP Hole 397A (Northwest African Margin). Init. Repts. DSDP, vol. 47, pp. 221-255, 11 pls., 3 text-figs.