

Summarised description

Unit name

Bois Chestion Member

Code

BCS

Status

Formal Member

Parent unit

Hierges Formation

Child units

none

Characteristic description

Quartzitic or argillaceous sandstone and grey or grey-greenish, fossiliferous shale.

Age

Late Emsian

Thickness

C. 20 metres

Area of occurrence

Southern limb of the Dinant Synclinorium.

Type locality

A new stratotype for this limit is proposed along the Eau Noire south of Couvin.

Alternative names

Grauwacke d'Hierges

Authors

Godefroid & Stainier (1994)

Modified after

Denayer, J. & Mottequin, B., 2024. Lower Devonian lithostratigraphy of Belgium. *Geologica Belgica*, 27/3-4, 115–154.

Date

23/09/2025

Cite as

Denayer, J. & Mottequin, B., 2025. The Bois Chestion Member, 23/09/2025. National Commission for Stratigraphy Belgium. <https://ncs.naturalsciences.be/lithostratigraphy/Bois-Chestion-Member>

Full description

Unit name

Bois Chession Member

Code

BCS

Status

Formal Member

Parent unit

Hierges Formation

Child units

none

Origin of the name

After Bois Chession locality near Vireux (France).

Alternative names

Grauwacke d'Hierges

Authors

Godefroid & Stainier (1994, p. 80) : *Membre du Bois Chession*

Modified after

Denayer, J. & Mottequin, B., 2024. Lower Devonian lithostratigraphy of Belgium. *Geologica Belgica*, 27/3-4, 115–154.

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Characteristic description

The Bois Chession Member is essentially made of quartzitic or argillaceous, locally fossiliferous, sandstone that forms two or three bundles separated by grey or grey-greenish, fossiliferous shale. The lowermost part (2–2.5 m thick) of this member usually consists of thin beds of argillaceous sandstone alternating with shale.

Area of occurrence

South and south-eastern flank of the Dinant Synclinorium. The Hierges Formation *stricto sensu* is recognised until the meridian of Chanly (Dumoulin & Blockmans, 2013). Eastwards, this unit becomes sandier and, at Tellin, a gravely sandstone level is present at its top (Blockmans et al., 2019). This transitional facies of the Hierges Formation was named *facies mixte* or *facies de Jemelle* by Asselberghs (1946).

Type locality

A new stratotype for this limit is proposed along the Eau Noire south of Couvin.

Age

Upper Emsian, the conodont indicative for the *laticostatus* to the *serotinus* zones (Bultynck, 1970; Bultynck & Godefroid, 1974) are present in the lower part of the Barrage Member.

Thickness

C. 20 m in the Meuse River valley.

Lower boundary

The first bed of sandstone that overlies the last red-coloured bed of the Chooz Formation.

Upper boundary

First calcareous shale bed of the overlying Barrage Member.

Regional correlations

East of the Lesse River valley, the characteristic of the member are less recognisable.

References

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- Bultynck, P., 1970. Révision stratigraphique et paléontologique de la coupe type du Couvinien. Mémoires de l'Institut géologique de l'Université de Louvain, 26, 1–152.
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