FORAMINIFERA FROM THE CRETACEOUS OF SOUTHERN LIMBURG, NETHERLANDS

BY J. HOFKER

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DICTYOCONUS MOSAE NOV. SPEC.

EPONIDES INVOLUTA NOV. SPEC.

Polytrema minutum (non Chapman) Hofker, Natuurh. Maandbl. 16, p. 125, fig. 1—3. Gyroidinoides nitida (non Reuss) Visser, 1950, p. 268, pl. 5, fig. 10.

In the year 1926 the author described a small Foraminifer, which was tentatively named Polytrema minutum C hap man, and so identified with a Tertiary species. Specimens were found in the Lower Md then. In the new gatherings now at hand several specimens more were found in the Lower Md, so that this remarkable species seems to be typical for that stratum only. Well preserved specimens showed without any doubt that they belong to Dictyoconus. They are, however, rare.

Test rounded with lobulate periphery and strongly rounded margin. At the dorsal side 5—6 chambers visible which are somewhat limbate and overlapping the former coils of chambers; sutures nearly straight, strongly bended backward. At the ventral side especially the last formed chambers are nearly globular. The ventral side is somewhat more convex, and the umbilical area depressed, whereas the dorsal side is more flattened.

Test conical, arenaceous with very fine grains, beginning at the top of the cone with an indistinct spiral. Later chambers consisting of horizontal layers, in the centre irregular, towards the outer wall with radial septae, some extending towards the irregular central septae, whereas other septae are much shorter and peripheral. In eroded specimens at the outer wall the small chamberlets can be seen.

The pores in the walls are fine and not distinct as in *Eponides meeterenae*, and the aperture is a narrow slit along the suture of the last formed chamber, covered by a very narrow, somewhat lobulate lip.

Heighth of the cone up to 1 mm, largest width 0,96 mm. Wellpreserved specimens show openings at their base.

In transverse section the walls are relatively thin and the chamberwalls on the dorsal side distinctly overlapping the chambers of former coils. The septal foramina are situated only at the ventral side of each chamber and are the slits formed by the apertures. The walls are very smooth.

Since highly developed species of real Dictyoconus are known only from the Lower Tertiary, this species contributes to the view, that the Lower Md already belongs to the Tertiary. The genus is common in the tropical areas.

Length about 0,75 mm, thickness 0,50 mm. The species occurs in the Mc and Md, possibly also in the highest layers of the Mb (transgressional zone).

It seems that Visser, mentioning Marssonella oxycona from the Md, also dealt with this species.

Visser describes it as Gyroidinoides nitida; but the oblique sutures at the dorsal side, the lip over the aperture and the lacking of the reiterating part at the margin of the apertural face, typical for Gyroidinoides, clearly show, that the species cannot belong to Gyroidinoides. Visser says, that 7—10 chambers are visible on the ventral side; in Gyroidinoides nitida the number of the chambers in a whorl never is more than 6 or 7, and in her figure she gives only 5 of them. Her figure is that of the species described here, not her description.