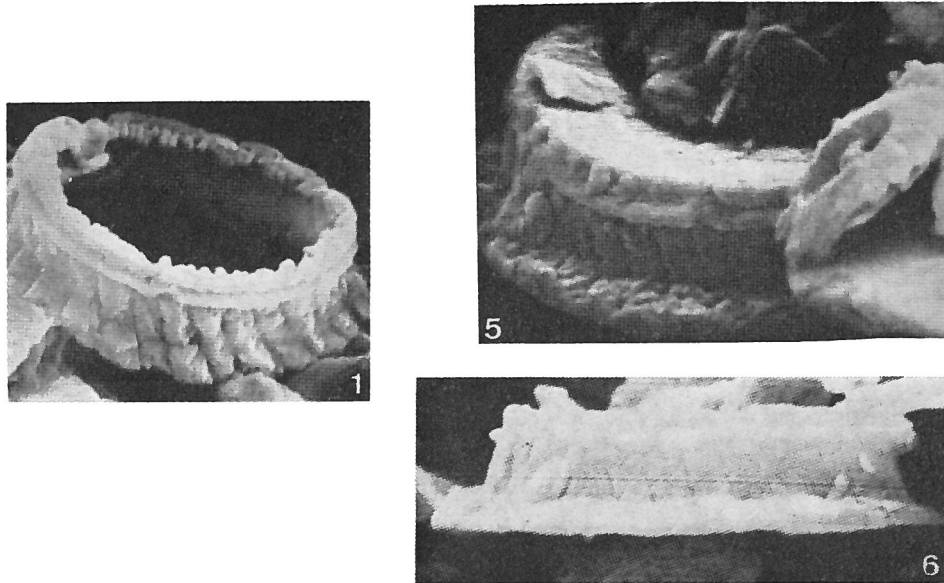


Proculithus expansus MEDD, 1979



Figs. 1, 5, 6 — *Proculithus expansus* sp. n. 1) Holotype, oblique proximal-lateral view. Upper Oxford Clay, Millbrook section, near Ampthill, Bedfordshire. SAB 28. SEM 76/12545, $\times 16,000$. 5) Oblique proximal-lateral view. Upper Oxford Clay, Gamlingay Borehole at 110 feet (33.53 m). SAC 220. SEM 76/12630, $\times 18,000$. 6) Lateral view of Figure 5. *Ibid.* SEM 76/12631, $\times 16,000$.

Description:

Diagnosis: A species of *Proculithus* with parallel-sided or slightly distally diverging bundles of axial rod-like plates, which are inclined at an angle of about $60-75^\circ$ to the proximal shield; the shield comprises two or three cycles of about 40 plates; the height of the coccolith is less than half of its width.

Description: Coccoliths with a proximal shield comprising two or three cycles of plates; the proximal cycle is very fragile and not usually seen but there may be a vestige of a central area covered by rhomb-shaped elements (Pl. 11, Fig. 1) the central opening is half or more of the width of the shield. A short bundle of rod-like plates extend distally and at an angle of about $60-75^\circ$ to the proximal shield and diverge slightly distally; at the distal margin they turn abruptly outwards to form a wide selvage.

Dimensions: Overall width of the coccolith is 4μ ; height approximately 1.5μ .

Remarks:

This species is separated from the others in this genus by its much greater width/height ratio.

Other material: This is the most frequently found species of *Proculithus* and occurs in several Oxford Clay samples of the Gamlingay and Haddenham boreholes. It has also been found in the Lower Jurassic (Toarcian) beds of Dorset (SEM 76/12593).

Type level:

Oxfordian.

73 feet (22.25 m) below ground surface; Upper Oxford Clay, *mariae* Zone, *scarburgense* Subzone.

Type locality:

Millbrook section, near Ampthill, Bedfordshire, England.

Depository:

Institute of Geological Sciences, Leeds, England.

Holotype: SEM 76/12545.

Author:

Medd A. W., 1979, p. 56; pl. 11, figs. 1, 5, 6.

Reference:

The Upper Jurassic coccoliths from the Haddenham and Gamlingay boreholes (Cambridgeshire, England). *Eclogae geol. Helv.*, vol. 72, no. 1, pp.19-109, 11 pls.