

190. *Scyphosphaera decedomurale* Varol (1991)

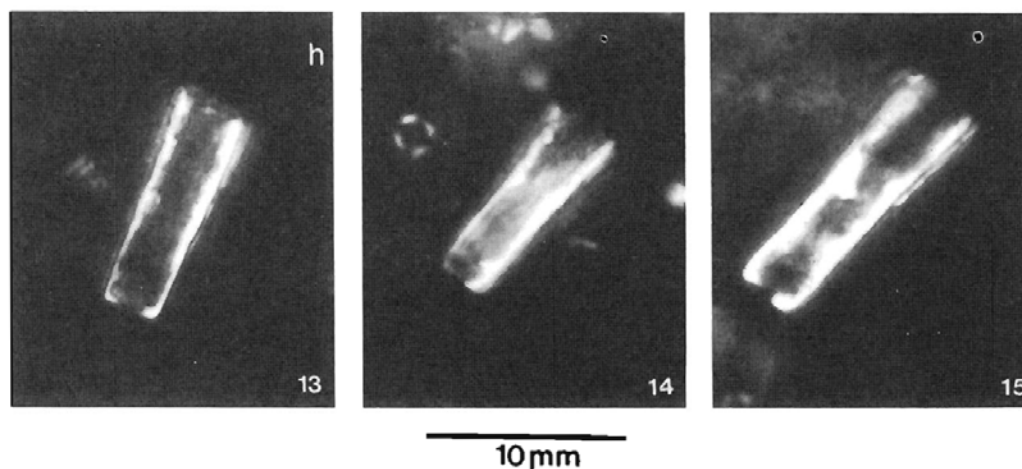


Fig. 8, 13-15

Diagnosis: A lopadolith having walls which diverge gradually outwards from the flat proximal floor. The maximum and minimum widths lie at the distal and proximal ends respectively.

Derivation of name: From Latin *decedere*, to diverge and *murus*, wall.

Holotype: Fig. 8 (13).

Type level and locality: Middle Eocene (Zone NPI5), Pakistan.

Description: This relatively small, simple species of *Scyphosphaera* has a small and flat proximal floor. The first wall forms an indistinct edge just above the floor. The second wall gradually diverges outwards and terminates simply without any distal flaring or curvature. The maximum and minimum widths lie at the distal and proximal ends respectively.

Dimensions of holotype: Height = 11.2 μ m, Maximum width (distal end) = 4.6 μ m, Minimum width (proximal end) = 3.3 μ m.

Remarks: *S. decedomurale* is distinguished from *Scyphosphaera expansa* BUKRY & PERCIVAL (1971) by being much smaller and more slender. The ratio of the diameter of the distal end to that of the proximal end is about 2 in *S. expansa* while it is less than 1.5 in *S. decedomurale*. In *Scyphosphaera columella* STRADNER (1969) the walls are parallel sided and the diameter of the apical is equal to that of the proximal end. The Pleistocene to Recent form *Scyphosphaera porosa* differs from this new species by lacking any ornamentation in its outer surface. In *S. porosa* KAMPTNER (1967) the ratio of the diameter of the distal end to that of the proximal end is also about 2.

Occurrence: *S. decedomurale* is frequently observed in Middle Eocene (Zone NP15) sediments of Pakistan. It is also recorded in the Middle Eocene to Lower Oligocene (Zones NPI5-NP21) of Somalia, East Africa.

Varol, O., 1991. New Cretaceous and Tertiary nannofossils. *Neue Jahrbuch für Geologie und Paläontologie, Abhandlungen*, **182(2)**: 211-237.