

National Commission for Stratigraphy Belgium

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5.22 Martinrive Formation - MRT

Carboniferous

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Authors: Groessens, 1975; Paproth et al., 1983.

Description: Most of the formation consists of dark limestones (packstones to wackestones) with crinoidal concentrations and numerous chert nodules. The lowermost part contains abundant calcite nodules with chicken-wire structure (pseudomorphs after anhydrite). The uppermost part of the formation is thick-bedded, with fine-grained, peloidal grainstones and lime mudstones, locally dolomitized and devoid of chert. In the Ourthe valley, chicken-wire nodules are also present at this level.

Stratotype: Left bank of the River Amblève, along the Aywaille road immediately downstream from the Martinrive bridge.

Area: The formation is restricted to the western part of the CSA. It passes laterally into the Leffe Formation.

Thickness: About 50 m

Age: Upper Ivorian. The formation straddles the *Polygnathus communis carina* (*Dollymae bouckaerti* Subzone) and *Scaliognathus anchoralis europensis* Conodont Zones; *Protognathodus cordiformis* is present in its uppermost part in the Ourthe valley. The upper part of the formation has yielded *E. michoti*, *C. modavensis*, *Eoforschia* sp., and *Tourmayella* sp., an association which is assigned to the Cf3aForaminifer Subzone. The formation lies in the RC3gRugose Coral Zone. The formation corresponds to the TST of the third-order sequence 4 of Hance et al. (2001).

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