

Radiolithus STOVER, 1966

Description:

Calcareous nannofossils that are circular in plan view and composed of eight or, more commonly, nine radial segments. The outer one-third or one-fourth of the plate consists of the rim, which is thicker than the rest of the nannofossil. Divisions between segments in the central area appear as radiating bars. Under crossed nicols, each segment extinguishes separately. The cross-sectional outline is « U »-shaped.

Remarks:

Comparison: *Radiolithus* differs from *Eprolithus* in being « U »-shaped rather than « H »-shaped in cross section and in having a narrower, less conspicuous rim. The new genus differs from *Fasciculithus* BRAMLETTE & SULLIVAN, which has a similar appearance in plan view, in lacking encircling bands and the appearance of a bundle of short rods in side view.

Type species:

Radiolithus planus STOVER, 1966.

Author:

Stover L. E., 1966, p. 158.

Reference:

Cretaceous coccoliths and associated nannofossils from France and the Netherlands. *Micro-paleontology*, vol. 12, n° 2, pp. 133-167, pls. 1-9.