

National Commission for Stratigraphy Belgium

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3.2.3 Dave Formation - DAV

Lower Paleozoic

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Authors: Michot, 1932; emend. Michot, 1954.

Description: In the type area: bluish black shale, often fine micaceous or sandy, locally calcareous; around Fosses and Tihange black shale and mudstone with thin dark micaceous siltstone or sandstone intercalations. In the area around Neuville-sous-Huy keratophyre lavas, feldspathic tuffs and tuffites are present (Michot, 1954); in the area around Neuville-sous-Huy: in the middle part, a >48 m coarse shale, slightly quartzitic, brownish grey or dark greenish grey, compact bedded, rarely laminated, containing the lowest volcanoclastic bed of the area; the upper part (>94 m) consists of an alternation of greenish grey, olive green and red fine shale, compact bedded, with some minor clayey fine sandstone and at least 8 layers of keratophyre or volcano-sedimentary arkose (Maes et al., 1978).

Stratotype: southern flank of the Fond de Dave valley, near the village of Dave, 450-550 m east of the railway Namur-Dinant (Michot, 1932, 1934).

Area: Condroz inlier.

Thickness: Estimated at 280 m (Michot, 1957).

Age: The following graptolite biozones have been recognised: *Cephalograptus acuminatus*, *Mesograptus modestus*, *Monograptus convolutus* (black shale level of the Gazelle river), *Monograptus sedgwicki*, *M. turriculatus*, *Monograptus crispus*, *Monograptus crenulatus*, ranging from the bottom to the top of the Llandovery (Michot, 1954). Graptolites from Neuville-sous-Huy were described of the *M. turriculatus*, *M. crispus*, *M. griestoniensis* and *M. crenulata* biozones (Telychian, upper Llandovery) (Maes et al., 1978). A characteristic acritarch assemblage is present in the upper Telychian, dominated by many *Domasia* spp. (Martin, 1969a); Red beds occur from the top or above the *M. turriculatus* biozone till the lower Wenlock, but mostly in the *griestoniensis* and lower *M. crenulata* biozones. The 12 volcanic or volcano-sedimentary beds are situated from the *M. turriculatus* till the lower Wenlock (Maes et al., 1978). Samples from the Neuville-sous-Huy area contain chitinozoans from the *dolioliformis* and *longicollis* global biozones confirming the Telychian age for this part of the formation (Verniers, unpublished data).

Remarks: Synonym: Schistes de Dave, Assise de Dave.

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