

238. *Watkinsia Covington (1994)*

Type species: *Watkinsia pedalion* new species

Derivation of name: In honour of Dr. David K. Watkins, Department of Geology, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Diagnosis: A large, flat nannofossil that resembles the rudder or centreboard of a sailboat. The assumed proximal end is thickened in a plane perpendicular to the flat "fin". In cross-polarized light, the entire specimen goes into extinction as one unit.

Remarks: This oddly shaped nannofossil has no discernible elements and is somewhat irregular in outline. It seems highly susceptible to overgrowth and is difficult to distinguish in the light microscope; it appears to be a flat simple piece of calcite. At present, this is a monospecific genus. It is possible that these are holococcoliths, with overgrowth having destroyed the original crystallite ultrastructure.

Covington, M., 1994. New taxa from the Niobrara Formation. *Journal of Nannoplankton Research*, **16(3)**: 121-131.