

Pontilithus GARTNER, 1968

Description:

The elliptical basal disc is constructed of a single cycle of imbricate elements and has a distally extending peripheral rim. The central area is open and has crossbars aligned with the major and minor axes of the ellipse. In each of the four quadrants of the central area a set of parallel ribs extends from the inner margins of the disc to the crossbars, and the ribs in diametrically opposite quadrants are also parallel.

Remarks:

Stemmed forms have not been observed in this genus although the structure spanning the central opening suggests that such forms exist. This genus is easily distinguished from other genera of the subfamily Parhabdolithoideae by the parallel ribs in each of the four quadrants.

Type species:

Pontilithus obliquicancellatus GARTNER, 1968.

Author:

Gartner S., Jr., 1968, p. 29.

Reference:

Coccoliths and related calcareous nannofossils from Upper Cretaceous deposits of Texas and Arkansas. Univ. Kansas Paleont. Contr., Serial n° 48, Protista, Art. 1, pp. 1-56, pls. 1-28, text-figs. 1-5.