Key to the Identification of Carbonate Rocks

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Pure Micrite
No allochems

Fossil Micrite

< 50% matrix supported
Fossils few widely scattered < 10%

Fossil Micrite

> 50% grain supported
Fossils moderately abundant 10 - 50%

Fossil Micrite

FOSSILS > Oolites

Oolites > Fossils

FOSSILS > Fossils

OOLITES > Oolites

Sparite

Fossils and Oolites both present

In Sparite

In Micrite

L.S. Fichter, 1993
The names calcarenite and calcirudite are used when more specific identification is not possible. They are a fall back to a simple size description. If interstitial material can be identified, these rocks can be named as "sparry calcarenite (calcirudite)" or "micritic calcarenite (calcirudite)." Size descriptions can also be used, such as "coarse micritic calcarenite."

L.S. Fichter, 1993