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A PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE OCCURRENCE OF RADIOLARIA IN THE MIDDLE EOCENE OF THE VINJHAN-MIANI AREA, KUTCH, GUJARAT

THIS note records for the first time a radiolarian genus *Sethodiscinus* Haeckel, 1887 (Figs 1–3) from the fossiliferous yellow limestone exposed 1·6 km. NEE of the Khirasra village (N.L. 23° 7′ 5″ : E.L. 69° 2′ 15″) in a nala flowing towards the Khirasra village. The planktonic foraminifera are identified as *Globorotalia lehneri, Globigerina tripartita topuriensis. Globanomalina micra, Inordinatosphaera Indica, Chiloguembelina martini* and *C. tenuis* from the fossiliferous yellow limestone by one of the authors (A. K. J.). On the basis of the occurrence of these planktonic foraminifera this limestone has been referred to Lutetian. Srivastava[1] noted the following geological sequence of beds in the Vinjhan–Miani area :

Lutetian
- Fossiliferous light yellow marl
- Fossiliferous yellow limestone
- Unfossiliferous khaki shales

Jauhari[2,3], studied the planktonic as well as benthonic foraminifera obtained from the fossiliferous light yellow marl in detail and assigned a Lutetian age to this marl.

Systematic Palaeontology

Superfamily CENODISCICAE Haeckel, 1887
Subsuperfamily CENODISCILAE Haeckel, 1887
Family PHACODISCIDAE Haeckel, 1882
Subfamily PHACODISCINAE Haeckel, 1882
Genus *Sethodiscinus* Haeckel, 1887

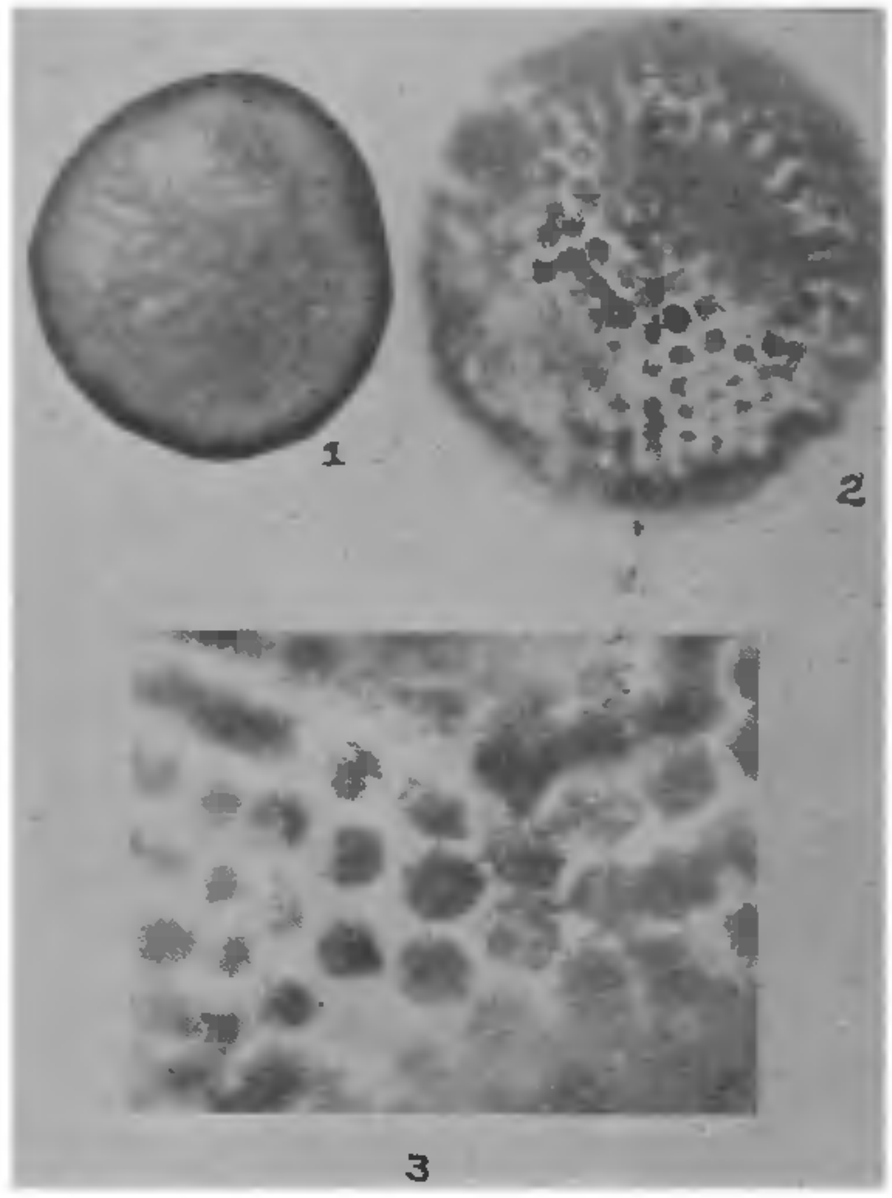
Sethodiscinus sp. indet.
(Figs. 1–3)

Description

Spherical cortical shell with more or less hexagonal net work ; medullary shell indistinct. Diameter 0·15 mm.

Remarks

The present form is identical in outline to the genus *Sethodiscinus* Haeckel, 1887 ranging in age from Eocene to Recent. It is rarely distributed. The specimen (Slide No. M.G.D./L.U./K./R./1) has been deposited in the Museum, Department of Geology, University of Lucknow, Lucknow.



FIGS 1–3. *Sethodiscinus* sp. indet., Fig. 1, surface view of the shell, × 180 ; Fig. 2, surface view of the shell after mounting in natural canada balsam, × 266 ; Fig. 3, enlarged view of the surface of the shell showing more or less hexagonal markings, × 798.

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