



# Commonwealth Environment Research Facilities

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## Benthic Foraminifera of the Great Barrier Reef

A guide to species potentially useful as  
Water Quality Indicators

Kristie Nobes and Sven Uthicke



Australian Government



AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE  
OF MARINE SCIENCE



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Australian Institute of Marine Science, Townsville



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August 2008

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We are grateful for a review of this guide provided by C. Reymond and Dr W. Renema.



## Introduction

Benthic foraminifera are important in sediment production in coral reef environments, and many beaches and sediments on the Great Barrier Reef are dominated by these organisms. A variety of different species of these single celled animals exist. Several of these have algal symbionts similar to corals, but these symbionts come from a variety of algal groups. These foraminifera receive a part of their energy demands from their symbionts, whereas species without symbionts rely entirely on feeding for energy intake. Differences in nutrient and light demand between the species suggest that foraminifera can be ideal indicators for water quality. Indeed, in temperate areas a variety of indicator species exist for different sources of pollution (Alve, 1995). Foraminifera have also been shown to be indicators for eutrophication in coral reefs of the Caribbean and Florida (Hallock *et al.* 2003) and our recent work supports that this is the case also for the Great Barrier Reef (Uthicke and Nobes 2008).

As part of the Marine and Tropical Sciences Research Facility (MTSRF) Project 3.7.1 *Marine and estuarine indicators and thresholds of concern* we investigate the use of foraminifera as indicators for changes in water quality. The purpose of this document is to provide a guide for the identification to genus or species level using pictures obtained by dissection microscopy.

We followed Loeblich and Tappan (1984) in the taxonomy of the higher taxa, and also cited rough descriptions of each Family from that publication.

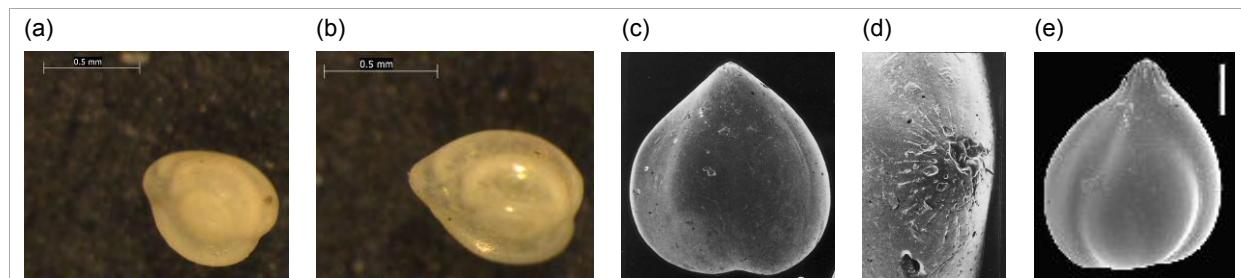
## Suborder: Lagenina

Lagenina have a monolamellar wall of radiate calcite, i.e. a perforated wall made up of only one layer, the outer lamella. The calcite crystals of the test are perpendicular to the surface making the test hyaline, and are encased by organic membranes (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

### Polymorphinidae

The chambers have a spiral formation that occurs around a vertical axis, with the initial chambers overlapping. The aperture is located at the end furthest from the initial chamber (proloculus) of the test (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

#### *Sigmoidella elegantissima* (Parker and Jones)



**Figure 1:** (a)-(b) Lateral view of *S. elegantissima*. (c) SEM picture of *S. elegantissima*, lateral view, magnification x43 (Coleman, 1979). (d) SEM picture of *S. elegantissima*, apertural view (Coleman, 1979). (e) SEM picture of *S. elegantissima*, lateral view, scale = 0.1mm (Haig, 2001).

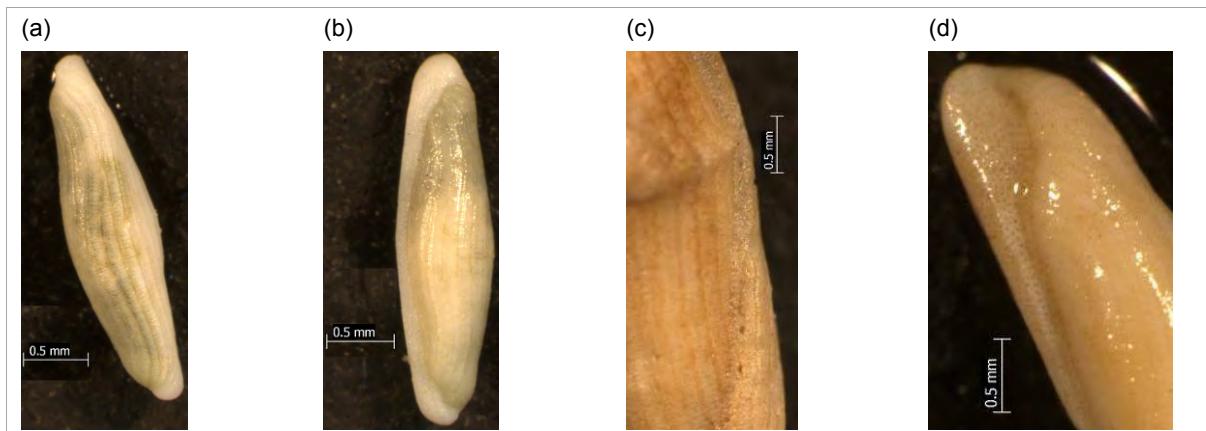
## Suborder: Miliolina

The porcelaneous test of Miliolina has an organic lining and in some cases foreign particles are collected and added to the test. Some species have a spiral passage (flexostyle) between the initial and later formed chambers (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

### Alveolinidae

These foraminifera are generally large and are found free living. Their tests are long with tapered ends. The numerous chambers are arranged parallel to the elongated axis around which they coil. The chambers themselves are divided into chamberlets by septulae. Alveolinidae have numerous apertures which are arranged into rows, with some fusing the apertures to form a slit (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

#### *Alveolinella quoysi* (d'Obigny, 1826)

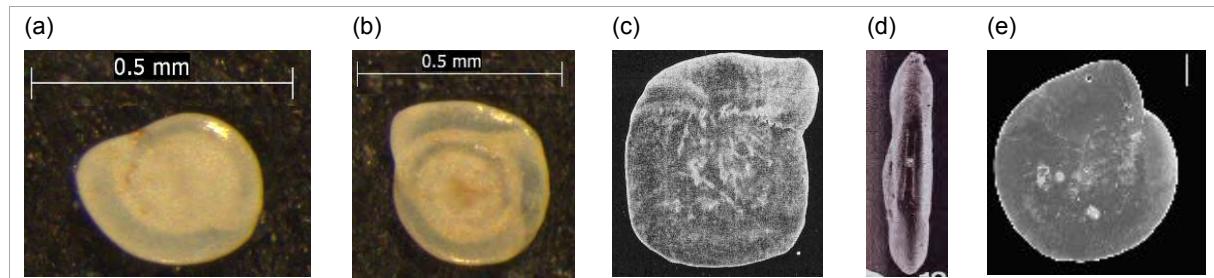


**Figure 2:** (a) Axial view of live *A. quoysi*. (b) Axial view onto apertural face of live *A. quoysi*. (c) Apertures on apertural face of *A. quoysi*. (d) Tapered end of *A. quoysi*.

## Fischerinidae

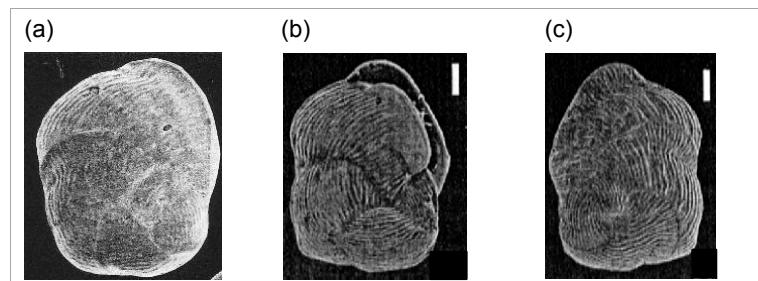
The main chambers, of which there are only a few, have a tubular appearance and begin to spiral around the initial chamber and flexostyle. The aperture is a large opening at the end of the whorl (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

### *Planispirinella exigua* (Brady, 1879)



**Figure 3:** (a)-(b) Lateral view of *P. exigua*. (c) SEM picture of *P. exigua*, lateral view, magnification x70 (Haig, 1988). (d) SEM picture of *P. exigua*, apertural view, magnification x110 (Haig, 1988). (e) SEM picture of *P. exigua*, lateral view, scale = 0.1mm (Haig, 2001).

### *Vertebralina striata* (d'Obigny, 1826)

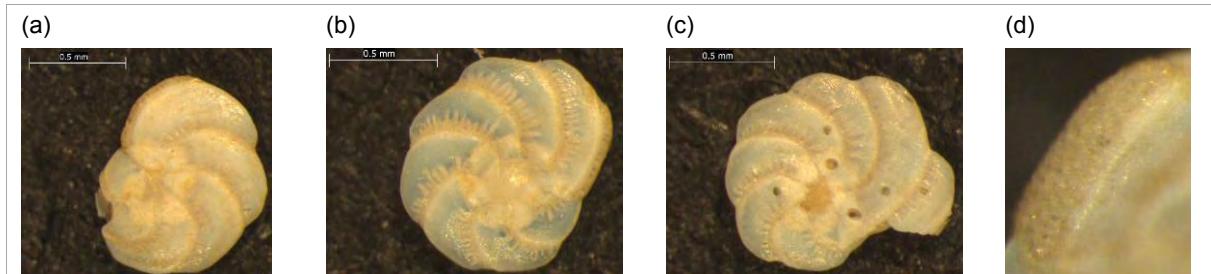


**Figure 4:** (a) SEM picture of *V. striata*, spiral side, magnification x80 (Haig, 1988). (b) SEM picture of *V. striata* umbilical side, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (c) SEM picture of *V. striata*, spiral sidfe, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001).

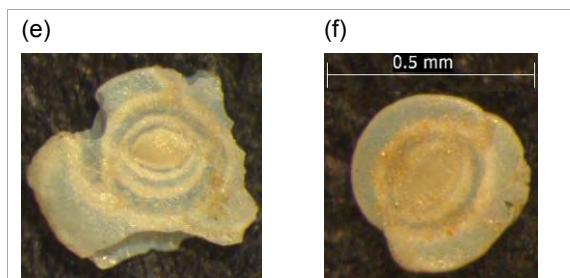
## Hauerinidae

Hauerinidae have more than two chambers in each whorl with the later formed chambers being planispiral, which do not uncoil in most cases (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

### *Hauerina circinata* (Brady, 1881)



### *Hauerina fragilissima* (Brady, 1884)

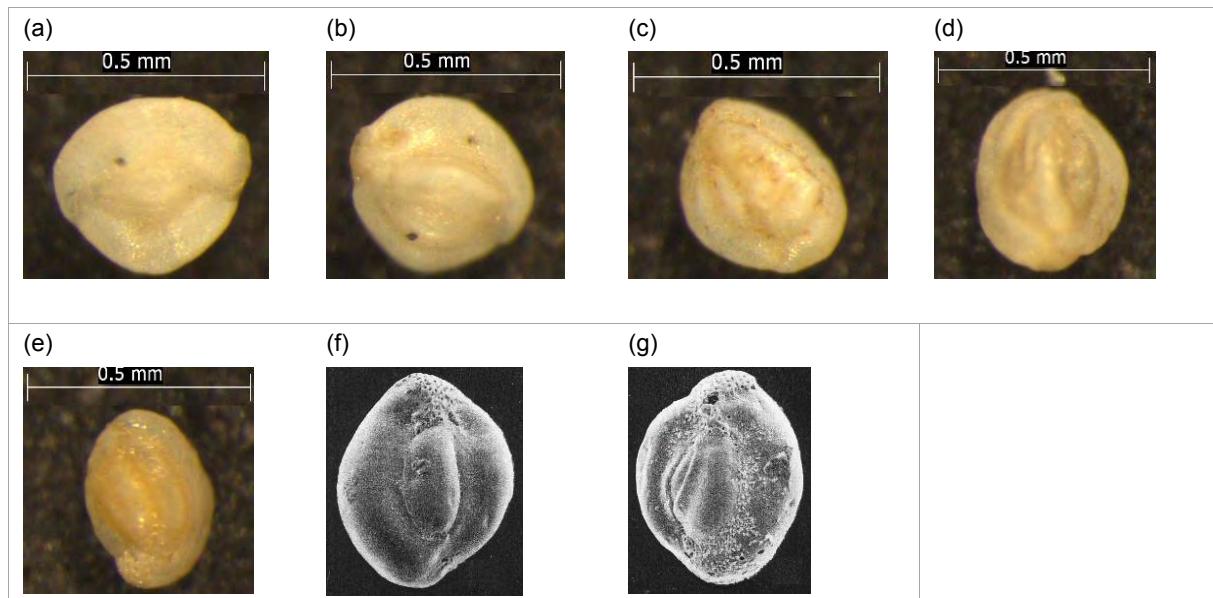


### *Hauerina pacifica* (Crushman, 1917)



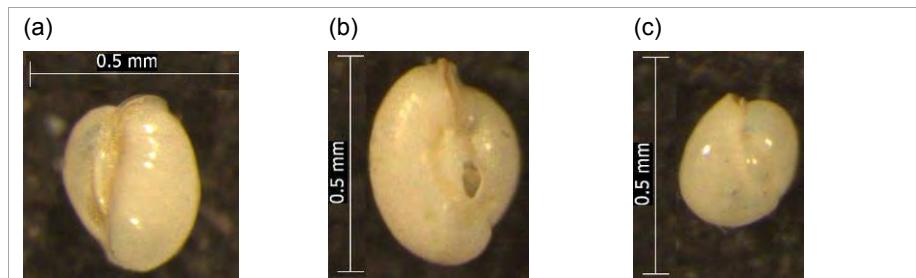
**Figure 5:** (a)-(c) Lateral view of *H. circinata*. (d) Apertural face of *H. circinata*, approximately 0.5mm in length. (e)-(f) Lateral view of *H. fragilissima*, approximately 0.5mm. (g)-(i) Lateral view of *H. pacifica*.

***Miliola earlandi* (Rasheed, 1971)**

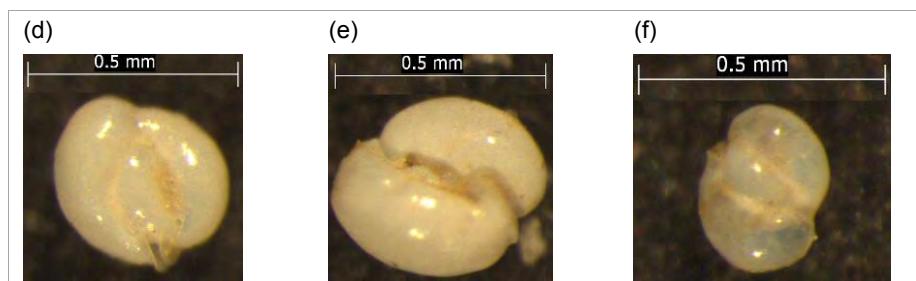


**Figure 6:** (a)-(e) Lateral view of *M. earlandi*. (f)-(g) SEM picture of *M. earlandi*, lateral view, magnification (f) x120, (g) x130 (Haig, 1988).

***Miliolinella circularis***

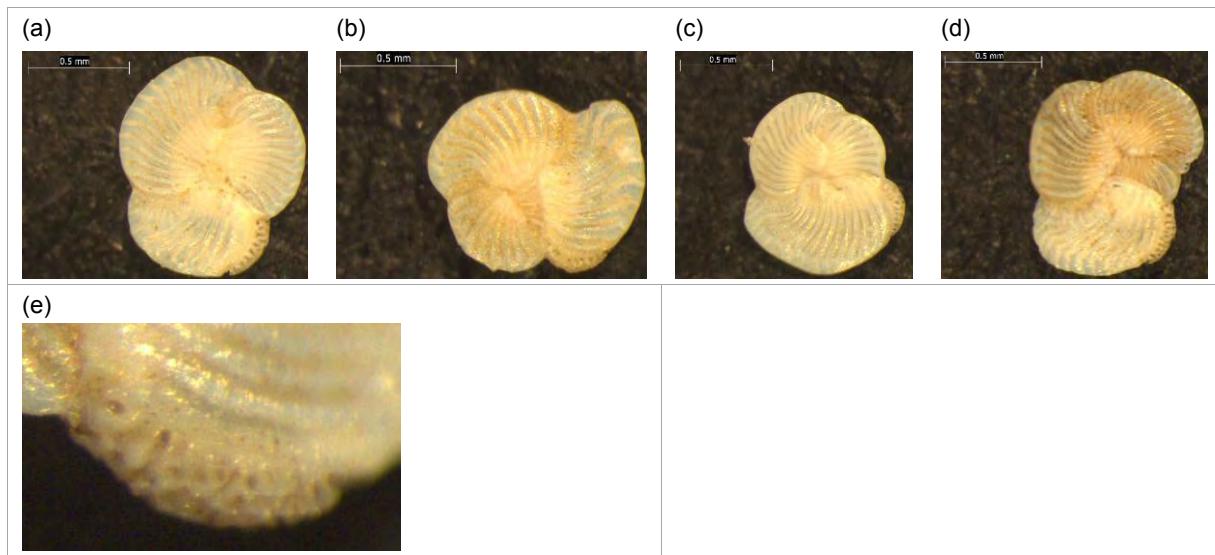


***Miliolinella labiosa* (d'Orbigny, 1839)**



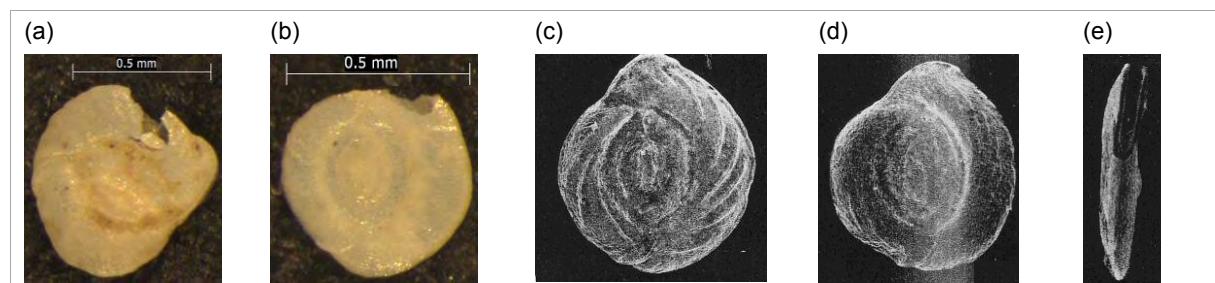
**Figure 7:** (a)-(c) Lateral view of *M. circularis*. (d)-(f) Lateral view of *M. labiosa*.

**Pseudohauerina involute (Crushman, 1946)**



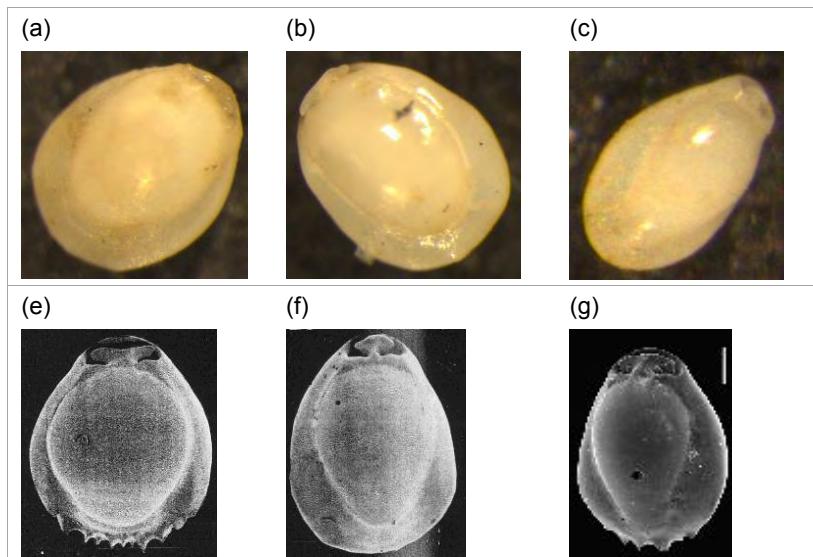
**Figure 8:** (a)-(d) Lateral view of *P. involute*. (e) Apertural face of *P. involute*, approximately 0.35mm in length.

**Pseudomassilina macilenta (Brady, 1884)**

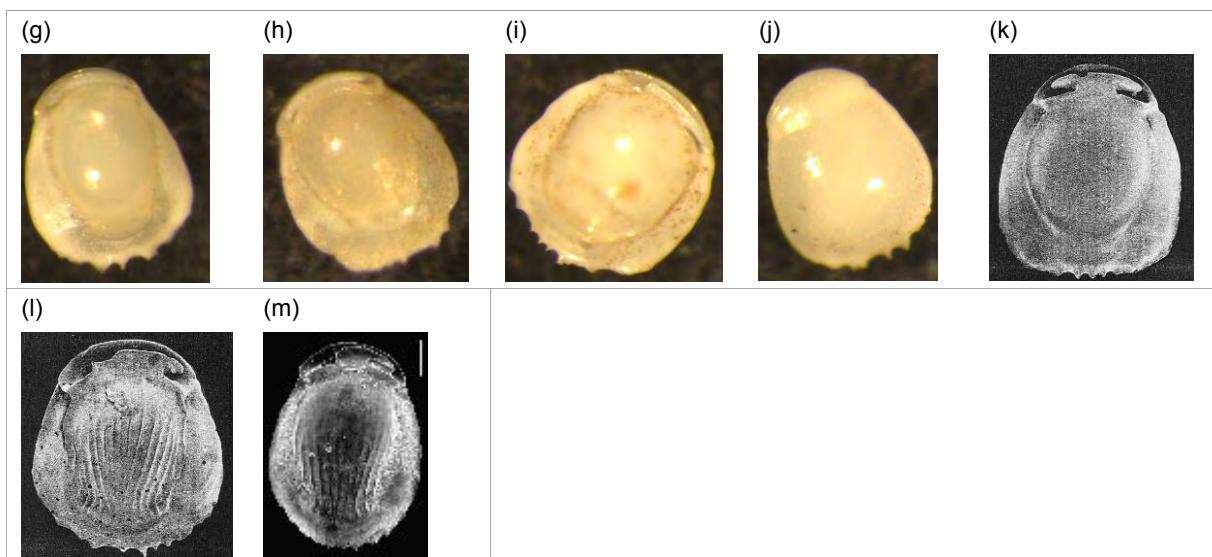


**Figure 9:** (a)-(b) Lateral view of *P. macilenta*. (c)-(d) SEM picture of *P. macilenta*, lateral view, magnification (c) x40, (d) x50 (Haig, 1988). (e) SEM picture of *P. macilenta*, aperture, magnification x70 (Haig, 1988).

***Pyrgo denticulata* (Brady, 1884)**

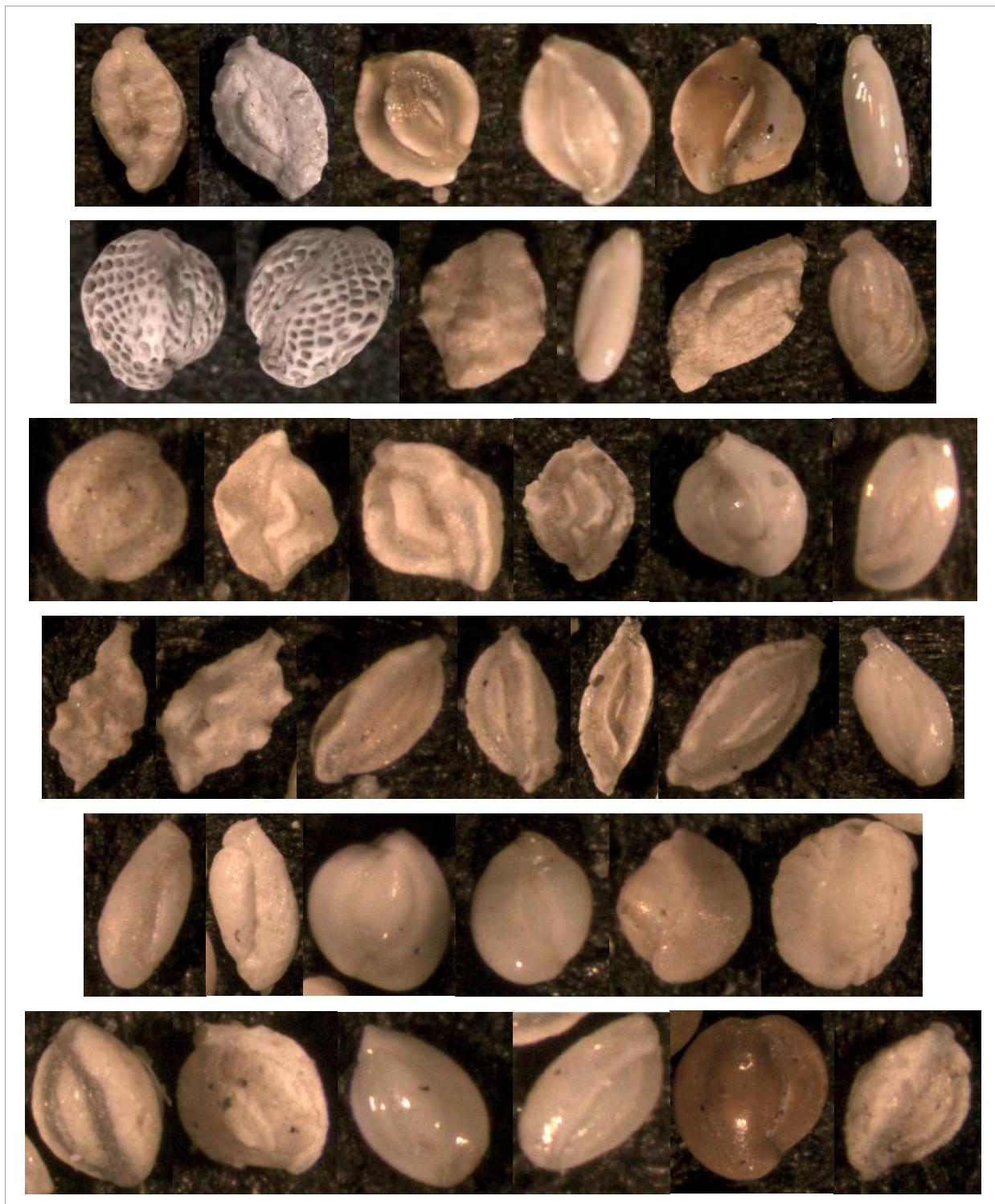


***Pyrgo striolata* (Brady, 1884)**



**Figure 10:** (a)-(c) Lateral view of *P. denticulata*, lateral view, approximately 0.5mm length. (d)-(e) SEM pictures of *P. denticulata*, lateral side, magnification (d) x50, (e) x70 (Haig, 1988). (f) SEM picture of *P. denticulata*, lateral view, scale = 0.1mm (Haig, 2001). (g)-(j) Lateral view of *P. striolata*, approximately 0.5mm length. (k)-(l) SEM pictures of *P. striolata*, lateral view, magnification (k) x60, (l) x50 (Haig, 1988). (m) SEM picture of *P. striolata*, lateral view, scale = 0.1mm (Haig, 2001).

***Quinqueloculina* spp.**



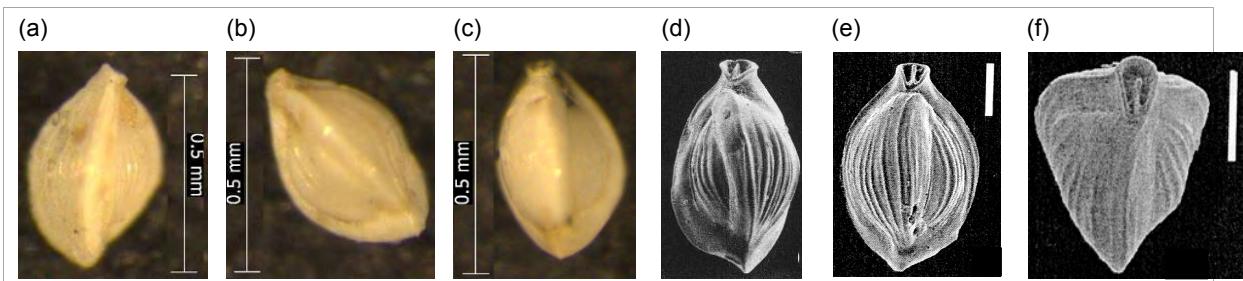
**Figure 11:** A range of *Quinqueloculina* species, ca. 0.07-0.5mm length.

### *Sigmohauerina involute*

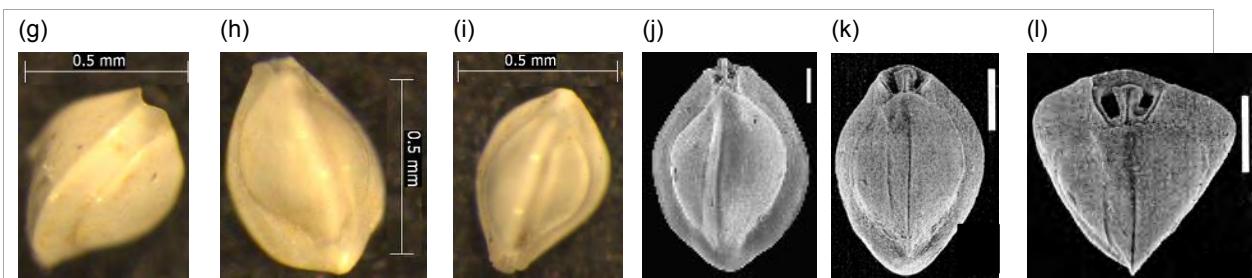


**Figure 12:** (a)-(c) Lateral view of *S. involute*, approximately 0.5mm width.

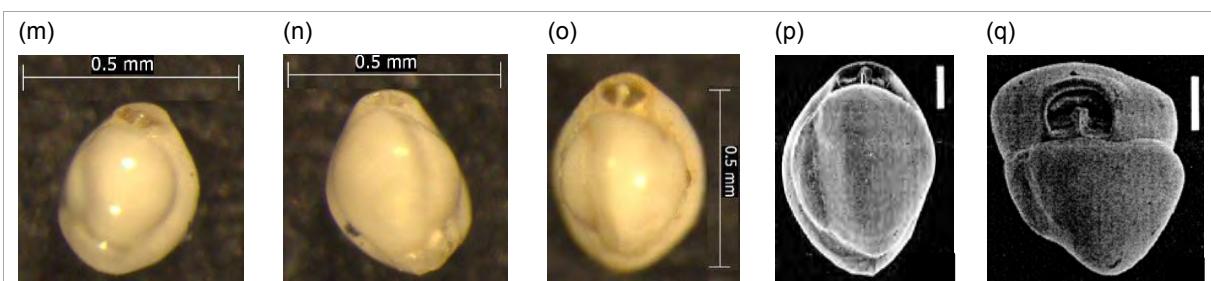
### *Triloculina barnardi* (Rasheed, 1971)



### *Triloculina tricarinata* (d'Orbigny, 1826)



### *Triloculina trigonula* (Lamark, 1804)

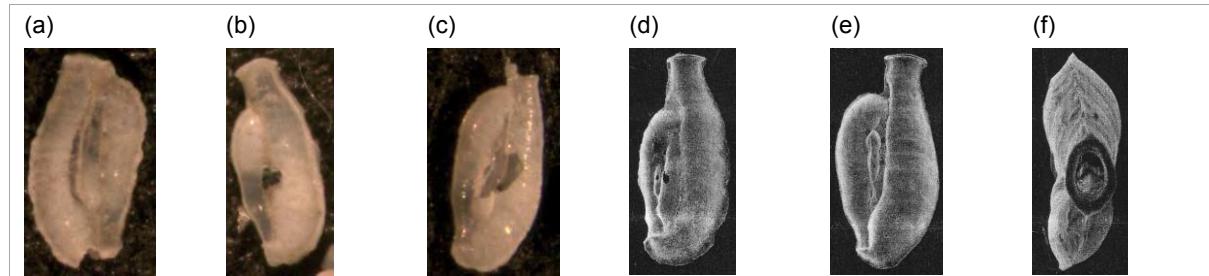


**Figure 13:** (a) Peripheral view of *T. barnardi*. (b)-(c) Lateral view of *T. barnardi*. (d) SEM picture of *T. barnardi*, lateral view, magnification x100 (Haig, 1988). (e) SEM picture of *T. barnardi*, lateral view scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001) (f) SEM picture of *T. barnardi*, apertural view, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (g) Peripheral view of *T. tricarinata*. (h)-(i) Lateral view of *T. tricarinata*. (j) SEM picture of *T. tricarinata*, lateral view, scale = 0.1mm (Haig, 2001). (k) SEM picture of *T. tricarinata*, lateral view, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (l) SEM picture of *T. tricarinata*, apertural view, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (m)-(o) Lateral view of *T. trigonula*. (p) SEM picture of *T. trigonula*, lateral view, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (q) SEM picture of *T. trigonula*, apertural view, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001).

## Ophthalmidiidae

The initial chamber and flexostyle are followed by half coiled chambers (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

### *Edentostomina cultrata* (Brady, 1881)

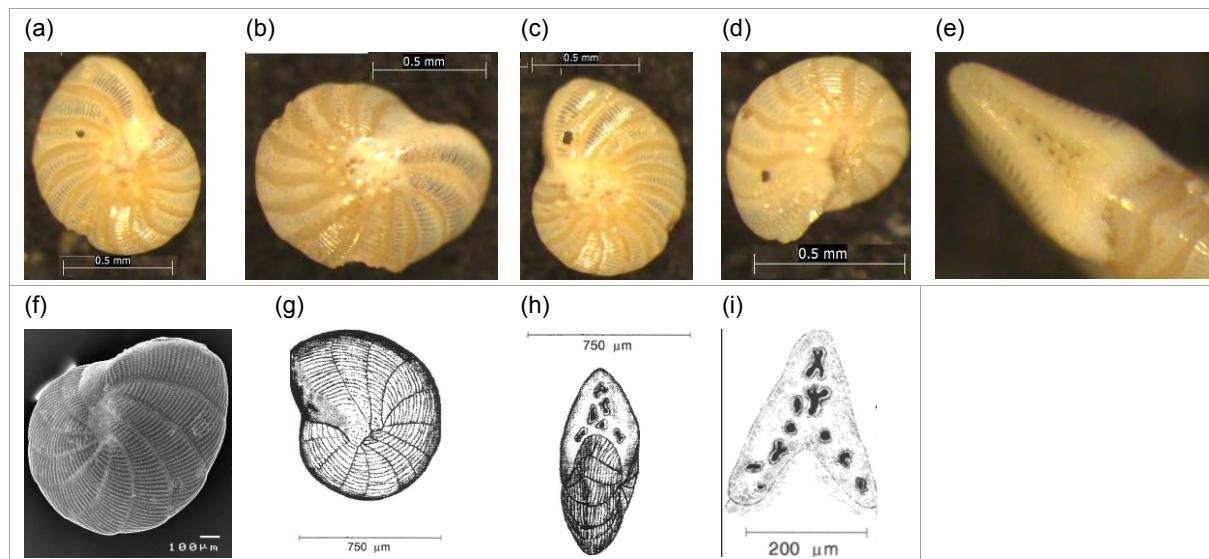


**Figure 14:** (a)-(c) Lateral view of *E. cultrata*, approximately 0.75mm length. (d)-(e) SEM picture of *E. cultrata*, lateral view, magnification x50 (Haig, 1988). (f) SEM picture of *E. cultrata*, apertural view, magnification x110 (Haig, 1988).

## Peneroplididae

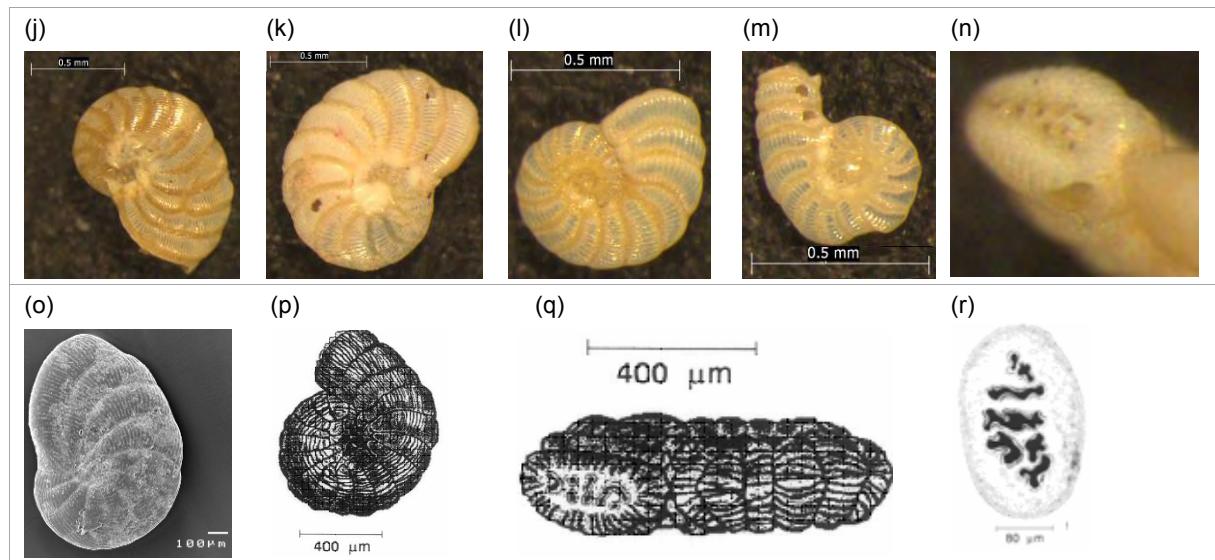
The first few chambers may be perforated and are tightly coiled, while the later adult chambers may begin to uncoil or develop annular chambers. The aperture can take many forms, being either rounded, slit-like, or in a series of pores (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

### *Peneroplis antillarum*

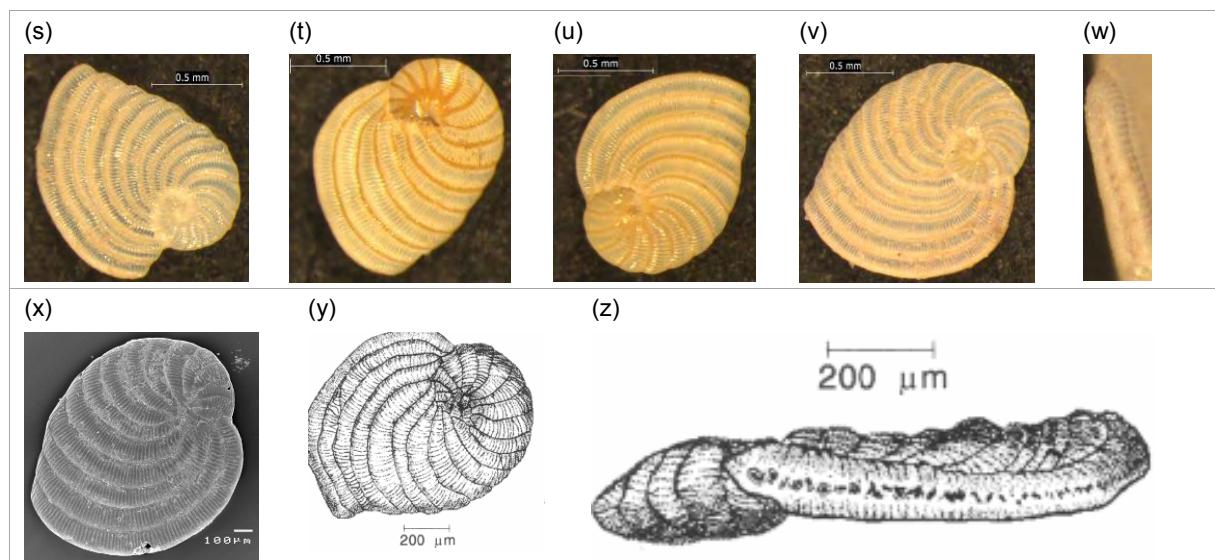


**Figure 15:** (a)-(d) Lateral view of *P. antillarum*. (e) Aperture of *P. antillarum*, approximately 0.4mm length. (f) SEM picture of *P. antillarum*. (g) Drawing of *P. antillarum*, lateral view (Gudmundsson, 1994). (h) Drawing of *P. antillarum*, apertural view (Gudmundsson, 1994). (i) Drawing of *P. antillarum*, aperture (Gudmundsson, 1994).

**Peneroplis pertusus (Foraskal, 1775)**



**Peneroplis planatus (Fichtel and Moll, 1798)**



**Figure 15 (continued):** (j)-(m) Lateral view of *P. pertusus*. (n) Apertural face of *P. pertusus*, approximately 0.25mm length. (o) SEM picture of *P. pertusus*, lateral view. (p) Drawing of *P. pertusus*, lateral view (Gudmundsson, 1994). (q) Drawing of *P. pertusus*, apertural view (Gudmundsson, 1994). (r) Drawing of aperture face of *P. pertusus* (Gudmundsson, 1994). (s)-(v) Lateral view of *P. planatus*. (w) *P. planatus* apertural face. (x) SEM picture of *P. planatus*, lateral view. (y) Drawing of *P. planatus*, lateral view (Gudmundsson, 1994). (z) Drawing of *P. planatus*, apertural face (Gudmundsson, 1994).

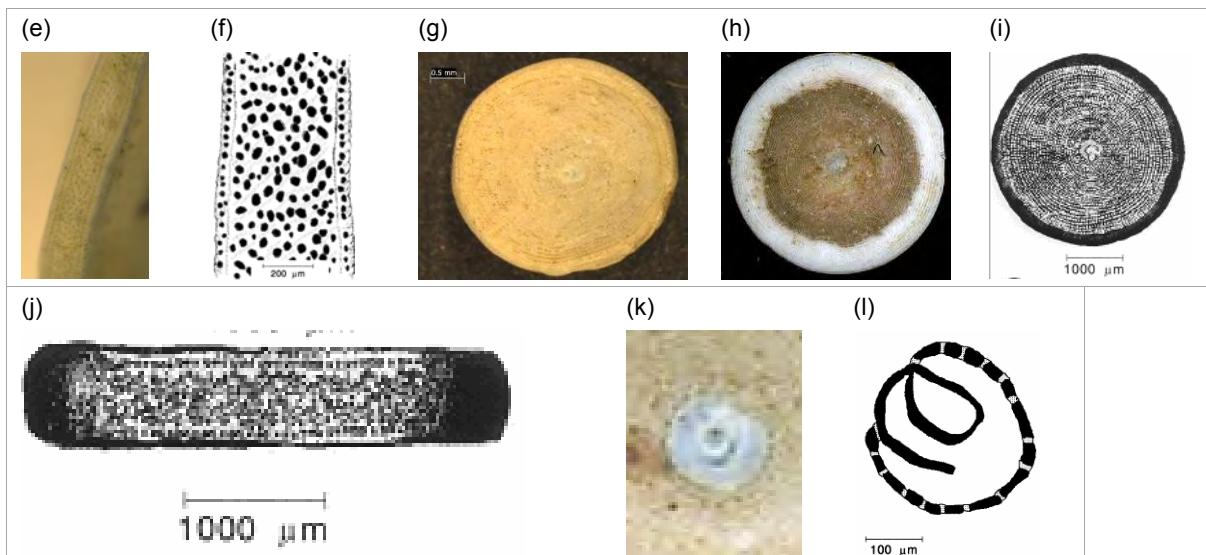
## Soritidae

Soritids have a planispiral test, with some uncoiling to take a flaring, fusiform or cylindrical structure in later life stages. They contain a large number of chambers divided into chamberlets but septula, as well as multiple apertures (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

### *Amphisorous* sp.

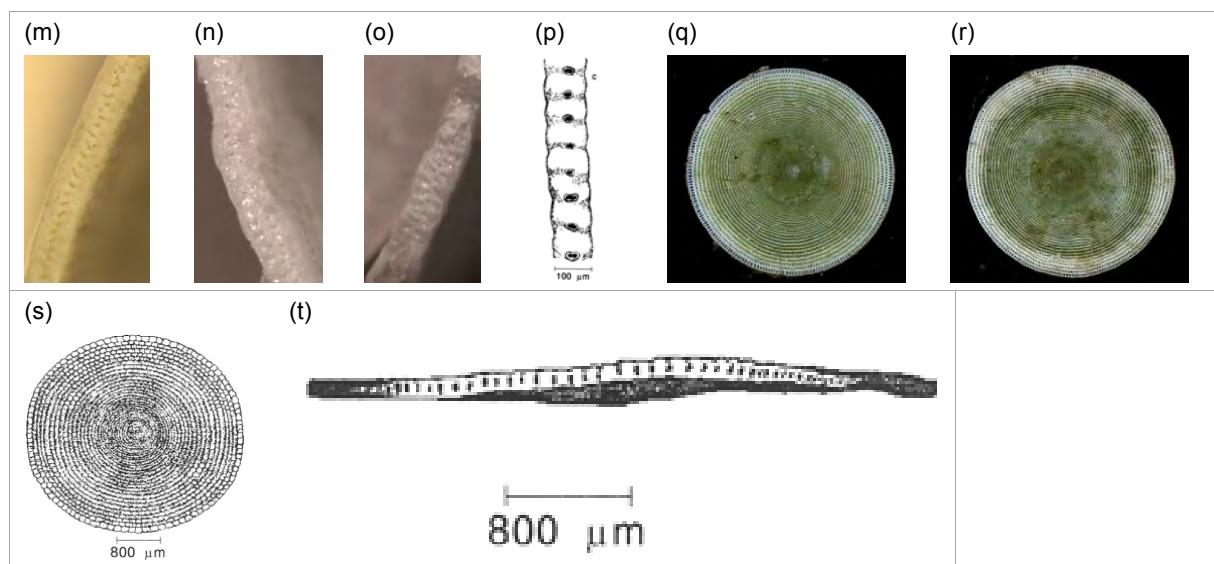


### *Marginopera vertebralis* (Quoy and Gaimard, 1830)

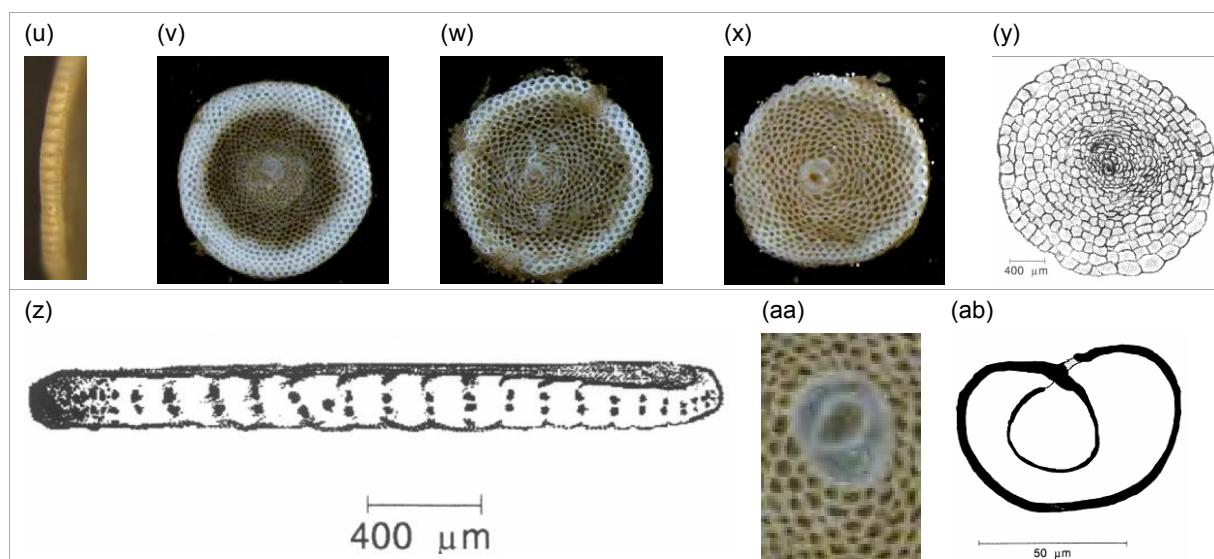


**Figure 16:** (a)-(b) Apertural face of *Amphisorous* sp., approximately 0.75mm width. (c)-(d) Lateral view of *Amphisorous* sp., approximately 15mm diameter. (e) Apertural face of *Marginopera vertebralis*, approximately 1mm width. (f) Drawing of *Marginopera vertebralis*, apertural face (Gudmundsson, 1994). (g)-(h) Lateral view of *M. vertebralis*. (i) Drawing of *M. vertebralis*, lateral view (Gudmundsson, 1994). (j) Drawing of *M. vertebralis*, peripheral view (Gudmundsson, 1994). (k) Close up of initial chamber of *M. vertebralis*, approximately 0.3mm width. (l) Drawing of *M. vertebralis*, initial chamber of the test (Gudmundsson, 1994).

**Parasorites sp.**



**Sorites orbiculus**

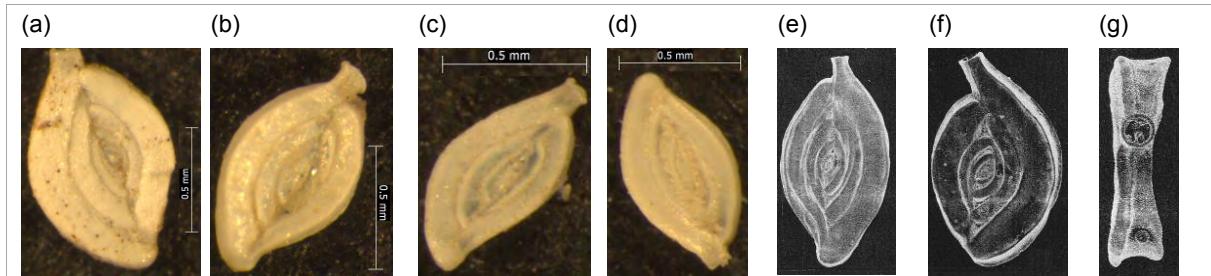


**Figure 16 (continued):** (m)-(o) Apertural face of *Parasorites*, approximately 0.2mm width. (p) Drawing of *Parasorites* sp., apertural face (Gudmundsson, 1994, all subsequent drawings of Gudmundsson as *Sorites orbiculus* var. *marginalis*). (q)-(r) Lateral view of *Parasorites* sp., approximately 4mm width. (s) Drawing of lateral view of *Parasorites* sp. (Gudmundsson, 1994). (t) Drawing of *Parasorites* sp. peripheral view (Gudmundsson, 1994). (u) Apertural face of *Sorites obicus*, approximately 0.2mm width. (v)-(x) Lateral view of *Sorites obicus*, approximately 2.5mm width. (y) Drawing of *Sorites obicus*, lateral view (Gudmundsson, 1994). (z) Drawing of *Sorites obicus*, peripheral view (Gudmundsson, 1994). (aa) Close up of initial chamber of *Sorites obicus*, approximately 0.5mm width. (ab) Drawing of initial chamber of *Sorites obicus* test (Gudmundsson, 1994).

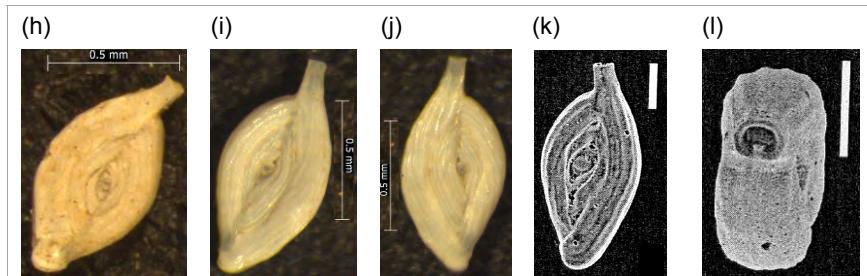
## Spiroloculinidae

Each whorl contains two chambers which form a 180° angle between the median plane. The aperture is a simple opening that can be rounded and/or elongated. Some have a tooth structure which protrudes out into the opening (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

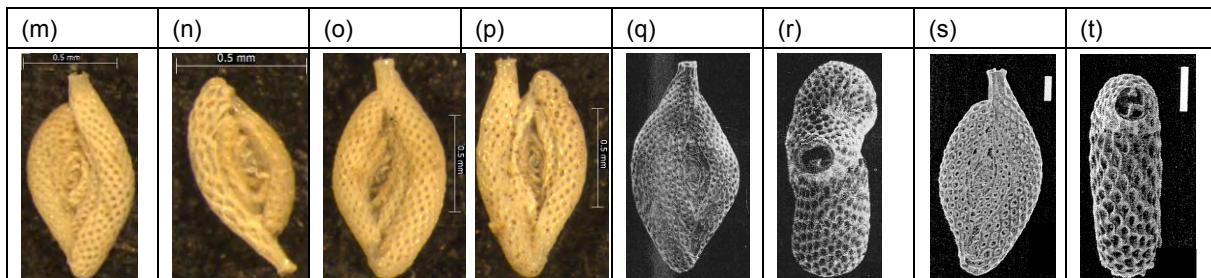
### *Spiroloculina angulata* (Crushman, 1917)



### *Spiroloculina corrugata*

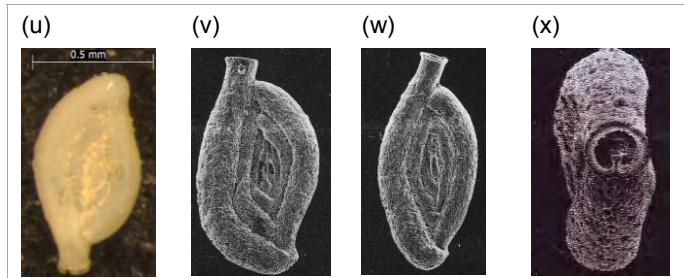


### *Spiroloculina foveolata* (Egger, 1983)



**Figure 17:** (a)-(d) Lateral view of *S. angulata*. (e)-(f) SEM picture of *S. angulata*, lateral view, magnification (e) x30, (f) x80 (Haig, 1988). (g) SEM picture of *S. angulata*, apertural view, magnification x40 (Haig, 1988). (h)-(j) Lateral view of *S. corrugata*. (k) SEM picture of *S. corrugata*, lateral view, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (l) SEM picture of *S. corrugata*, apertural view, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (m)-(p) Lateral view of *S. foveolata*. (q) SEM picture of *S. foveolata*, lateral view, magnification x40 (Haig 1988). (r) SEM picture of *S. foveolata*, apertural view, magnification x60 (Haig 1988). (s) SEM picture of *S. foveolata*, lateral view, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (t) SEM picture of *S. foveolata*, apertural view, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001).

***Spiroloculina rugosa* (Crushman and Todd, 1944)**



**Figure 17 (continued):** (u) Lateral view of *Spiroloculina rugosa*. (v)-(w) SEM pictures of *S. rugosa*, lateral view, magnification (v) x50, (w) x60 (Haig 1988). (x) SEM picture of *S. rugosa*, apertural view, magnification x70 (Haig, 1988).

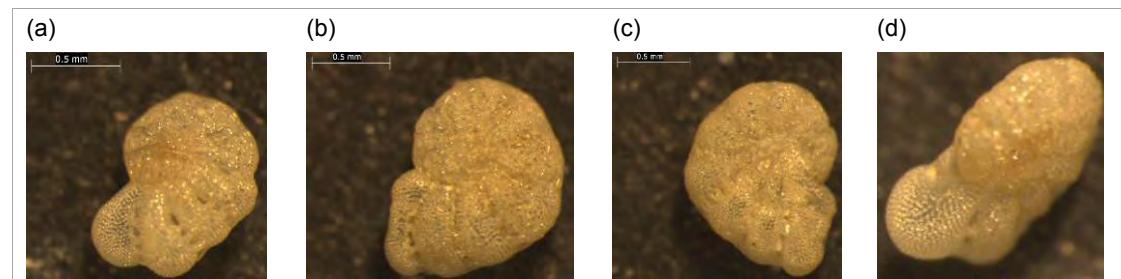
## Suborder: Rotaliina

Rotaliina have a perforated hyaline test made of lamellar calcite with some possessing a canal or stolon system. They have multiple chambers which are usually enrolled, but may also condense to form biserial or uniserial structures. The chambers can be either simple or divided into chamberlets. Rotaliina may also exhibit different forms of ornamentation, including: papillate, costate, striate and cancellate. The aperture may be simple or have an internal toothplate, entosolenian tube or hemicylindrical structure (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

### Alfredinidae

Alfredinidae have supplementary chambers which form near the axis of the chambers spiral. Multiple apertures are located on the wall of the most recently formed chamber, as well as where it joins to the previous chamber (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

#### *Epistomaroides polystomelloides*

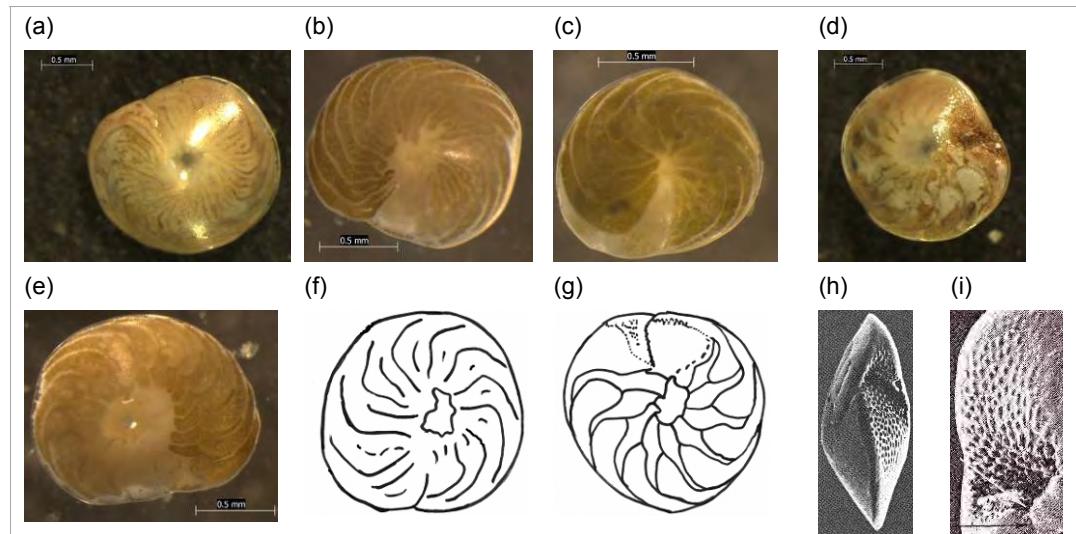


**Figure 18:** (a)-(b) *Epistomaroides polystomelloides*, spiral side. (c) *E. polystomelloides*, umbilical side. (d) *E. polystomelloides*, apertural view.

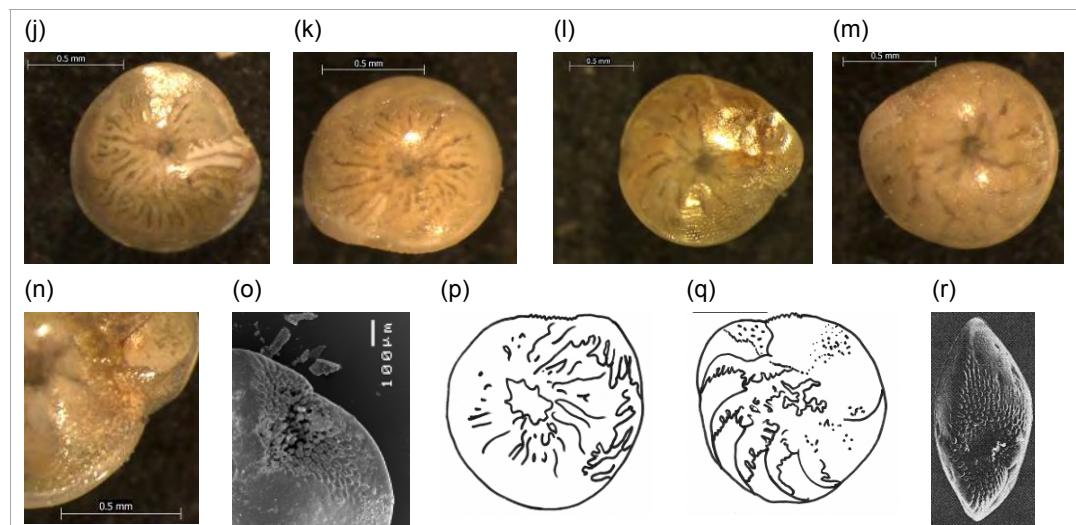
## Amphisteginidae

Amphisteginidae have a large number of chambers with some divided into complex chamberlets. The aperture is in the form of a slit located where the final wall and proceeding spiral meet (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

### *Amphistegina lessonii* (d'Orbigny, 1826)

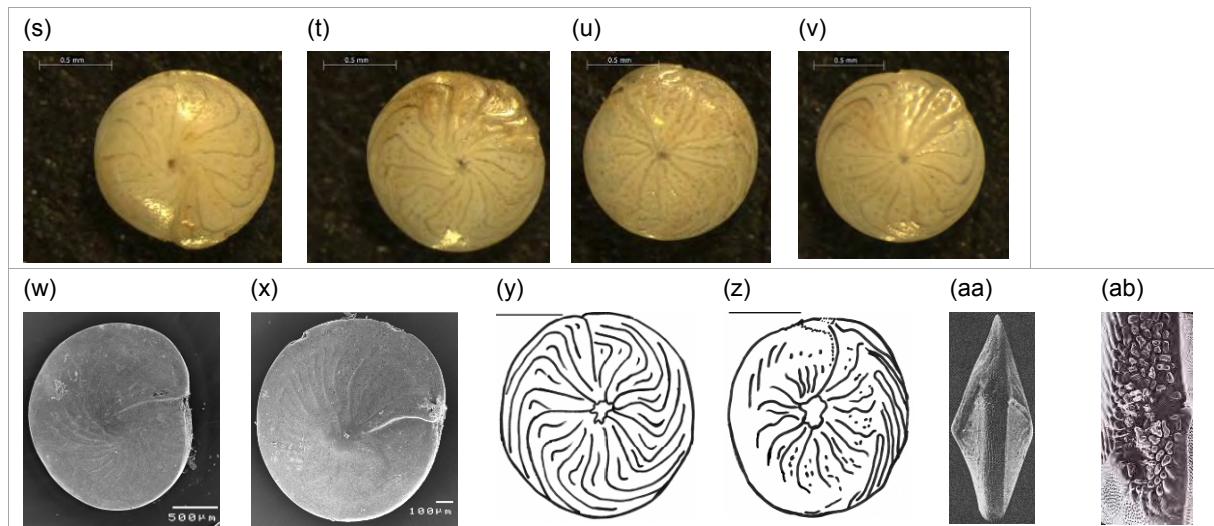


### *Amphistegina lobifera*



**Figure 19:** (a)-(c) *Amphistegina lessonii*, spiral side. (d)-(e) *A. lessonii*, umbilical side. (f) Drawing of *A. lessonii*, spiral side (amended from Larsen, 1976), scale = 0.5mm. (g) Drawing of *A. lessonii*, umbilical side (amended from Larsen, 1976), scale = 0.5mm. (h) Peripheral view of *A. lessonii*, 0.5mm width (Larsen, 1976). (i) Aperture of *A. lessonii* (Larsen, 1976). (j)-(k) *A. lobifera*, spiral side. (l)-(m) *A. lobifera*, umbilical side. (n) Aperture of *A. lobifera*. (o) SEM picture of *A. lobifera*, aperture. (p) Drawing of *A. lobifera*, spiral side (amended from Larsen, 1976), scale = 0.5mm. (q) Drawing of *A. lobifera*, umbilical side (amended from Larsen, 1976), scale = 0.5mm. (r) Peripheral view of *A. lobifera* (Larsen, 1976), approximately 0.5mm width.

### **Amphistegina radiata (Fichtel and Moll)**

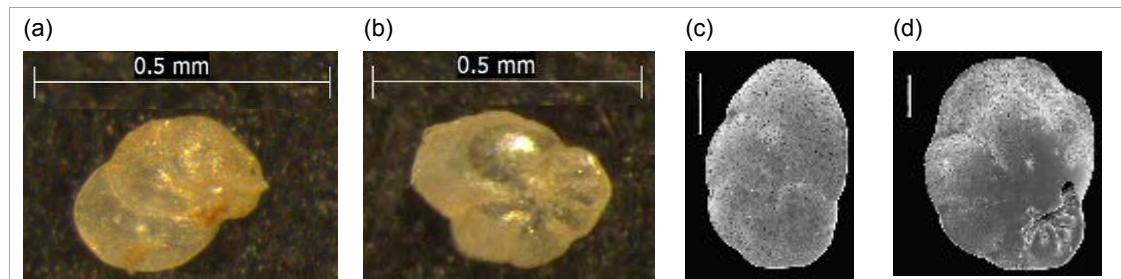


**Figure 19 (continued):** (s)-(v) Lateral view of *A. radiata*. (w)-(x) SEM picture of *A. radiata*, lateral view. (y) Drawing of *A. radiata*, spiral side (amended from Larsen, 1976), scale = 0.5mm. (z) Drawing of *A. radiata*, umbilical side (amended from Larsen, 1976), scale = 0.5mm. (aa) Peripheral view of *A. radiata* (Larsen, 1976), approximately 0.25mm. (ab) Aperture of *A. radiata* (Larsen, 1976).

### **Baginidae**

The test is trochospiral and covered in fine pores except close to the aperture and umbilicus (Loeblich and Tappan 1984).

### **Cancris auriculus (Fichtel and Moll, 1798)**

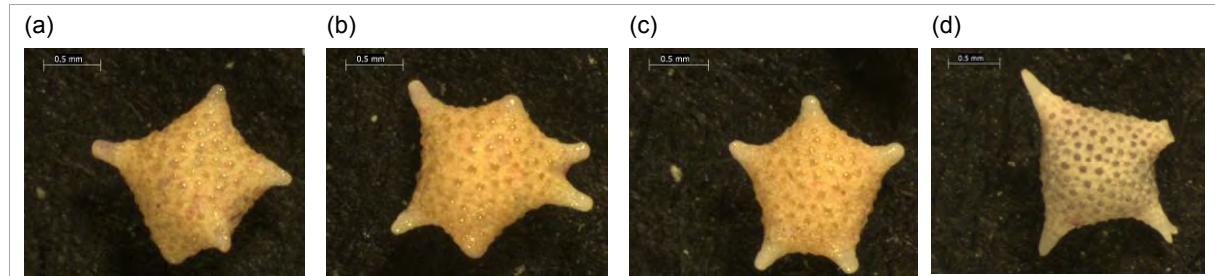


**Figure 20:** (a)-(b) *Cancris auriculus*, spiral side. (c) *C. auriculus*, spiral side, scale = 0.1mm (Haig, 2001). (d) *C. auriculus*, umbilical side, scale = 0.1mm (Haig, 2001).

## Calcarinidae

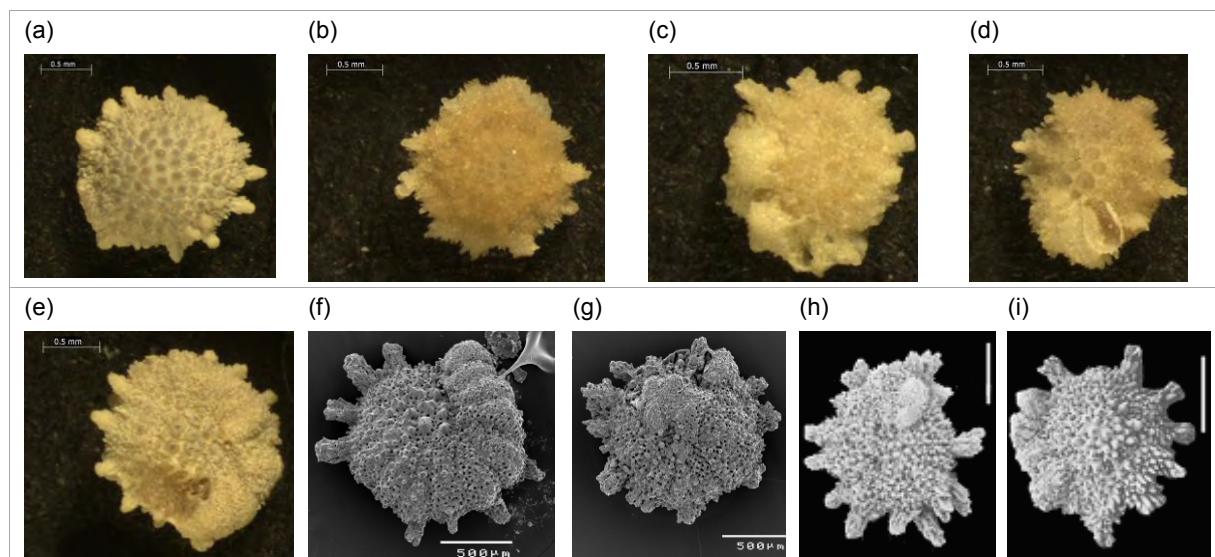
Calcarinidae have an enrolled test which contains an internal canal system. Large spines may be also formed by lamellar thickening (Loeblich and Tappan 1984).

### *Baculogypsina sphaerulata* (Parker and Jones, 1860)

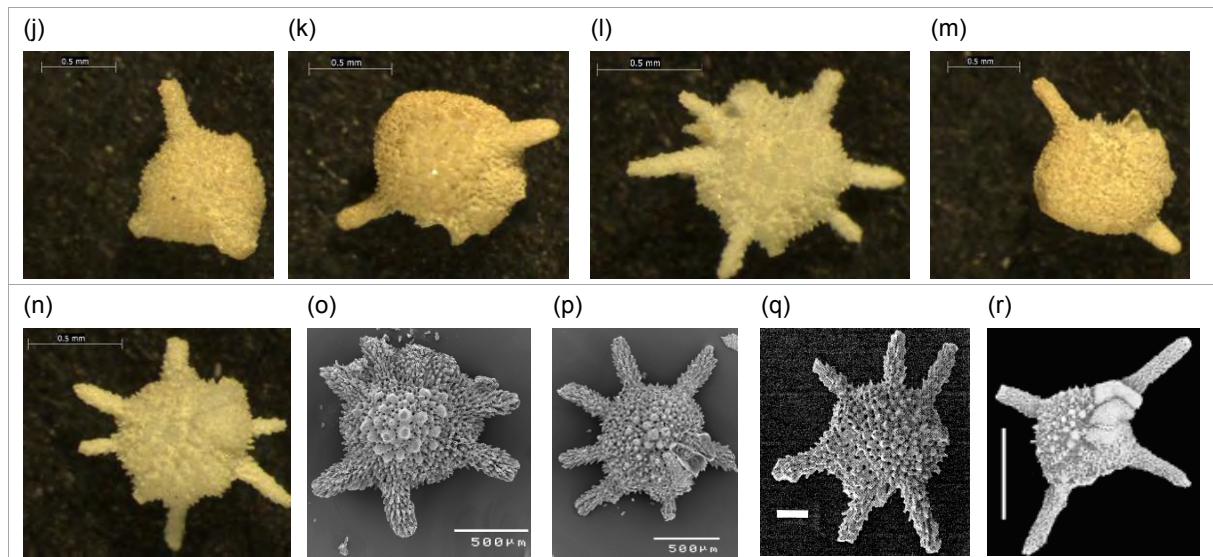
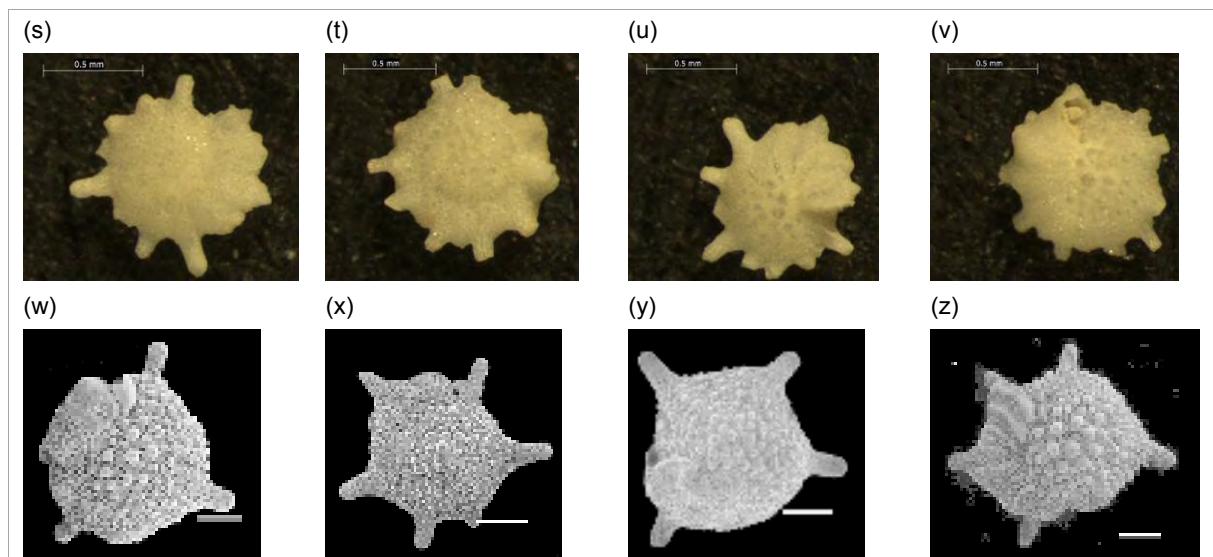


**Figure 21:** (a)-(d) *Baculogypsina sphaerulata*, lateral view.

### *Calcarina hispida*

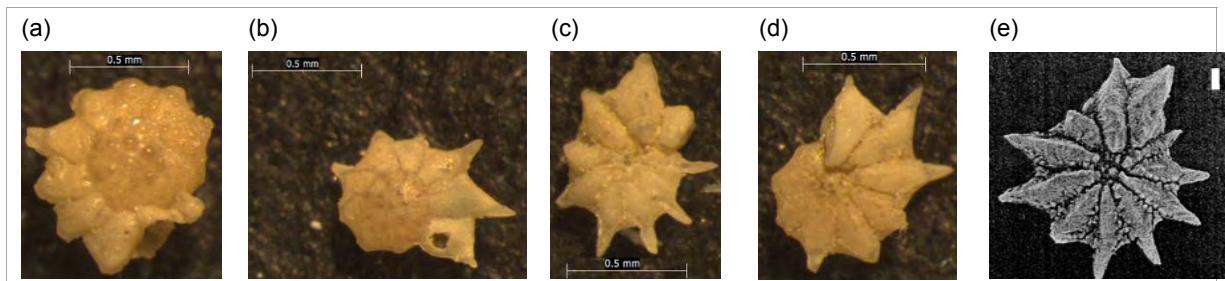


**Figure 22:** (a)-(e) Lateral view of *Calcarina hispida*. (f)-(g) SEM picture of *C. hispida*, lateral view. (h) SEM picture of *C. hispida*, spiral side, scale = 0.5mm (Renema and Hohenegger, 2005). (i) SEM picture of *C. hispida*, umbilical side, scale = 0.5mm (Renema and Hohenegger, 2005).

***Calcarina mayorii* (Crushman, 1924)*****Calcarina spengleri* (Gmelin, 1791)**

**Figure 22 (continued):** (j)-(l) *Calcarina mayorii*, spiral side. (m)-(n) *C. mayorii*, umbilical side. (o) SEM picture of *C. mayorii*, spiral side. (p) SEM picture of *C. mayorii*, umbilical side. (q) SEM picture of *C. mayorii*, spiral side, scale = 0.2mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (r) SEM picture of *C. mayorii*, umbilical side, scale = 0.2mm (Renema and Hohenegger, 2005). (s)-(t) *C. spengleri*, spiral side. (u)-(v) *C. spengleri*, umbilical side. (w)-(x) SEM picture of *C. spengleri*, spiral side, scale = 0.5mm (Renema and Hohenegger, 2005). (y)-(z) SEM picture of *C. spengleri*, umbilical side, scale = 0.5mm (Renema and Hohenegger, 2005).

### ***Neorotalia calcar* (d'Orbigny, 1839)**

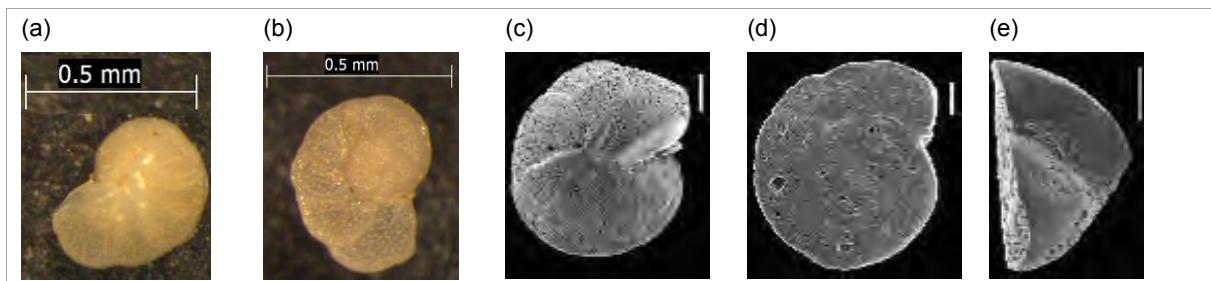


**Figure 23:** (a)-(b) *Neorotalia calcar*, spiral side. (c)-(d) *N. calcar*, umbilical side. (e) SEM picture of *N. calcar*, umbilical side, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001).

## **Cibicididae**

Trochospiral, at least in early stages. There may be a single or multiple apertures in forms which become uncoiled. While enrolled Cibicididae have an opening that forms an arch, which may or may not extend to the spiral side (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

### ***Cibicides cf. refulgens* (Montfort, 1808)**

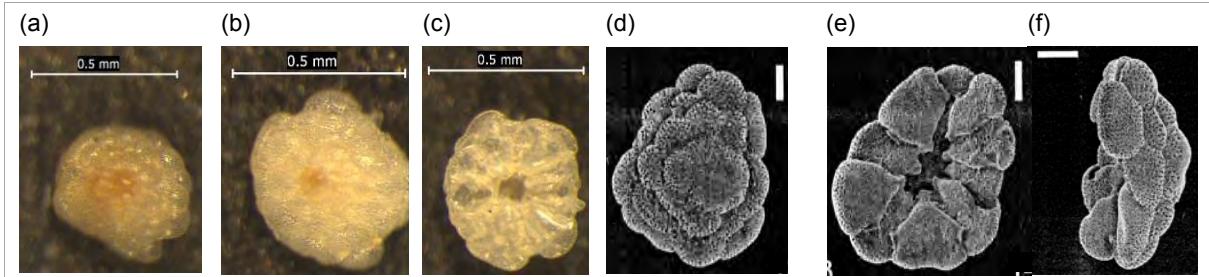


**Figure 24:** (a) *Cibicides cf. refulgens*, spiral side. (b) *Cibicides cf. refulgens*, umbilical side. (c) *Cibicides cf. refulgens*, spiral side, scale = 0.1mm (Haig, 2001). (d) *Cibicides cf. refulgens*, umbilical side, scale = 0.1mm (Haig, 2001). (e) *Cibicides cf. refulgens*, peripheral view, scale = 0.1mm (Haig, 2001).

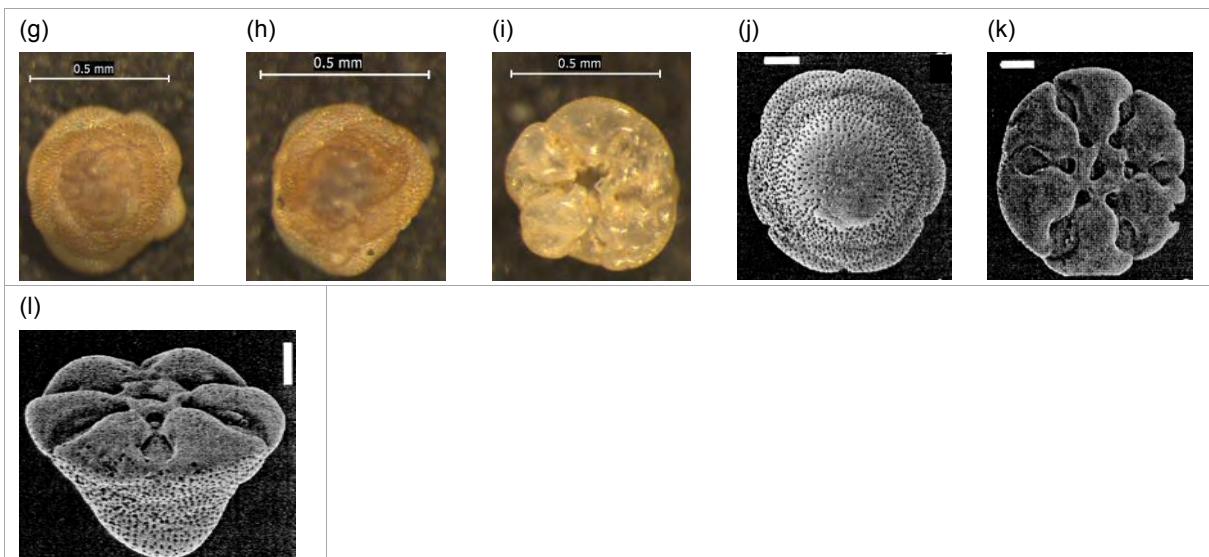
## Cymbalopoidae

The trochospiral test is covered in a large number of small apertures. The later chambers in the spiral form a flat to conical layer (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

### *Cymbaloporella bradyii* (Crushman, 1931)



### *Cymbaloporella squammosa* (d'Orbigny)

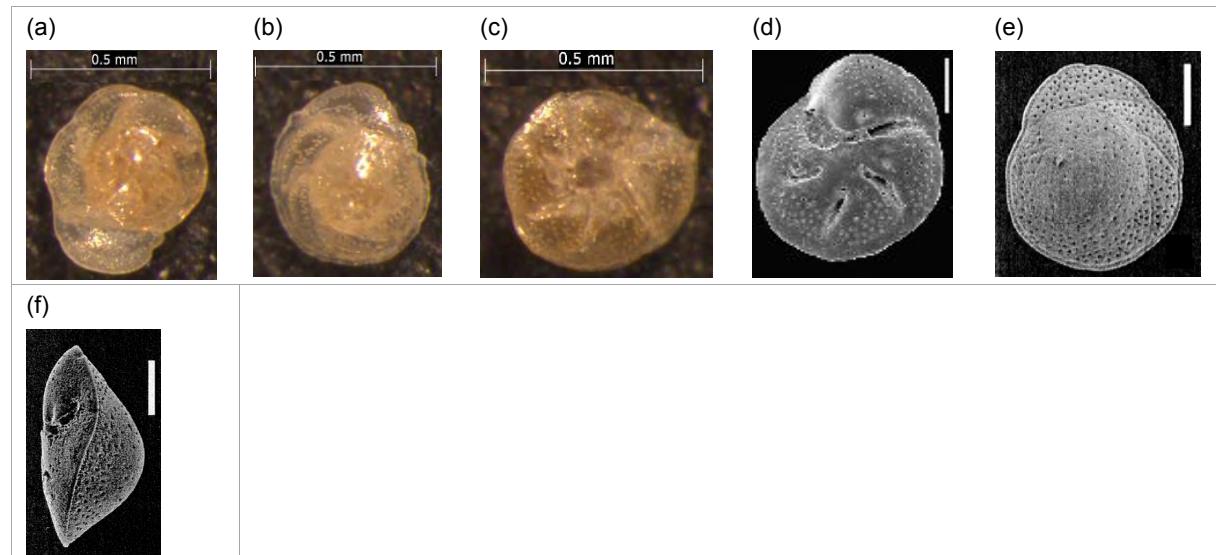


**Figure 25:** (a)-(b) *Cymbaloporella. Bradyii*, spiral side. (c) *C. bradyii*, umbilical side. (d) SEM picture of *C. bradyii*, spiral side, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (e) SEM picture of *C. bradyii*, umbilical side, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (f) SEM picture of *C. bradyii*, peripheral view, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (g)-(h) *C. squammosa*, spiral side. (i) *C. squammosa*, umbilical side. (j) SEM picture of *C. squammosa*, spiral side, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (k) SEM picture of *C. squammosa*, umbilical side, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (l) SEM picture of *C. squammosa*, peripheral view, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001).

## Discorbidae

Discorbidae have a trochospiral test with an open umbilical region forming the aperture (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

### *Rotorbis auberi*

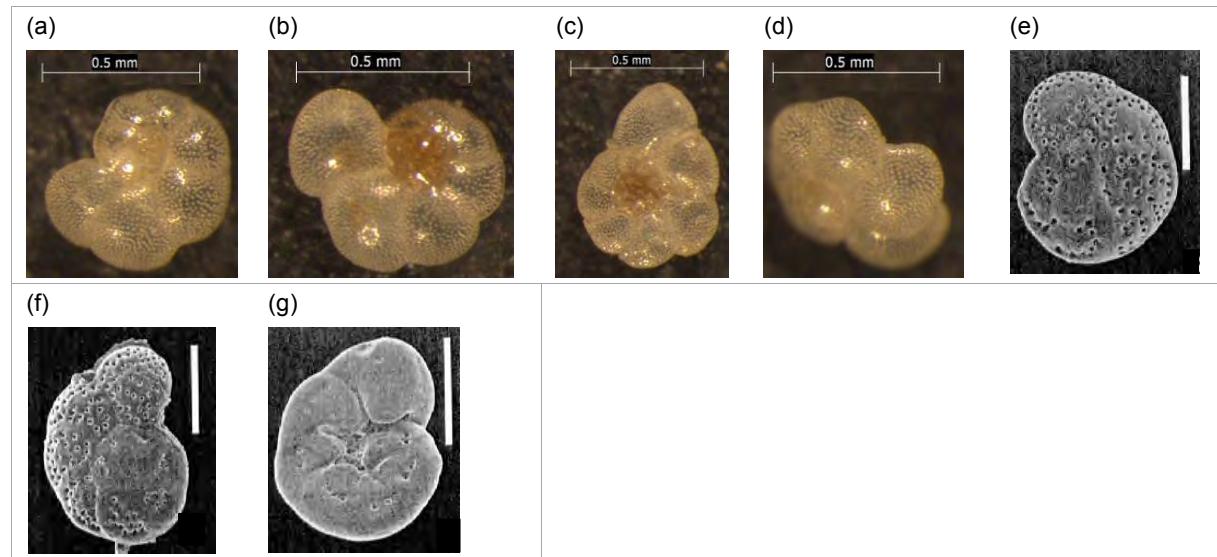


**Figure 26:** (a)-(b) *Rotorbis auberi*, spiral side. (c) *R. auberi*, umbilical side. (d) SEM picture of *R. auberi*, umbilical side, scale = 0.1mm (Haig, 2001). (e) SEM picture of *R. auberi*, spiral side, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (f) SEM picture of *R. auberi*, peripheral view, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001).

## Discorbineillidae

The test forms a very flat trochospiral, with the aperture located between the last two chambers. Some have supplementary openings beneath the umbilical flaps (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

### *Discorbinella* sp.

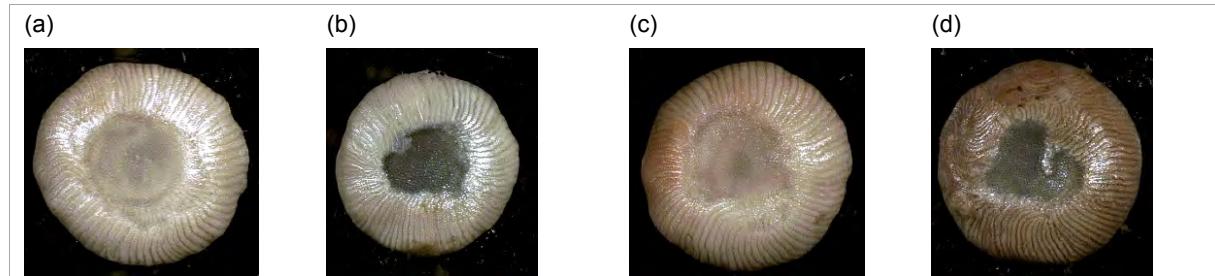


**Figure 27:** (a)-(b) Spiral side of *Discorbinella* sp. (c) Umbilical side of *Discorbinella* sp. (d) Peripheral view of *Discorbinella* sp. (e)-(f) SEM picture of *Discorbinella* sp., spiral side, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (g) SEM picture of *Discorbinella* sp., umbilical side, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001).

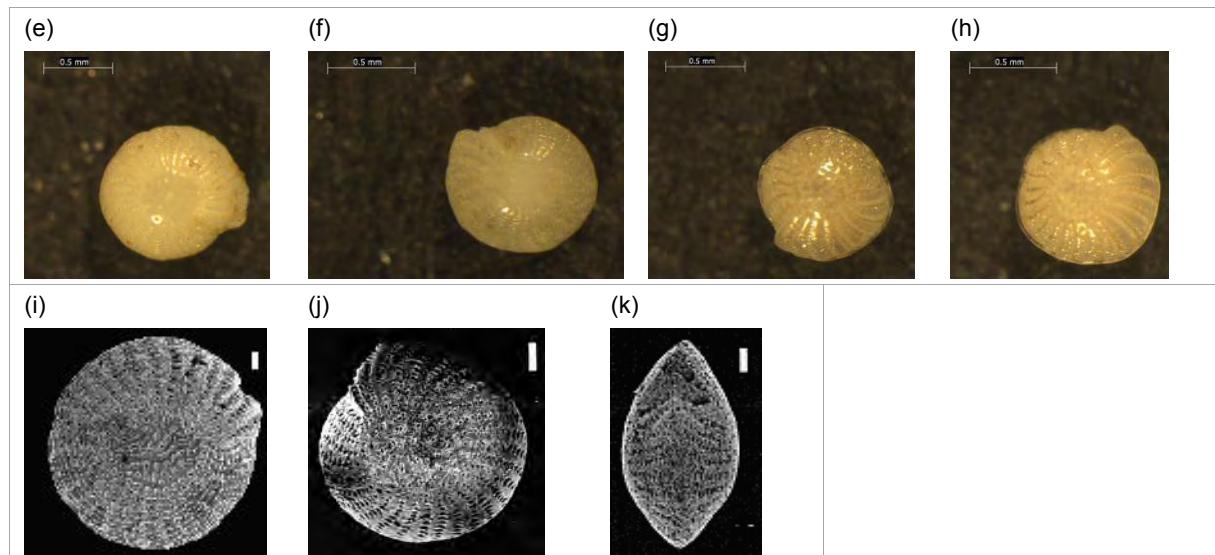
## Elphididae

Elphididae can either have a planispiral to trochospiral test, with some uncoiling in later stages. There is also a sutural canal system which opens into sutural pores (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

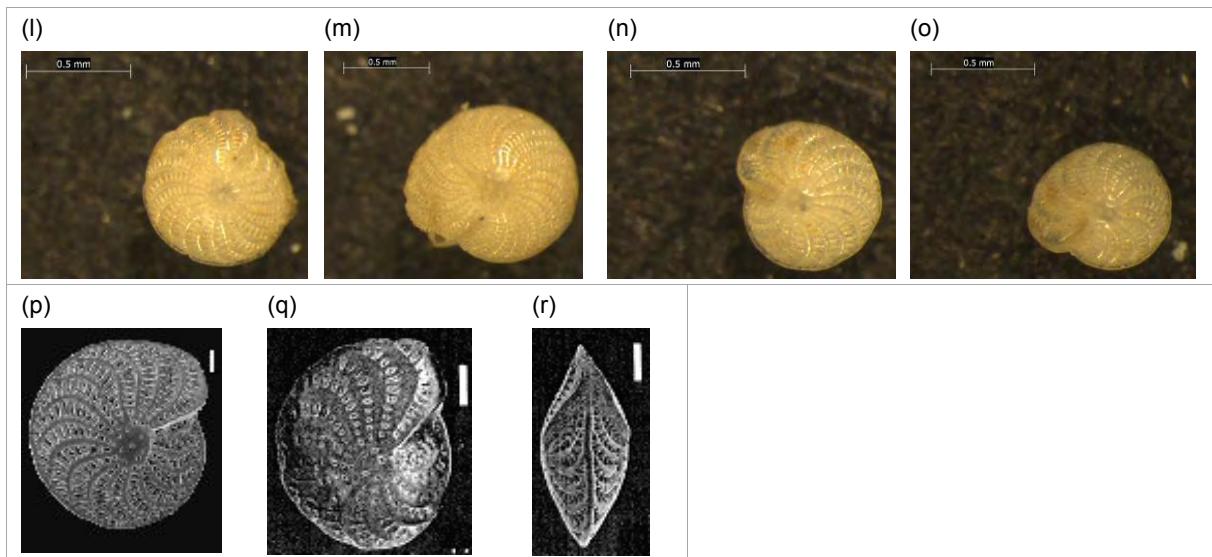
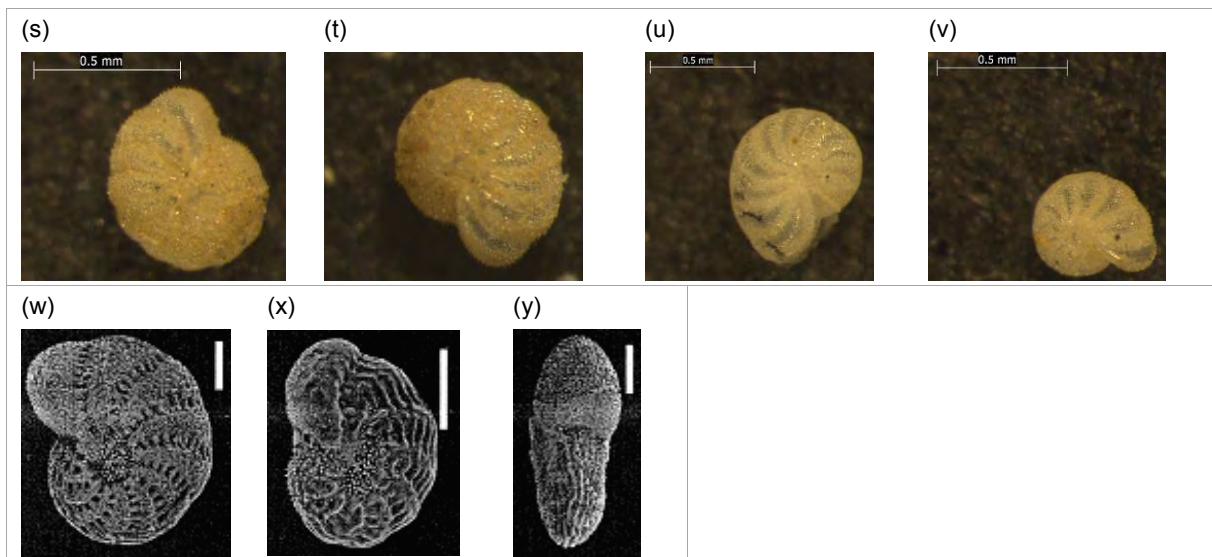
### *Elphidium* sp.



### *Elphidium cf. craticulatum* (Crushman, 1933)



**Figure 28:** (a)-(d) Lateral view of *Elphidium* sp., approximately 15mm diameter. (e)-(h) Lateral view of *Elphidium cf. craticulatum*. (i) SEM picture of *Elphidium cf. craticulatum*, lateral view, scale = 0.1mm (Haig, 2001). (j) SEM picture of *Elphidium cf. craticulatum*, lateral view, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (k) SEM picture of *Elphidium cf. craticulatum*, peripheral view, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001).

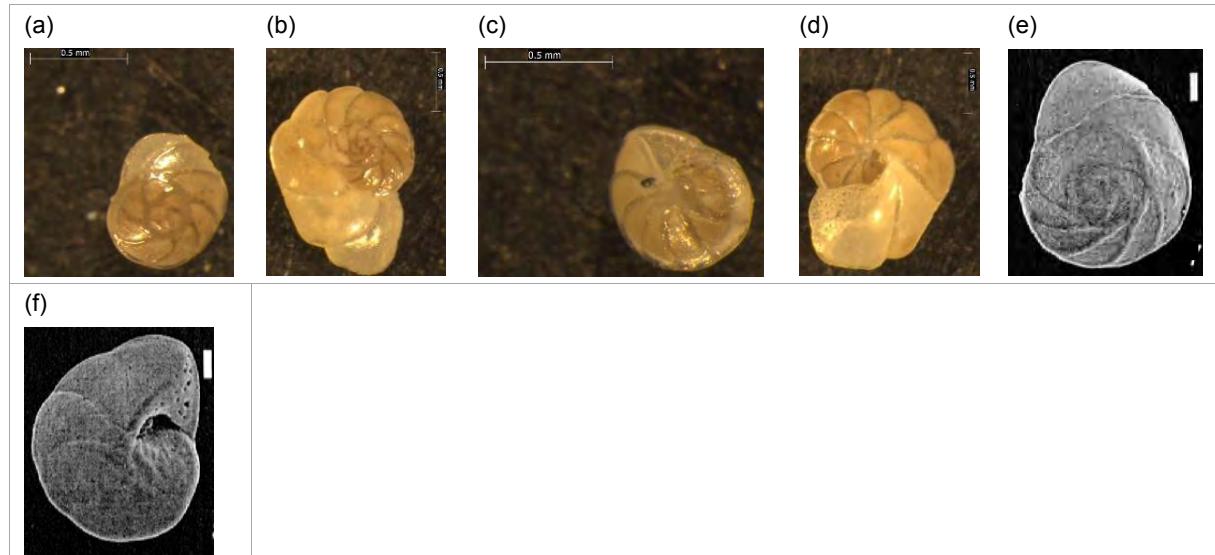
***Elphidium crispum* (Linnaeus, 1754)*****Elphidium reticulosum***

**Figure 28 (continued):** (l)-(o) Lateral view of *Elphidium crispum*. (p) SEM picture of *E. crispum*, lateral view, scale = 0.1mm (Haig, 2001). (q) SEM picture of *E. crispum*, lateral view, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (r) SEM picture of *E. crispum*, peripheral view, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (s)-(v) Lateral view of *E. reticulosum*. (w)-(x) SEM picture of *E. reticulosum*, lateral view, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (y) SEM picture of *E. reticulosum*, peripheral view, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001).

## Eponididae

In initial stages Eponididae are trochospiral. The aperture extends from the umbilicus to the outer edge on the umbilical side and may be cibrate (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

### *Eponides cribrorepandus*

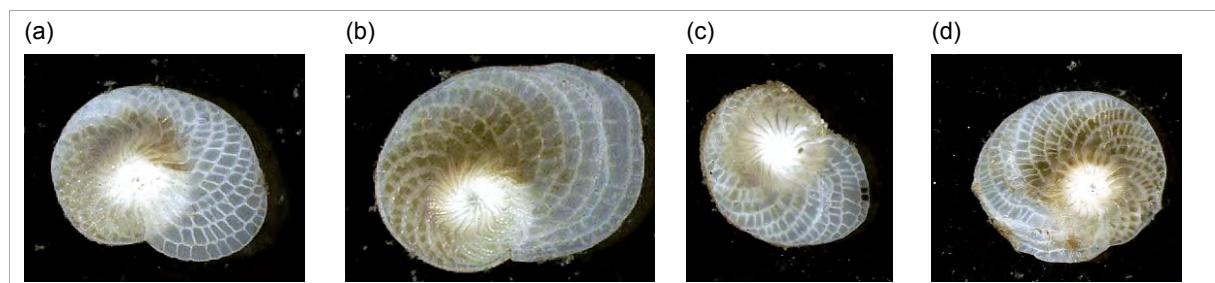


**Figure 29:** (a)-(b) *Eponides cribrorepandus*, spiral side. (c)-(d) *E. cribrorepandus*, umbilical side. (e) SEM picture of *E. cribrorepandus*, spiral side, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (f) SEM picture of *E. cribrorepandus*, umbilical side, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001).

## Nummulinidae

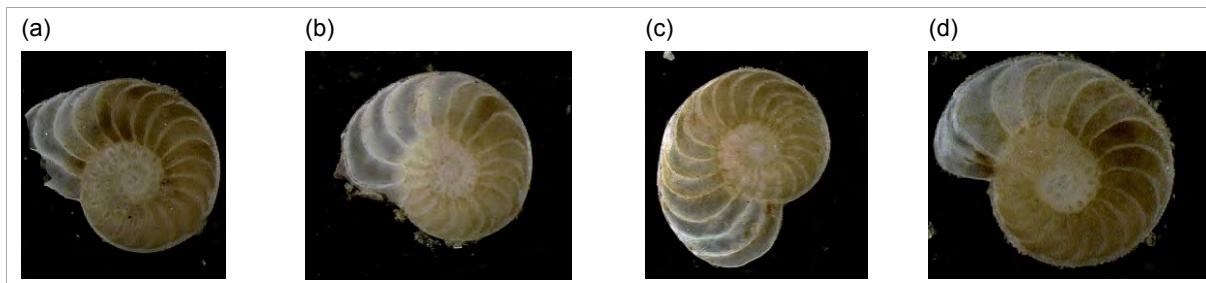
The planispiral test may be either involute or evolute, with the aperture forming an ached slit on the apertural face. They have a large number of chambers which can be subdivided into chamberlets. Internally, there is a complex canal system of septal, marginal and vertical canals (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

### *Heterostegina depressa* (d'Orbigny, 1826)



**Figure 30:** (a)-(d) Live *Heterostegina depressa*, lateral view, c. 1-3mm length.

### ***Operculina ammonoides***

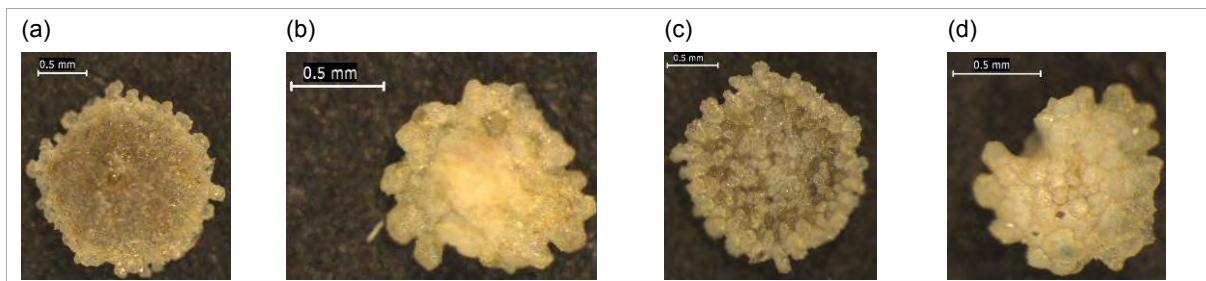


**Figure 31:** (a)-(d) Live *Operculina ammonoides*, lateral view, ca. 1-2mm length.

### **Planorbulinidae**

Planorbulinidae begin trochospiral, to later form a discoid, cylindrical or conical test with single or multiple, peripheral apertures (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

#### ***Planorbolina acarvalis***

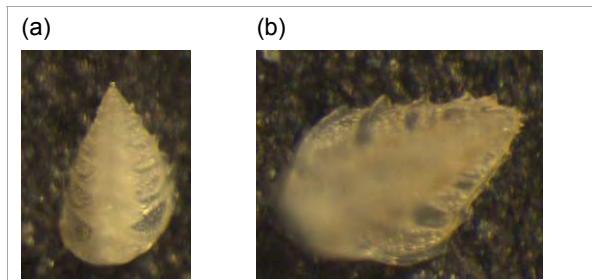


**Figure 32:** (a)-(b) *Planorbolina acarvalis*, dorsal side. (c)-(d) *P. acarvalis*, ventral side.

### **Reussellidae**

The test begins triserial, to later become biserial or uniserial (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

#### ***Reussella* sp.**

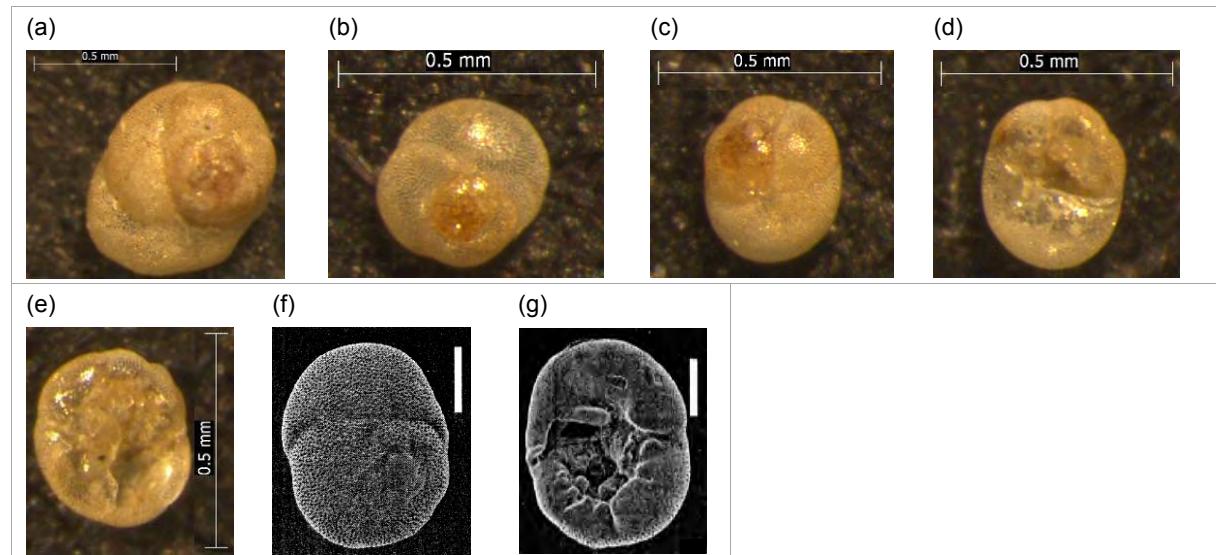


**Figure 33:** (a)-(b) Lateral view of *Reussella* sp., approximately 0.3mm length.

## Rosalinidae

The test is trochospiral, with the aperture located at the base of the last chamber on the umbilical side (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

### *Rosalina bradyi* (Crushman, 1915)

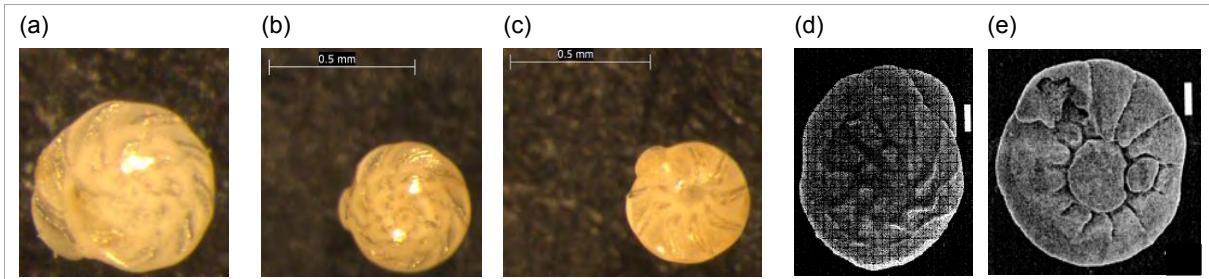


**Figure 34:** (a)-(c) Spiral side of *Rosalina bradyi*. (d)-(e) Umbilical side of *R. bradyi*. (f) SEM pictures of *R. bradyi*, spiral side, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (g) SEM pictures of *R. bradyi*, spiral side, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (i) SEM pictures of *R. bradyi*, umbilical side, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001).

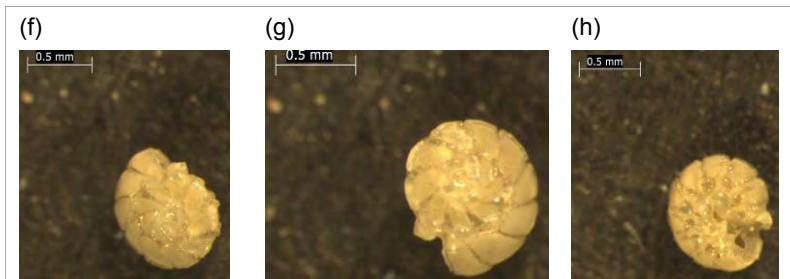
## Rotaliidae

The test is enrolled, with little difference between the spiral and umbilical sides. Can have large inflational spines (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

### *Ammonia convexa*

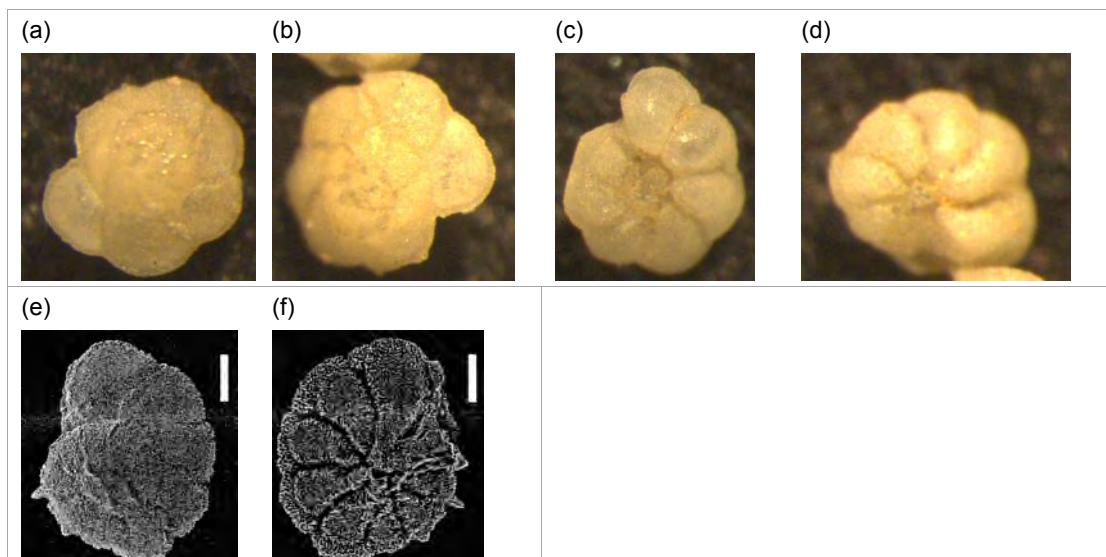


### *Ammonia* sp.

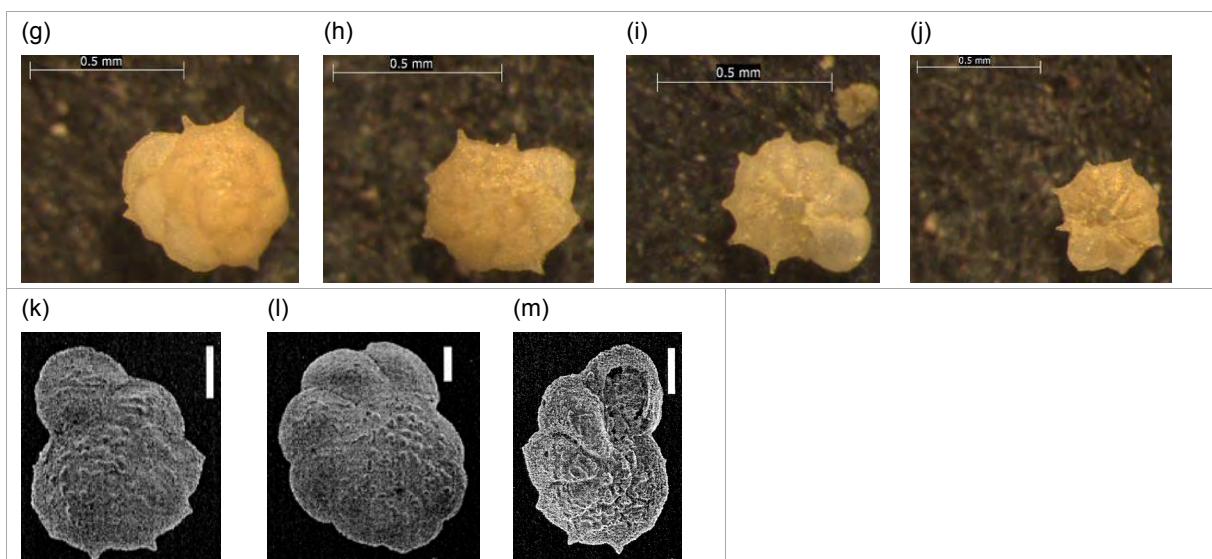


**Figure 35:** (a)-(b) Spiral side of *Ammonia convexa*. (c) Umbilical side of *A. convexa*. (d) SEM picture of *A. convexa*, spiral side, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (e) SEM picture of *A. convexa*, umbilical side, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (f)-(g) Spiral side of *Ammonia* sp. (h) Umbilical side of *Ammonia* sp.

***Pararotalia* sp.**



***Pararotalia venusta***



**Figure 36:** (a)-(b) *Pararotalia* sp., spiral side. (c)-(d) *Pararotalia* sp., umbilical side. (e) SEM picture of *Pararotalia* sp., spiral view, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (f) SEM picture of *Pararotalia* sp., umbilical view, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (g)-(h) *P. venusta*, spiral side. (i)-(j) *P. venusta*, umbilical side. (k)-(l) SEM picture of *P. venusta*, spiral view, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001). (m) SEM picture of *P. venusta*, umbilical view, scale = 0.1mm (Lobegeier, 2001).

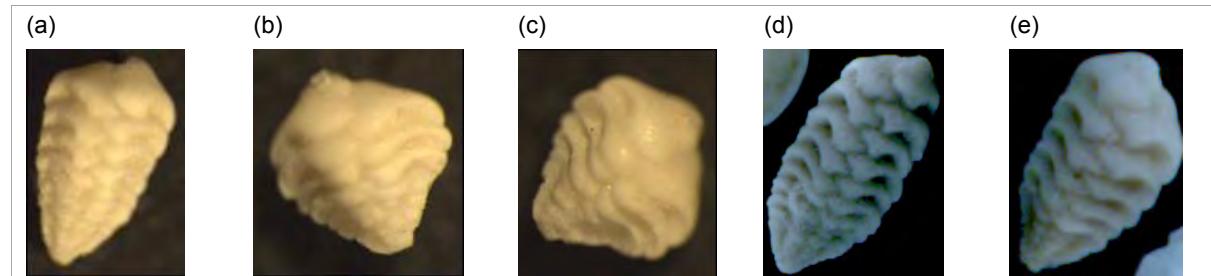
## Suborder: Textulariina

Textulariina have an agglutinated test.

### Textulariidae

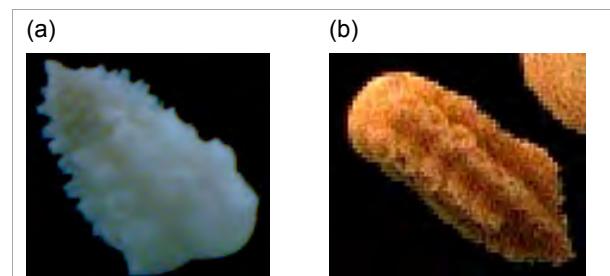
The wall is made of agglutinated material and maintains a canal system, with the test forming a biserial structure, which may become uniserial in later life stages. The aperture, which can consist of multiple openings, may be located in the suture between the most recently formed chambers or on the wall of the final chamber (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

#### *Septotextularia* sp.



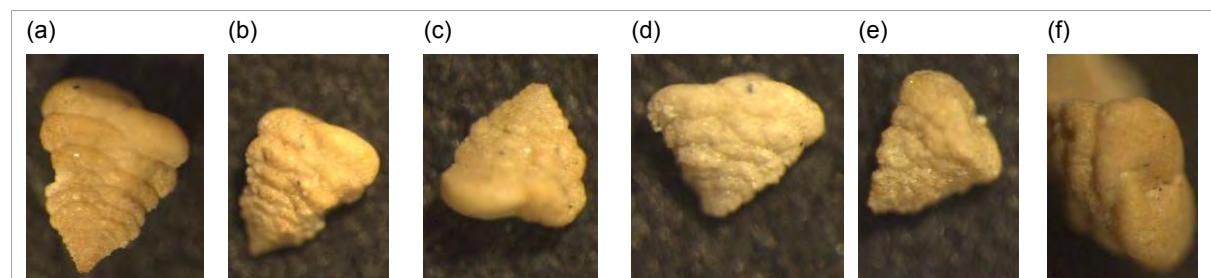
**Figure 37:** (a)-(e) Lateral view of *Septotextularia* sp., approximately 1.0mm length.

#### *Siphoniferoides*



**Figure 38:** (a)-(b) Lateral view of *Siphoniferoides* sp., approximately 1.0mm length.

#### *Textularia* spp.



**Figure 39:** (a)-(e) Lateral view of *Textularia* spp., approximately 0.5mm length. (f) Top view of *Textularia* sp.

## Valvulinidae

Valvulinidae have an agglutinated test which contains a canal system. Initially they are triserial, increasing the number of chambers in each whorl, or becoming uniserial in later stages. The aperture usually has a tooth or flap over the opening, but in some this may be present only in the early stages. Later on the aperture may multiply and is usually located on the wall of the last chamber, rather than where two chambers join (Loeblich and Tappan, 1984).

### *Clavulina pacifica*



**Figure 40:** (a) Lateral view of *Clavulina pacifica*, approximately 1.0mm length. (b) SEM picture of *C. pacifica*, scale = 0.1mm (Haig, 2001).

**Table 1:** Benthic foraminiferal species listed in alphabetical order with information on the presence and absence of these species in four sectors of the Great Barrier Reef.

Based on samples analysed in 2006 and 2007, sectors are the Capricorn Bunker Group (**CB**, four locations investigated, a total of 2,380 foraminifera screened); the Whitsunday area (**WH**, seven locations, 4,315 foraminifera); Townsville sector (**TO**, seven locations, 5,194 foraminifera), Innisfail sector (**IN**, six locations, 4,582 foraminifera) and the Cairns sector. The foraminiferal taxa have also been placed into six taxonomic groups according to Hallock (see: [http://www.marine.usf.edu/reeflab/foramcd/html\\_files/titlepage.htm](http://www.marine.usf.edu/reeflab/foramcd/html_files/titlepage.htm))

Foraminifera species	Suborder	Family	Distribution	Taxonomic group
<i>Alveolinella quoyi</i>	Miliolina	Alveolinidae	CB	Symbiont bearing miliolid
<i>Ammonia convexa</i>	Rotaliina	Rotaliidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Opportunistic
<i>Ammonia tepida</i>	Rotaliina	Rotaliidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Opportunistic
<i>Amphisorous sp.</i>	Miliolina	Soritidae	*	Symbiont bearing miliolid
<i>Amphistegina lessonii</i>	Rotaliina	Amphisteginidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Symbiont bearing rotaliid
<i>Amphistegina lobifera</i>	Rotaliina	Amphisteginidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Symbiont bearing rotaliid
<i>Amphistegina radiata</i>	Rotaliina	Amphisteginidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Symbiont bearing rotaliid
<i>Baculogypsina sphaerulata</i>	Rotaliina	Calcarinidae	TO, IN, CA	Symbiont bearing rotaliid
<i>Calcarina hispida</i>	Rotaliina	Calcarinidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Symbiont bearing rotaliid
<i>Calcarina mayorii</i>	Rotaliina	Calcarinidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Symbiont bearing rotaliid
<i>Calcarina spengleri</i>	Rotaliina	Calcarinidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Symbiont bearing rotaliid
<i>Cancris auriculus</i>	Rotaliina	Baginidae	WH, TO	Smaller perforate taxa
<i>Cibicides cf. refulgens</i>	Rotaliina	Cibicididae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Smaller perforate taxa
<i>Clavulina pacifica</i>	Textulariina	Valvulinidae	*	Agglutinated taxa
<i>Cymbaloporella bradyii</i>	Rotaliina	Cymbaloporidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Smaller perforate taxa
<i>Cymbaloporella squammosa</i>	Rotaliina	Cymbaloporidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Smaller perforate taxa
<i>Discorbina sp.</i>	Rotaliina	Discorbinaeidae	CB, WH, TO, IN	Smaller perforate taxa
<i>Edentostomina cultrata</i>	Miliolina	Ophthalmidiidae	*	Smaller miliolids
<i>Elphidium cf craticulatum</i>	Rotaliina	Elphidiidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Opportunistic
<i>Elphidium crispum</i>	Rotaliina	Elphidiidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Opportunistic

Foraminifera species	Suborder	Family	Distribution	Taxonomic group
<i>Elphidium reticulosum</i>	Rotaliina	Elphidiidae	WH, TO, IN	Opportunistic
<i>Elphidium sp.</i>	Rotaliina	Elphidiidae	*	Opportunistic
<i>Epistomaroides polystomelloides</i>	Rotaliina	Alfredinidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Smaller perforate taxa
<i>Eponides cibrorepandus</i>	Rotaliina	Eponididae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Smaller perforate taxa
<i>Hauerina circinata</i>	Miliolina	Hauerinidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Smaller miliolids
<i>Hauerina fragilissima</i>	Miliolina	Hauerinidae	CB, WH, TO, IN	Smaller miliolids
<i>Hauerina pacifica</i>	Miliolina	Hauerinidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Smaller miliolids
<i>Heterostegina depressa</i>	Rotaliina	Nummunitidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Symbiont bearing rotaliid
<i>Marginopera vertebralis</i>	Miliolina	Soritidae	WH, TO, IN	Symbiont bearing miliolid
<i>Miliola earlandi</i>	Miliolina	Hauerinidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Smaller miliolids
<i>Milliolinella circularis</i>	Miliolina	Hauerinidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Smaller miliolids
<i>Milliolinella labiosa</i>	Miliolina	Hauerinidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Smaller miliolids
<i>Neorotalia calcar</i>	Rotaliina	Calcarinidae	WH, TO, IN	Symbiont bearing rotaliid
<i>Operculina ammonoides</i>	Rotaliina	Nummunitidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Symbiont bearing rotaliid
<i>Pararotalia sp.</i>	Rotaliina	Rotaliidae	CB, WH, TO, IN	Opportunistic
<i>Pararotalia venusta</i>	Rotaliina	Rotaliidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Opportunistic
<i>Parasorites (S.orb var marg)</i>	Miliolina	Soritidae	WH, TO, IN	Symbiont bearing miliolid
<i>Peneroplis antillarum</i>	Miliolina	Peneroplidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Symbiont bearing miliolid
<i>Peneroplis pertusus</i>	Miliolina	Peneroplidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Symbiont bearing miliolid
<i>Peneroplis planatus</i>	Miliolina	Peneroplidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Symbiont bearing miliolid
<i>Planispirinella exigua</i>	Miliolina	Fischerinidae	WH, TO	Smaller miliolids
<i>Planorbulina acervalis</i>	Rotaliina	Planorbulinidae	WH, TO	Smaller perforate taxa
<i>Pseudomassilina macilenta</i>	Miliolina	Hauerinidae	CB, WH, TO, IN	Smaller miliolids
<i>Pseudohauerina involuta</i>	Miliolina	Hauerinidae	WH, TO, IN	Smaller miliolids
<i>Pyrgo denticulata</i>	Miliolina	Hauerinidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Smaller miliolids
<i>Pyrgo striolata</i>	Miliolina	Hauerinidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Smaller miliolids

Foraminifera species	Suborder	Family	Distribution	Taxonomic group
<i>Quinqueloculina</i> spp.	Miliolina	Hauerinidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Smaller miliolids
<i>Reussella</i> sp.	Rotaliina	Reussellidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Smaller perforate taxa
<i>Rosalina bradyi</i>	Rotaliina	Rosalinidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Smaller perforate taxa
<i>Rotorbis auberi</i>	Rotaliina	Discorbidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Smaller perforate taxa
<i>Septotextularia</i> sp.	Textulariina	Textulariidae	*	Agglutinated taxa
<i>Sigmohauerina involuta</i>	Miliolina	Hauerinidae	*	Smaller miliolids
<i>Sigmoidella elegantissima</i>	Lagenina	Polymorphinidae	CB, TO	Smaller perforate taxa
<i>Siphoniferoides</i> sp.	Textulariina	Textulariidae	*	Agglutinated taxa
<i>Sorites orbiculus</i>	Miliolina	Soritidae	WH, TO, IN, CA	Symbiont bearing miliolid
<i>Spiroloculina angulata</i>	Miliolina	Spiroloculinidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Smaller miliolids
<i>Spiroloculina corrugata</i>	Miliolina	Spiroloculinidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Smaller miliolids
<i>Spiroloculina foveolata</i>	Miliolina	Spiroloculinidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Smaller miliolids
<i>Spiroloculina rugosa</i>	Miliolina	Spiroloculinidae	WH, TO, CA	Smaller miliolids
<i>Textularia</i> spp.	Textulariina	Textulariidae	WH, TO, IN	Agglutinated taxa
<i>Triloculina barnardi</i>	Miliolina	Hauerinidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Smaller miliolids
<i>Triloculina tricarinata</i>	Miliolina	Hauerinidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Smaller miliolids
<i>Triloculina trigonula</i>	Miliolina	Hauerinidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Smaller miliolids
<i>Vertebralina striata</i>	Miliolina	Fischerinidae	CB, WH, TO, IN, CA	Smaller miliolids

\* Species were not found in the 2006 and 2007 samples, but have been identified in other samples collected on the Great Barrier Reef.

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