Reticulofenestra HAY, MOHLER & WADE, emend. EDWARDS, 1973

Description:
Oval to subcircular placoliths with a three armed cycle of integrated rhombic laths forming an imbricated, more or less inverted T-shaped, central area grille, proximal shield and surmounting wall structure to which is attached a distal cycle of L-shaped rhombic laths forming an imbricated distal shield structure. Except in the grille, all segments are normally joined throughout their length. A central area plug or bridge is not present.

Type species:
Reticulofenestra caucasica HAY, MOHLER & WADE, 1966 (the holotype is a junior subjective synonym of Coccolithus umbilicus LEVIN, 1965 and, less certainly, of Coccolithus placomorphus KAMPTNER, 1956).

Remarks:
The emended diagnosis given above is, like Stradner's earlier emendation, an attempt to characterise this genus in terms of its ultrastructure. It differs from Stradner's diagnosis in two major ways: firstly, in emphasising the integral nature of the segments forming the proximal shield, central area grille and wall and, secondly, in specifically excluding those Prinsiaceae having a plug, for example „Reticulofenestra" bisecta (HAY, MOHLER & WADE). The criteria used to distinguish Reticulofenestra sensu emend from the other Prinsiaceae taxa accepted as distinct by the writer are given in fig. 1.

Fig. 1 — Tentative generic relationships within the Prinsiaceae.
In the writer's opinion the following genera are, or may be, junior subjective synonyms of this genus:

*Apertapetra* Hay, Mohler & Wade, 1966. The type species, *Apertapetra samodurovi* Hay, Mohler & Wade, 1966, is, like the type species of *Reticulofenestra* which has page priority, a synonym of *C. umbilicus* Levin 1965 and, less certainly, of *C. placomorphus* Kamptner 1956. *Dictyococcites* Black, 1967. Although the distal side of the type species, *Dictyococcites danicus* Black, 1967, has not been described or illustrated the presence of an integrated proximal shield and central area grille plus the possible absence of a plug makes synonymy with *Reticulofenestra* feasible.

*Toweius* Hay & Mohler, 1967. This genus essentially differs from *Reticulofenestra* only in the possession of a partial plug and since the writer concurs with the proposer's observation that the type species, *Toweius craticulus* Hay & Mohler, 1967, is probably a forerunner of *Reticulofenestra* it follows that further work may show the separation of these two genera to be artificial.

*Stradnerius* Haq, 1968. In erecting this genus Haq listed the type species of *Dictyococcites* Black, 1967 as a synonym of the type species of his new genus thus making *Stradnerius* illegitimate (*fide* Loeblich and Tappan). Furthermore he based the diagnosis on specimens referred incorrectly in the writer's opinion, to the nominated type species, *Discolithus dictyodus* Deflandre & Fert, 1954 which is the oldest undoubted member of *Reticulofenestra* sensu emend known to the writer. (For further information see discussion under *R. hampdenensis*). Quite apart from such considerations the writer does not accept the stated basis for separation from *Reticulofenestra* as valid since some species, such as that described below, have central areas which are spanned by both a reticulate „membrane” and vertical septa.

**Author:**


**Reference:**