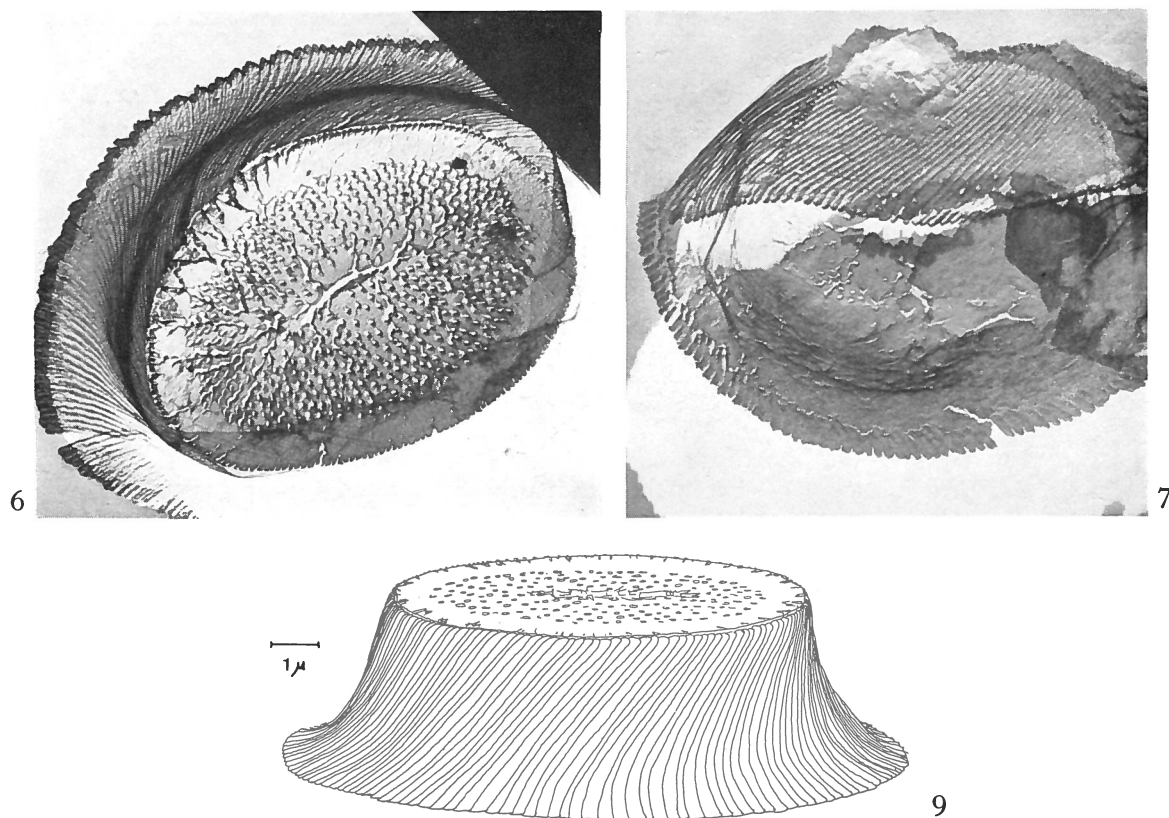


Pontosphaera alboranensis BARTOLINI, 1970



Figs. 6, 7, 9 — *Pontosphaera alboranensis* BARTOLINI, n. sp.; 6) distal view, holotype; 7) paratype, proximal view with the upper half of the flange overturned; 9) oblique side view. x 6000.

Description:

Diagnosis: Cribrilithus per apsida curvatus forma concavus convexus. Moderate concava centralis area terebrata trecentis aut etiam supra foraminis. Margo lamellaris habet in sectione formam S producti. (Elliptical concavo-convex cribrilith. Moderately concave central area pierced by 300 or more holes. Lamellar rim shaped in section like a stretched S).

Description: The central area of the cribrilith (Halldal and Markali, 1955, p. 7, Hay et al., 1966, p. 382) is pierced by 0.1μ holes arranged in approximately radial rows. Only an outer strip 0.5μ wide is free from these holes. A branched slit is situated in the central area along the major axis of the ellipse. The lamellar rim is made up of some 200 slender rods 2.8μ long and gently twisted throughout. The inclination is strongly clockwise in distal view.

The lamellar rim laths are visible on the proximal side only at their outer ends for a length of about 0.4μ . The remainder of the proximal wall is made of a continuous, slightly rough layer

of cryptocrystalline calcite. The boundary between this layer and the lamellar rim is highly irregular.

Dimensions: The central area measures from 8.1 to 10.5 μ in length and from 5.8 to 7.5 μ in width. The dimension ranges are probably wider than here outlined, since only 3 specimens have been found and measured in core 68.

Remarks:

Comparison: The shape of the lamellar rim is very similar to that of *Helicosphaera seminulum seminulum* BRAMLETTE & SULLIVAN. The latter has, of course, a helicoidal structure of the flange and a very different proximal side. *P. alboranensis* differs from *P. vadosa* HAY, MOHLER & TOWE in having a much higher number of perforations and a larger, sinuous lamellar rim.

Remarks: *Pontosphaera alboranensis* has been figured by Hay et al. (1967) under the name *Pontosphaera* sp. (pl. 10, fig. 6; pl. 11, fig. 6). The central area of this specimen measures 11.5 by 8.7 μ . Over-all dimensions are 16.2 by 12.0 μ .

Type level:

Recent.

Type locality:

Alboràn Sea (Mediterranean) between the Strait of Gibraltar and the Spanish islet of El Alboràn.

Depository:

Centro Universitario di Microscopia Elettronica, Firenze.
Holotype: C.U.M.E. 929/21; paratype: C.U.M.E. 929/16.

Author:

Bartolini C., 1970, p. 148; pl. 6, figs. 6, 7.

Reference:

Coccoliths from sediments of the western Mediterranean. *Micropaleontology*, vol. 16, n° 2, pp. 129-154, pls. 1-8.