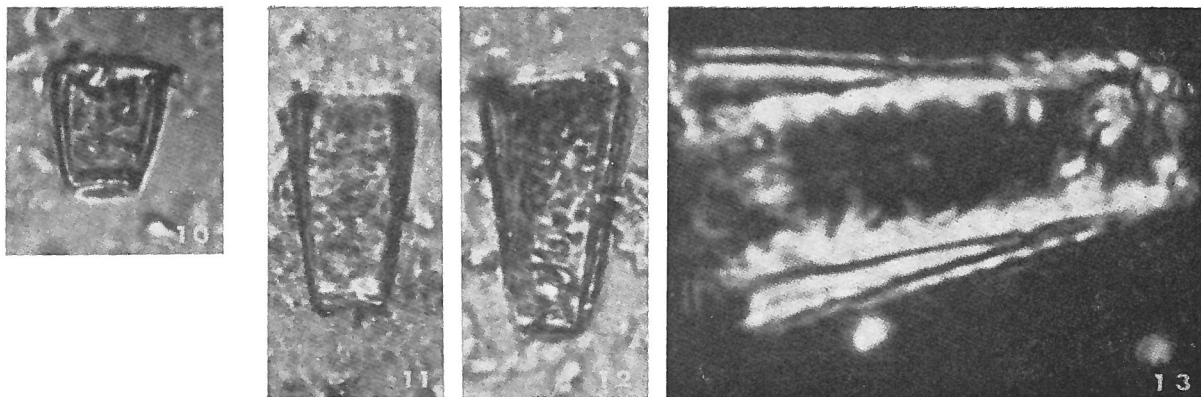


Scyphosphaera expansa BUKRY & PERCIVAL, 1971



Figs. 10-13 — *Scyphosphaera expansa* n. sp., 10) USNM 169222, type Formación Aragón, 1000 x; 11) USNM 169223, 1000 x; 12) Holotype USNM 169224, 1000 x; 13) cross-polarized, 2000 x.

Description:

This simple, tall conical-shaped species has thin, high, straight walls that extend from the base at an angle of approximately 100° such that the diameter of the central opening gradually increases from the base to the open top. The exterior of the wall has the regular sculpture typical of *Scyphosphaera* and the wall terminates simply at the open end. The height of the wall is variable from about 18 to 36 microns, whereas the diameter of the base is consistently about 9 microns and the wall-to-base angle is consistently about 100° , so the open end always has a larger diameter than the base.

Size: 18 to 36 microns.

Remarks:

Scyphosphaera expansa differs from other species of *Scyphosphaera* by having straight walls that terminate simply and are inclined such that the end is larger than the closed base. The only other species with largely outwardly inclined walls, *Scyphosphaera apsteinii* LOHMANN var. *recta* DEFLANDRE and *Scyphosphaera recurvata* DEFLANDRE, have walls that are distinctly curved inward near the top.

Type level:

Lower middle Eocene.

Occurrence: *Scyphosphaera expansa* is one of the earliest scyphosphaerids. It is sparsely present in the lower middle Eocene sediment of the Aragon Formation of Mexico.

Type locality:

Formación Aragón, El Rio la Puerta, west-southwest of La Antigua, Mexico.

Depository:

U.S. National Museum. Holotype: USNM 169224; paratypes: USNM 169222 and 169223.

Author:

Bukry D. and Percival S.F., Jr., 1971, p. 138; pl. 6, figs. 10-13.

Reference:

New tertiary calcareous nannofossils. Tulane Studies in Geology and Paleontology, vol. 8, nº 3, pp. 123-146, pls. 1-7.