Shallow-water benthic foraminifers from Mecherchar Jellyfish Lake (Ongerul Tketau Uet), Palau

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Abstract—A sediment core taken from Mecherchar Jellyfish Lake (officially called Ongerul Tketau Uet), a marine lake in the Republic of Palau, was initially investigated for siliceous microfossils, however, a carbonate layer (67–78 cm below the sediment surface) was found to contain moderately preserved benthic foraminifers. Ten species have been identified from these samples to date, and most are common in subtropical to tropical shallow marine environments. The assemblage is dominated by two species, Helenina cf. H. anderseni and Rosalina globularis, with the other species being less common to rare. The presence of this carbonate layer below siliceous muds and anoxic bottom waters is assumed to represent the drier, cooler climate of the Little Ice Age which ceased about 100 years ago.

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Introduction

Mecherchar Jellyfish Lake (or Ongerul Tketau Uet in the Palauan language) is an unusual tropical marine lake which has remained relatively cut off from the surrounding sea for about the last 10,000 years and is home to millions of endemic jellyfish (Lobban & Schefter 1997). Previous investigations of this lake have focused largely on its geochemical, microbial and water properties (Hamner et al. 1982, Burnett et al. 1989, Venkateswaran et al. 1993), although some faunal, macroalgal and microalgal studies have also been conducted (Hamner & Hauri 1981, Hamner et al. 1982, Hara et al. 2002). However, observations on foraminiferal assemblages either preserved in the Mecherchar Jellyfish Lake sediments (Lipps & Langer 1999) or living in the reefal and lagoonal habitats outside the lake have been limited (Lessard 1980, Hallock 1981, 1984, Langer et al. 1997).

Here we present ten species of foraminifer from Mecherchar Jellyfish Lake sediments, briefly compare our findings with those of Lipps & Langer (1999) and provide an updated check-list of species from the lake.

Methods

Sampling Locality and Environmental Setting

Mecherchar Jellyfish Lake is situated on Mecherchar Island (7°09.5’N, 134°22.5’E; formerly known as Eil Malk Island; Fig.1), one of the numerous islands making up the Republic of Palau in the western Pacific Ocean. The lake lies in the northeast of the island, is 420 m long and 100 m wide, with a surface area of about 50,000 m², and is up to 30 m deep in the western basin (Hamner et al. 1982). The lake is marine, generally with a surface salinity of 27–31‰ and surface water temperatures around 30°C. The lake is permanently stratified (meromictic) with an oxic upper layer (epilimnion) and an anoxic lower layer (hypolimnion) below 15 m. At 12–15 m water depth there is a bacterial layer, composed largely of a Chromatium sp. (Venkateswaran et al. 1993), which seemingly acts as a sponge for descending particles—the waters being clear below this layer (Hamner et al. 1982). Relatively low concentrations of nutrients occur in the epilimnion, but levels increase dramatically below 15 m (i.e. there is a strong chemocline). The lake is surrounded by a dense jungle, with the lake edge dominated by mangroves. Fallen leaves, especially from the mangroves, are a major source of the organic matter in the lake sediments (Orem et al. 1991).

Core Collection and Basic Description

Given the relative inaccessibility of Mecherchar Jellyfish Lake (and other lakes sampled during our 3 year research programme) it was decided to use a diver, rather than a more conventional gravity corer, to retrieve lake cores. Burnett et al. (1989), who also used a diver, suggested that a gravity corer may destroy the sediment-water interface due to the flocculent nature of the surface sediments.
Figure 1. (A) Map of the Republic of Palau, (B) Map of Mecherchar Island, (C) Map of Mecherchar Jellyfish Lake, showing the locations of the underwater channels (A, B and C) and Point 1. Isobaths are in metres. Modified from Hamner et al. (1982).
One additional benefit of the diver method is that a longer core tube could be assembled, with the hope that >50 cm cores could be recovered. Up to six 50 cm acrylic core tubes were joined together with vinyl tape and chopsticks to make a 2–3 m composite core tube. The core tube was inserted into the lake sediments by the diver, with a bung used to seal the upper core tube, then the lower end was sealed after extraction of the core tube, before the diver returned to the lake surface with the core tube in a vertical position. As only 0.5–1.5 m of core material were usually recovered due to the soft flocculent nature of the lake sediments, ‘empty’ core tubes from the upper section were removed and the composite core tube was resealed. Later, the core tube was transported back to Carp Island (our base camp) for sampling and examination.

The sediment core used in this study was taken from Point 1 (about 10 m water depth) on the 15 November 2001 (Fig. 1). The core length was 78 cm, and samples were taken at 1 cm intervals. The core top was a little soupy (as also noted by Orem et al. 1991), but the water content gradually decreased downcore. The upper part of the core (0–66 cm) was dark blackish brown, and similar sediments have been previously shown to contain about 60% organic matter derived from vascular plants such as mangroves (Orem et al. 1991). Faecal pellets from silverside fish are also recognisable. In addition, the upper sediments contain relatively high numbers of biogenic silica particles such as diatoms and sponge spicules (Orem et al. 1991). Below this layer (67–78 cm) the sediments gradually change from dark blackish brown to white, as the amount of carbonate increases and shell fragments are visible. It is now known that in this layer diatoms and sponge spicules are absent, whilst benthic foraminifers are moderately preserved. Orem et al. (1991) suggested that organic matter in these carbonate-rich sediments were more likely to be algal derived than from vascular plants.

**Sample Preparation and Observation**

Ten subsamples from the carbonate-rich layer (67–78 cm) and two from the layer above (0–1 cm, 50–51 cm) were sieved through a 63 µm mesh and the retained particles were placed in a plastic petridish to dry. Individual foraminifers were picked out using a fine paint brush and transferred to a microslide for identification and separation into discrete species. Specimens were attached to EM stubs by double-sided tape and observed (uncoated) in a JEOL Field Emission 6500F scanning electron microscope at an accelerating voltage of 1 kV. The specimens were photographed and saved in digital format.

**Results and Discussion**

**Species Diversity and Ecology**

Lipps & Langer (1999) looked at a total of 361 specimens from 10 depth differentiated surface sediment samples and identified 15 species of benthic foraminifer. In this study 1142 specimens from 12 samples in a sediment core were observed and 10 species were identified (Table 1). Surprisingly, only two of
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>species</th>
<th>samples (cm downcore)</th>
<th>0-1</th>
<th>50-51</th>
<th>67-68</th>
<th>68-69</th>
<th>69-70</th>
<th>70-71</th>
<th>72-73</th>
<th>73-74</th>
<th>74-75</th>
<th>75-76</th>
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<td>Acarothrochus lobulatus</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ammonia sp. A</td>
<td></td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>Bolivina cf. B. lutea</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elphidium sagrum</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helenina cf. H. anderseni</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>221</td>
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<td>Rosalina globularis</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>34</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>36</td>
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<td>64</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>122</td>
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</table>
the species are common to both studies, though there is a difference between the sediment materials (surface sediments vs core sediments).

An updated check-list of benthic foraminiferal species for Mecherchar Jellyfish Lake which combines the results of the two main studies is shown in Table 2.

Lipps & Langer (1999) have stated that the assemblages found in Mecherchar Jellyfish Lake are similar to those from other mangrove habitats around the world, especially in high tidal marshes and mangrove swamps of various Pacific (e.g., Lipps & Langer 1999, Hayward et al. 1999) and Central American (e.g., Saunders 1957, 1958, Culver 1990) regions. These assemblages are usually low in species diversity (<40 species; Boltovskoy 1984), compared to those communities outside the lake in the surrounding coral reefs and lagoons which may comprise 200–300 species (Lipps & Langer 1999). The Mecherchar Jellyfish Lake species are characterized by mostly thin-shelled, highly delicate tests (Lipps & Langer 1999). Of the taxa found in our study, the 7 genera are all

Table 2. Check list of the benthic foraminifers found in the Jellyfish Lake, which is compiled from two studies, Lipps & Langer (1999) and this study.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>species</th>
<th>Lipps &amp; Langer (1999)</th>
<th>this study</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acarotrochus lobulatus Kawagata, in Kawagata et al. 2005</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ammonia sp.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ammonia sp.A</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ammonia sp.B</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolivina cf. B. lutea Sliter 1969</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolivina striatula Cushman 1922*</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolivina variabilis (Williamson 1858)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cycloforina sp.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elphidium oceanicum Cushman 1933</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elphidium sagrum (d’Orbigny 1839)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elphidium sp.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evolutononion mattagordanum (Kornfeld 1931)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glomospira fijiensis Brönnimann et al. 1992</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helenina cf. H. anderseni (Warren 1957)**</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planorbulinella larvata (Parker &amp; Jones 1865)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pseudotriloculina sp.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pseudotriloculina sp.2</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quinqueloculina incisa Vella 1957</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reophax scorpiurus de Montfort 1808</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosalina globularis d’Orbigny 1826</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rectobolivina raphana (Parker &amp; Jones 1865)***</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textularia cf. T. foliacea Heron-Allen &amp; Earland 1915</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trichohyalus aquayoi (Bermudez 1935)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*described as Brizalina striatula Cushman 1922 by Lipps & Langer (1999)

**Helenina sp. of Lipps & Langer (1999) is synonymized with Helenina cf. H. anderseni (Warren 1957)

***described as Siphogenerina raphana Parker & Jones 1865 by Lipps & Langer (1999)
hyaline, calcareous forms belonging to the suborder Rotaliina. The most dominant taxa, *Helenina cf. H. anderseni* and *Rosalina globularis* have hitherto been reported from slightly brackish (e.g. Hayward et al, 1997) estuaries and on slightly rocky substrates, respectively.

**BRIEF COMMENTS ON THE POSSIBLE AGE OF OUR FORAMINIFERS**

Orem et al. (1991) noted that the downcore abundances of carbonate, organic carbon and organic oxygen shifted dramatically between 54–76 cm in their core 8, which corresponded to an age of 77–108 B.P., given a sedimentation rate of 0.7 cm yr\(^{-1}\) (Burnett et al. 1989). The presence of our carbonate layer (67–78 cm in our core) is assumed to be contemporaneous with the above core. This period of time is coincident with the end of the Little Ice Age (ca 1400–1900 AD; Cronin et al. 2003) when the climate had been cooler and drier but was becoming warmer and wetter (Orem et al. 1991, Gagan et al. 2000). During cooler and drier conditions, the sea-level would have been lower than today, possibly resulting in a lessening of the lake depth and a restriction of the mangrove growth around the lake (and thus its contribution to the organic matter in the lake sediments). A combination of these two factors may have promoted algal growth and encouraged benthic fauna such as foraminifers and bivalves. Macroalgal seagrass is well known to be the host plant of epifaunally living benthic foraminifers (e.g. Fujita & Hallock 1999). One of the dominant species, *Rosalina globularis*, is characterized by its plano-convex test morphology, which is now thought to be adapted well to an epifaunal, sessile habitat on rocky substrates and seagrasses, and is also suggested to be a passive herbivore which gathers food from around the site of attachment within the photic zone (Murray, 1991). According to culture study by Sliter (1965), *Rosalina globularis* grazes actively when food (diatoms) is scarce, but becomes a passive herbivore when diatoms are abundant. This is concordant with the fact that no diatoms were found in the calcareous layer in our core, but *Rosalina globularis* was abundant, particularly in the lower part of the calcareous layer (Table 1), together with a macroalgal growth signal (Orem et al. 1991). These suggest the dominance of *Rosalina globularis* in our samples was caused by the increase of host phytal substrates, macroalgal seagrass, in the lake during the Little Ice Age.

**Systematic Paleontology**

This section follows the classification scheme of Loeblich & Tappan (1987). All specimens illustrated here are lodged in the collection at the Institute of Geoscience, University of Tsukuba, Japan, with catalog numbers prefixed by IGUT.

Order FORAMINIFERIDA Eichwald 1830
Suborder ROTALIINA Delage & Hérouard 1896
Superfamily BOLIVINACEA Glaessner 1937
Family BOLIVINIDAE Glaessner 1937
Genus Bolivina d'Orbigny 1839

Bolivina cf. B. lutea Sliter 1969
   Pl. 1, Figs. 1, 2

Compared with:
Bolivina lutea Sliter 1969, p. 2, pl. 1, fig. 1, pl. 3, figs. 1–2, pl. 4, figs. 1–3; Sliter 1970, p. 160, pl. 2, figs. 4, 5, pl. 8, figs. 10, 11.

Material: IGUT13735 (Pl. 1, Figs. 1, 2) from 72–73 cm downcore.
Occurrence: Mecherchar Jellyfish Lake, Palau.
Remarks: The specimen treated here is characterized by having a test with distinctly raised ridges developed on the middle portion of the test and probably should be assigned to Bolivina lutea. However, it does not have irregular shaped later chambers, which tend to become centrally located as seen in typical full-grown specimens (Sliter 1970). The specimen examined here differs from Bolivina pseudoplicata Heron-Allen & Earland 1930 in showing non-reticulated ornamentation and from Bolivina doniezi Cushman & Wickenden 1929 and Bolivina lepida Sliter 1969 in having a test surface with a much coarser texture.

Bolivina striatula Cushman 1922
   Pl. 1, Figs. 3, 4

Bolivina striatula Cushman 1922, p. 254, pl. 7, fig. 101; Boltovskoy et al. 1980, p. 18, pl. 3, figs. 9–13; Oki 1989, p. 111, pl. 10, figs. 3a–b: Hayward et al. 1999, p. 127, pl. 8, fig. 21.
Brizalina striatula (Cushman). Sliter 1970, p. 170, pl. 7, fig. 6, pl. 8, fig. 19; Hottinger et al. 1993, p. 112, figs. 3–8.
Brizalina striatula Cushman. Lipps & Langer 1999, pl. 1, figs. 10, 11.

Material: IGUT13736 (Pl. 1, Figs. 3, 4) from 72–73 cm downcore.
Occurrence: Mecherchar Jellyfish Lake, Palau.
Remarks: The specimen treated here is characterized by a test with rather fine longitudinal striations over the earlier half of the test surface, which coalesce and become broad ridges in the earlier portion. This morphological feature compares well with those specimens from shallower marine environments around the world (see above list).

PLATE 1 (all scale bars = 50 µm)
Superfamily DISCORBACEA Ehrenberg 1838
Family DISCORBIDAE Ehrenberg, 1838
Genus *Acarotrochus* Kawagata, *in* Kawagata et al. 2005
*Acarotrochus lobulatus* Kawagata, *in* Kawagata et al. 2005
Pl. 1, Figs. 14–16


**Material:** IGUT13737 (Pl. 1, Figs. 14–16) from 77–78 cm down core.

**Occurrence:** Mecherchar Jellyfish Lake, Palau.

**Remarks:** This species was found as a new species from the intervals between 72 and 78 cm downcore (Kawagata et al. 2005), where a possible age of 100 years B.P. are suggested (see discussion). Kawagata et al. (in press) examined the internal and external morphologies and placed this species in the family Discorbidae on the basis of the nature of the foraminal plate.

Family HELENINIDAE Loeblich & Tappan 1987
Genus *Helenina* Saunders 1961

*Helenina* cf. *H. anderseni* (Warren 1957)
Pl. 1, Figs. 5–13

Compared with:


*Helenina* sp. 1. Lipps & Langer 1999, pl. 1, figs. 2, 5.

**Material:** IGUT13738 (Pl. 1, Figs. 5–7) from 77–78 cm downcore; IGUT13739 (Pl. 1, Figs. 8–10) from 75–76 cm downcore; IGUT13740 (Pl. 1, Figs. 11–13) from 77–78 cm downcore.

**Occurrence:** Mecherchar Jellyfish Lake, Palau.

PLATE 2 (all scale bars = 50 µm)
1–3. *Rosalina globularis*, juvenile, IGUT13739; 1 umbilical view, 2 apertural view, 3 spiral view.
4–6. *Rosalina globularis*, IGUT14198; 4 umbilical view, 5 apertural view, 6 spiral view.
7–9. *Evolutonion mattagordanum*, IGUT14199; 7 side view, 8 apertural view, 9 opposite side view of fig. 7. 10–12. *Ammonia* sp.A, IGUT14200, 10 umbilical view, 11 apertural view, 12 spiral view.
Remarks: The specimens found in the Jellyfish Lake sediments are characterized by a lobulate test with somewhat globular chambers and depressed sutures, although the specimens cited above are characterized by a nearly circular outlined test with nearly flushed intercameral sutures, except for the supplementary umbilical sutural openings. The specimens treated here show variation in the number of chambers in the last coil, five (Pl. 1, Figs. 11–13) to seven (Pl. 2, Figs. 5–10), and in the degree of test convexity.

Family ROSALINIDAE Reiss 1963
Genus *Rosalina* d’Orbigny 1826
*Rosalina globularis* d’Orbigny 1826
Pl. 2, Figs. 1–6

*Rosalina globularis* d’Orbigny 1826, p. 271, pl. 13, figs. 1, 2; Loeblich & Tappan 1994, p. 140, pl. 286, figs. 7–15.

*Discorbina globularis* (d’Orbigny). Brady 1884, p. 643, pl. 86, figs. 13.

*Discorbis globularis* (d’Orbigny). Cushman 1931, p. 22, pl. 4, figs. 9a–c.

? *Rosalina* sp. Apthorpe 1980, pl. 26, fig. 5.

Material: IGUT14197 (Pl. 2, Figs. 1–3) from 76–77 cm downcore; IGUT14198 (Pl. 2, Figs. 4–6) from 73–74 cm downcore.

Occurrence: Mecherchar Jellyfish Lake, Palau.

Remarks: The forms referred to as *Rosalina globularis* by Loeblich & Tappan (1994) are probably the same as those examined here, which are characterized by a low plano-convex test, which is coarsely punctated on the spiral side and lacks perforations on the lateral and umbilical sides.

Superfamily NONIONACEA Schultze 1854
Family NONIONIDAE Schultze 1854
Genus *Evolutononion* Wang 1964
*Evolutononion mattagordanum* (Kornfeld 1931)
Pl. 2, Figs. 7–9

*Nonion depressulum* (Walker & Jacob), var. *mattagordanum* Kornfeld 1931 (fide Cushman & McCulloch 1940); Cushman & McCulloch 1940, p. 145, pl. 17, figs. 1a, b.

PLATE 3 (all scale bars = 50 µm)
Nonion depressula (Walker & Jacob), var. mattagordana Kornfeld. Phleger & Parker 1951, p. 11, pl. 5, fig. 17.

Elphidium matagordanum [sic] (Kornfeld). Sellier de Civrieux 1977, pl. 6, figs. 9, 10.

Evolutononion mattagordanum (Kornfeld). Kawagata 2001, p. 101, figs. 12–6a, b.

**Material:** IGUT14199 (Pl. 2, Figs. 7–9) from 72–73 cm downcore

**Occurrence:** Mechercar Jellyfish Lake, Palau.

**Remarks:** This species has been placed by several authors in the genus Nonion, however, because of its adovlute rather than involute chamber arrangement it should be retained in the genus Evolutononion.

Superfamily ROTALIACEA Ehrenberg 1839
Family ROTALIIDAE Ehrenberg 1838
Subfamily AMMONIINAE Saidova 1981
Genus Ammonia Brünnich 1772

**Ammonia sp. A**
Pl. 2, Figs. 10–12

**Material:** IGUT14200 (Pl. 2, Figs. 10–12) from 68–69 cm downcore.

**Occurrence:** Mechercar Jellyfish Lake, Palau.

**Remarks:** Ammonia sp. A is characterized by having a minute-sized test which shows strongly raised, limbate sutures on the convex spiral side, particularly in the earlier portion, and by the pointed folier extensions of the chamber with calcite beads on the umbilical side. It resembles the Recent Ammonia molecular types T4 (from Japan) and T5A (described as Ammonia aoteana from Australia and New Zealand) of Hayward et al. (2004) and Ammonia convexa (Collins 1958). However, it is distinguished from these molecular types and A. convexa by its smaller dimension of the test, lack of distinct umbilical plugs, and the fewer number of chambers per whorl.

**Ammonia sp. B**
Pl. 3, Figs. 1–9

**Material:** IGUT14201 (Pl. 3, Figs. 1–3) from 77–78 cm downcore; IGUT14202 (Pl. 3, Figs. 4–6) from 77–78 cm downcore; IGUT14203 (Pl. 3, Figs. 7–9) from 77–78 cm downcore.

**Occurrence:** Mechercar Jellyfish Lake, Palau.

**Remarks:** Ammonia sp. B is characterized by a smaller sized test with minute pustules on umbilical folia, but no secondary calcite on the test and umbilical plug. It resembles several inornate molecular types of Ammonia recognized by Hayward et al. (2004), but differs from them in being much more vaulted on the spiral side of the test, though the test convexity varies in the core samples (e.g. Pl. 3, Figs. 2, 5, 6).
Family ELPHIDIIDAE Galloway 1933
Subfamily ELPHIDIINAE Galloway 1933
Genus *Elphidium* de Montfort 1808
*Elphidium oceanicum* Cushman 1933
Pl. 3, Figs. 10, 11

*Elphidium oceanicum* Cushman 1933, p. 52, pl. 12, figs. 7a,b; Cushman 1939, p.59, pl. 16, fig. 23; Hayward et al. 1997, p. 88, pl. 15, figs. 1–5.

*Polystomella* sp. (?). Cushman 1924, p.49, pl. 16, fig. 5.

**Material:** IGUT14204 (Pl. 3, Figs. 10, 11) from 72–73 cm downcore.

**Occurrence:** Mecherchar Jellyfish Lake, Palau.

**Remarks:** According to Hayward et al. (1997), this species is distributed in the modern tropical Southwest Pacific (Samoa, Tonga and Fiji) and eastern Australasian region (Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, and Lord Howe Island).

*Elphidium sagrum* (d’Orbigny 1839)
Pl. 3, Figs. 12, 13

*Polystomella sagra* d’Orbigny 1839, p. 55, pl. 6, figs. 19, 20.
*Elphidium sagrum* (d’Orbigny). Cushman 1930, p. 24, pl. 9, figs. 5, 6; Cushman 1939, p. 55, pl. 15, figs. 1–3.

**Material:** IGUT14205 (Pl. 3, Figs. 12, 13) from 72–73 cm downcore.

**Occurrence:** Mecherchar Jellyfish Lake, Palau.

**Remarks:** *Elphidium sagrum* is characterized by having a small, rounded test with distinct reticulation over the test surface, which extends nearly parallel to the periphery. *Elphidium schencki* of Hayward et al. (1997) resembles the species examined here, but differs in having less rounded sides, distinct retral processes and a number of tubercles within the umbilical part.

**Acknowledgements**

The authors would like to thank Hajime Kudoh (Yamagata University), who pushed the core tubes into the lake sediments during numerous dives to the lake bed. The manuscript has benefited from invaluable comments of two reviewers and the editor, Chris Lobban (University of Guam). This study was supported by a Grant-in-Aid from the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture of Japan (13304065) awarded to Professor Y. Hara (Dept. of Biology, Yamagata University), of which R.W. Jordan was a co-recipient.
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Received 17 Jan. 2004, revised 27 Apr.