THE FORAMINIFERAL GENUS ORBITOLINA IN GUATEMALA AND VENEZUELA

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At the end of January, 1930, Dr. C. A. Matley brought to me specimens of a species of Orbitolina collected by him in a hard, bluish limestone in the vicinity of Guatemala City, and Dr. L. W. Stephenson has submitted collections from Venezuela.

The number of names proposed for the American species of the genus is relatively small. They are as follows:

Orbitulites texanus Roemer (1849, p. 392; 1852, p. 86, pl. 10, figs. 7a–d) (= Orbitolina texana (Roemer) of subsequent authors).

Orbitulina venezuelana Karsten (1866, pl. 6, fig. 6) (= Orbitolina venezuelana (Karsten) of subsequent authors).

Orbitolina whitneyi Carsey (1926, p. 22, pl. 6, figs. 9a–b).

Orbitolina walnutenis Carsey (1926, p. 23, pl. 7, figs. 11a–b).

Orbitolina texana asaguana Hodson (1926, p. 5, pl. 1, figs. 6, 8).

Orbitolina texana monagasa Hodson (1926, p. 5, pl. 1, figs. 7, 9).

Orbitolina thompsoni Hodson (1926, p. 5, pl. 1, figs. 1, 5).

Of the forms listed above, every one of them except O. venezuelana (Karsten) is represented by material, including thin sections in the collections of the Scripps Institution. O. venezuelana (Karsten) was based on small conico-capuliform specimens about 3 mm. in diameter. I have been able to match Karsten's figures by picking out small specimens of O. texana (Roemer). Therefore, O. venezuelana, 1866, may be a synonym of O. texana, 1849.

Silvestri (1932, p. 177) mentions a paper by Dietrich (1924) which deals with Venezuelan species of Orbitolina. Besides O. venezuelana, Dietrich mentions O. lenticularis (Blumenbach), a species which ranges in the European Cretaceous from the Barremian to the Albian. I have not seen Dietrich's paper, but it would not affect the present note.

Orbitolina texana (Roemer) is very abundant in the Glen Rose formation of Texas. O. whitneyi Carsey is only a large-sized variant of it. Mrs.
Hodson’s two subspecies of *O. texana* and her *O. thompsoni* are only growth forms of *O. texana*. The four forms of *Orbitolina* to which she applies names all occur at the same locality on Rio Asagua, State of Monagas, Venezuela.

*O. walnutensis* Carsey differs so greatly from the other species that it may belong to another genus.

Dr. L. W. Stephenson has sent me Venezuelan material from the following localities:


State of Trujillo, Lower Cretaceous limestone, near the Mendoza Road, 4 kms. S. 35° W. of Valera, about 1 km. S. W. of a sugar-cane mill. Collected by L. W. Stephenson and J. A. Tong, Jan. 1, 1924, Venezuela Gulf Oil Co. acq. no. 158.

State of Anzoategui, loose limestone in the road to Barcelona, 0.8 km. S. W. of Bergantin. Collected by L. W. Stephenson and W. H. Butt.

The same species of *Orbitolina* occurs at all these localities. Three of the forms designated by Mrs. Hudson, viz., *O. texana*, *O. texana asaguana* and *O. texana monagasa* are recognizable.

The species collected by Doctor Matley near Guatemala City is the same as that obtained by Doctor Stephenson in Venezuela. It is very close to, if not identical with, *O. texana*.

The *Orbitolina*-bearing limestones of Guatemala and Venezuela are correlated with a part of the Texas Lower Cretaceous, Comanche Series, approximately the Glen Rose horizon.

Carsey, Dorothy Ogden, “Foraminifera of the Cretaceous of Central Texas,” *Univ. Texas Bull.*, No. 2612, 56, 8 pls. (March 22, 1926).


Roemer, Ferdinand, *Die Kreidebildungen von Texas und ihre organischen Einschlüsse*, 100 pp., illus., Bonn (1852).