

# Aye Formation - AYE

**Authors:** Bouckaert et al., 1968; Thorez et al., 1977.

**Description:** As pointed out by Bouckaert et al. (1968), the Esneux Fm passes laterally in the southern part of the Dinant Synclinorium (i.e. in a more offshore position) to the Aye Fm (former name: Aye shales or schists). The dominant lithology is that of greenish shale with alternating interbedded greenish argillaceous platy siltstone beds and lenticular (some cm thick) fine-grained sandstones and siltstones. Bioturbation is important. Brachiopods accumulations and limestone beds are locally frequent. The overall paleobathymetry for the Esneux and Aye Fms is that of a subtidal wave-influenced environment. Cross-bedding structures are related to storm current origin (tempestite).

**Stratotype:** area of Houyet and Aye.

**Area:** South of the Dinant Synclinorium; north of the Philippeville Tectonic Unit.

**Thickness:** at least 140 m in the Silenrieux area; 220 m in the Hermeton valley.

**Age:** Base of the Middle Famennian (Fa2a). *P. rhomboidea* conodont zone.