Rhombolithion Black, 1973

Description:
Elongate Stephanolithiaceae with a window at each of the narrow ends, and a solid bar along the length (major diagonal) of the coccolith between these windows. Lateral branches extend from the bar to the outer wall.

Type species:
Zygolithus rhombicus Stradner & Adamiker, 1956.

Remarks:
There are several Mesozoic species, mostly undescribed, that agree with this diagnosis of Rhombolithion. They have lozenge-shaped outlines enclosing a system of bars arranged without bilateral symmetry, but forming a pattern that repeats itself on being rotated through 180°. The genus Diadozygus Rood, Hay & Barnard, 1971 included coccoliths of this type, together with others that are here placed in Stradnerolithus Black, 1971. Unfortunately the name Diadozygus is not available, since the taxon as circumscribed by its authors included a species D. dorsetense Rood, Hay & Barnard, 1971 (August), Ecl. geol. Helv., vol. 74, which is almost certainly conspecific with the type species of Stradnerolithus S. comptus Black, 1971 (July), Proc. Yorks. geol. Soc., vol. 38.

Author:

Reference: