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SCUTUM ROYII – A NEW SPECIES FROM EARLY PERMIAN OF WEST BENGAL, INDIA

A.B. DE

A fossilized glossopterid female fructification collected from Kalipahari Colliery under the Raniganj Coalfield in the state of West Bengal, India has been described here as a new species of Scutum Plumstead, namely Scutum royii De which is axillary to leaf, shortly pedicellate, bivalved structure, one valve consisted of a seed-bearing ovate receptacle (1.2 x 0.9 cm) having cordate base, umbonate apex, dentate wing (up to 1.5 mm wide) and seed scars around 40 in number on receptacle arranged in horizontal rows, scars of one row alternated with scars of the next row. The sterile protective valve is obovate and empty, 8 x 4 mm.