Marteau Formation – MAR

Author: Gosselet, 1888; Dejonghe, Hance & Steemans, 1994a.

Description: In the Marteau stratotype, the formation unconformably rests on the Caledonian (Salmian) basement and is overlaid by the sandstones and quartzites of the Bois d'Ausse Fm. At the bottom, occur a conglomerate of 1.5 m thick at Eupen, increasing S of Eupen and in the Amblève valley (Quarreux Member, locally > 10 m thick). These rocks are overlaid by maroon (red) and mottled siltstones and argillaceous fine-grained sandstones, alternating with green, olive or mottled argillaceous sandstones. The maroon (red) colour is widely dominant. Carbonate nodules are concentrated in some beds and responsible for a cellular structure if dissolved. Light-coloured quartzite banks, sometimes gravely, occur in the lower part. In the Gileppe valley, there are coarse-grained to conglomerate bearing kaolinitic sandstones.

Stratotype: Theux Window, Marteau locality, along the Spa-Pépinster railway.

Area: W and N flanks of the Stavelot Massif.

Thickness: 163 m at Eupen.

Age: Lochkovian (Ma-GSubzones of the MN Oppel Miospore Biozonation in the Vesdre Nappe; R subzone in the Theux Window pointing out to an older age to the S than to the N).