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**POROSONONION SUBGRANOSUS BULGARICUS SSP. N.  
FROM THE BULGARIAN BLACK SEA SUBLITTORAL  
(FORAMINIFERA: ELPHIDIIDAE)**

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**Abstract:** A new subspecies of *Porosononion subgranosus* (EGGER, 1857) is being described on the basis of materials from the Bulgarian Black Sea sublittoral.

**Key words:** *Elphidiidae, Porosononion, n. ssp.*

*Porosononion subgranosus bulgaricus ssp. n.*

(Fig. 1)

**Diagnosis:** The test is plainspiral, symmetrical, peripheral outline subcircular, even; side-viewed - elongated oval. Chambers are 7-9. Sutures are depressed, narrow, slightly backwards curved. The umbilical area is wide and filled with large granules. The apertural face is tall, bordered on the sides by a rim, which forms a sort of „awning“ at the top. The aperture is complex, sieve-like. The test wall is full of large pores.

**Description:** The test is calcareous, plainspiral, symmetrical, peripheral outline is subcircular, even; side-viewed - elongated oval with level, almost parallel sides. The peripheral area is slightly narrowed and rounded. The number of chambers in the final whorl is 7-9. The chambers are wide, gradually increasing in size towards the last one which is very inflated and much larger. The sutures are narrow, slightly backwards curved, surface in the peripheral area and depressed and getting wider towards the umbilicus. The umbilical area, as well as those suture widenings are filled with large granules, interspersed with smaller ones. The apertural face is tall, with almost parallel sides, bordered on the sides by a rim, which forms a sort of „awning“ jutting at the top. The aperture is complex, sieve-like, with several concealed openings at the base. Above the base there are two rows of openings (diam. 7-8 microns) and other smaller ones over the whole septal area and under the awning.

**Dimensions:** test diam. 0,34-0,38 mm. Thickness 0,12-0,15 mm.

**Types:** Holotype (Fig. 1a-d) and two paratypes, collected at the Atliman bay, is deposited in the Faculty of Biology, Plovdiv University, No. 68-1; 68-2; 68-3.

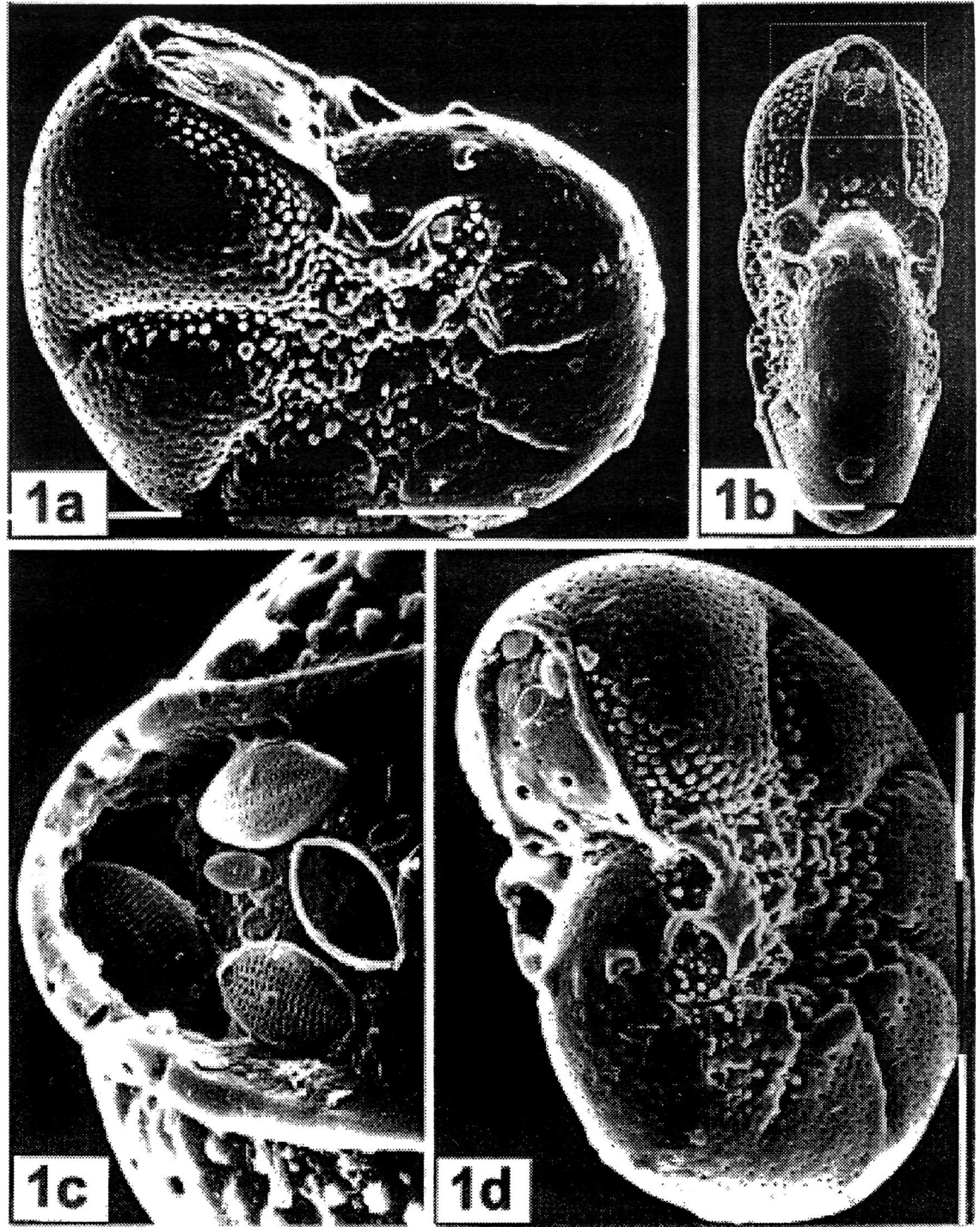
**Discussion:** The new subspecies differs from *P. subgranosus* (EGGER, 1857) with its suture form, its umbilical area, aperture character, aperture surface and the presence of an awning (see ELLIS, MESSINA, 1940; LOEBLICH, TAPPAN, 1987; JANKO, TROITSKAJA, 1987; CIMERMAN, LANGER, 1991).

From *P. martcobi* (BOGDANOVICZ, 1947) it differs with its more inflated test, the size of granules in the umbilical area, its smaller pore size and its aperture character (see ELLIS, MESSINA, 1940; JANKO, TROITSKAJA 1987).

*P. subgranosus bulgaricus* ssp. n. was found in infrequent numbers in the Atliman bay north of Kiten in a fine sandy sediment at a depth of 5-8 m., salinity 15-16 ‰, temperature 23-25°C.

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*Fig.1. Porosononion subgranosus bulgaricus* ssp n.: a.- test, side view (250x); b - face view with aperture (178x); c - fragment with sticking diatoms (1000x); d - side view, opposite side (252x).