

Phanulithus WIND & WISE, 1976

Description:

Diagnosis: Elliptical coccoliths constructed of three or more calcite segments which exhibit high birefringence in polarized light. The elliptical forms may support short fluted stems similar to *Lucianorhabdus*.

Description: Elliptical specimens generally between 5.0 and 7.0 μm in greatest diameter constructed of three or more calcite segments of varying crystallographic orientation. Sutures separating individual calcite segments may correspond to the axes of the ellipse. Ellipticity of specimens varies from 1.4 to 1.6. Specimens are concave on proximal side and may be sculptured on the distal side by circular excavations ringing a short central hollow-cored spine. Fluting on the spine exterior extends downward onto the surface of the disc between the excavations and some of the flutings coincide with intercrystalline sutures.

Remarks:

The name for this genus is from the Greek *phanus* (luminous) and *lithus* (stone). This genus resembles *Lucianorhabdus* and *Acuturris*, but the latter genera possess a well-developed spine. *Phanulithus* is similar in shape and size to *Orastrum* WIND & WISE, n. gen., *Okkolithus*, WIND & WISE, n. gen. and *Ottavianus* RISATTI, 1973, but is constructed of fewer, larger segments and often has a well-developed short spine.

Type species:

Tetralithus obscurus DEFLANDRE, 1955.

Author:

Wise S. W. and Wind F. H., 1976, p. 304.

Reference:

Mesozoic and Cenozoic calcareous nannofossils recovered by DSDP Leg 36 drilling on the Falkland Plateau, southwest Atlantic sector of the southern ocean. Initial Reports of the Deep Sea Drilling Project, vol. 36, pp. 269-491, 89 pls., 5 figs., 7 tbs.