

## RESEARCH NOTE

### A Note on the Occurrence of *Elphidium norvangi* from Southeast Coast of India

*Elphidium norvangi*, a rarely occurring species, is the first report from coastal sediments of India. It is exclusively found to occur along southeast coast of India i.e., from Tiruchandur to Tuticorin at shallow depths (<4 meters) and intertidal zones. The substrate is predominantly made up of silty sand and muddy sand. Small size of the species probably contributed to its obscurity. This species is sporadically encountered in low counts in the collected material. *Elphidium norvangi* is identified by a special character of spike-shaped papillae on the lower half of apertural face.

#### Taxonomy

Order FORAMINIFERIDA Eichwald, 1830

Sub order ROTALIINA Delage and Herouard, 1896

Super family ROTALIACEA Ehrenberg, 1839

Family ELPHIDIIDAE Galloway, 1933

Sub family ELPHIDIINAE Galloway, 1933

Genus ELPHIDIUM Montfort, 1808

*Elphidium norvangi* Buzas *et al.* 1977 Figures 1-2

Fig.1a, Side view x 350; Fig.1b, apertural view x 200

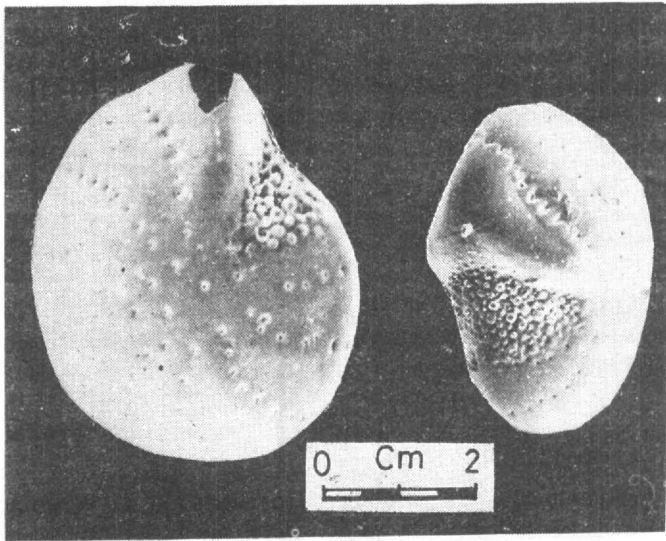
*Elphidium norvangi* Buzas *et al.*, 1977, p.96, pl.7, figs.1-4

Test small, planispiral, involute twice as long as broad. Final whorl consists of 8-11 chambers. The final chamber possess many spike-shaped papillae at the base of the apertural face. Sutures distinctly curved, slightly limbate with sutural pores in a single row extending to umbilical region. Periphery slightly limbate, rounded. Wall calcareous, thick, finely radially perforated, and transparent to translucent. Umbilical region is slightly depressed and consisting of many spike-like papillae extending from apertural face on the dorsal side. Aperture subrounded and occupied by many papillae.

**Remarks:** All specimens in our material have these papillae. No other species of *Elphidium* appears to resemble this species.

The first report of this species comes from *Thalassia* Habitats, Jamaica, West Indies. Our specimens closely resemble those reported by Buzas *et al.*, 1977.

Descriptive statistics of the species (maximum diameter, minimum diameter and thickness) measured in mm for the type specimens are as follows. Number of specimens: 136.



1a

1b

Fig.1a. Side view x350; Fig.1b. apertural view x200 of *Elphidium norvangi*.

	range	mean
maximum diameter	0.080-0.120	0.110
minimum diameter	0.080-0.110	0.095
thickness	0.040-0.070	0.075

Repository of the specimen :- SVUG 150

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### Reference

MARTIN A. BUZAS., ROBERTA K. SMITH and KENNETH A. BEEM. (1977). Ecology and systematics of Foraminifera in two Thalassic Habitats, Jamaica, West Indies. Smithsonian contributions to paleobiology, No.31, p.96, pt.7, figs.1-4.

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