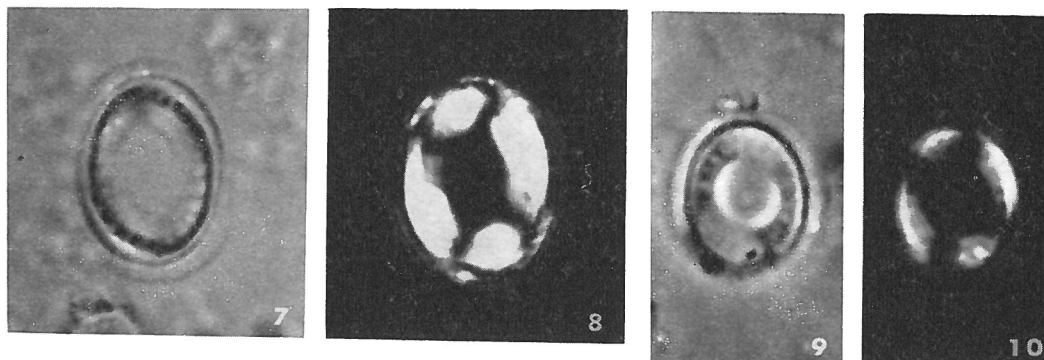


***Syracosphaera?* *wechesensis* BUKRY & PERCIVAL, 1971**



Figs. 7-10 — *Syracosphaera?* *wechesensis* n. sp., 7) Holotype: USNM 169229, Weches Formation; 8) cross-polarized; 9) USNM 169230, Cook Mountain Formation; 10) cross-polarized. 2000 x.

Description:

This elliptic, high-walled species has a large elliptic central opening. The inside of the wall has a regularly spaced series of ridges. The ends of these ridges form a cycle of beads at the base of the wall, where there is a narrow inner flange. A narrow indistinct outer flange is sometimes present at the wider end of the wall cycle, but most specimens lack a flange.

Size: 10 to 15 microns.

Remarks:

Syracosphaera? *wechesensis* is distinguished from other similar species such as *Syracosphaera labrosa* BUKRY & BRAMLETTE by having a distinctive cycle of wall ridges that appear at the juncture of the wall and small basal flange as a cycle of beads and a well-defined central opening, and by lacking a broad outer rim flange. *Transversopontis pulcher* (DEFLANDRE) has a similar cycle of beads but is distinguished by having a broad crossbar in the central area and a broader inner flange.

Type level:

Lower middle Eocene.

Occurrence: *Syracosphaera?* *wechesensis* is common in certain lower middle Eocene deposits of the Weches Formation at San Augustine, Texas, and from the Caucasus region of the U.S.S.R. This species has not yet been recognized in marine sediment cores.

Type locality:

Weches Formation, Roberts School, San Augustine, Texas.

Depository:

U.S. National Museum. Holotype: USNM 169229; paratype: USNM 169230.

Author:

Bukry D. and Percival S.F., Jr., 1971, p. 142; pl. 7, figs. 7-10.

Reference:

New tertiary calcareous nannofossils. *Tulane Studies in Geology and Paleontology*, vol. 8, n° 3, pp. 123-146, pls. 1-7.