

National Commission for Stratigraphy Belgium

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2.5.1 Deerlijk Formation - DEE

Lower Paleozoic

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Authors: Legrand, 1966; Martin, 1969a.

Description: Mostly grey shale unit, with centimetric to sometimes decimetric alternation of thin fining upward cycles from light grey fine sandstone to medium grey shale, and dark to black graptolitic shale.

Stratotype: Deerlijk, NW of Kortrijk; Van Neste-Verwee borehole (BGS N° 83E404) between depths of -150 to -188,25 m.

Area: Area in the subsurface of the SW of the Brabant Massif.

Thickness: >83 m.

Age: Graptolites described by Legrand (1966, 1968) indicated the *acuminatus*, *vesiculosus* and *cyphus* biozones (Rhuddanian) and the *gregarius*, *convolutus* and *sedgwicki* biozones (Aeronian). A restudy by Maletz (1999) of the lower Rhuddanian Deerlijk 404 borehole confirmed the presence of the *acuminatus* (from the middle part upward) and the *vesiculosus* biozones; however the base of the Silurian is not reached in this borehole. A restudy of the graptolites in the Aeronian in boreholes by Zalasiewicz (in Van Grootel et al., 1998), recognised the *triangulatus*, *magnus* and ? *leptotheca* biozones (previously parts of the *gregarius* biozone), also the *convolutus* and *sedgwicki* biozones. The chitinozoans belong to the *maennili* and *alargada* global biozones (Van Grootel, 1990 ms; Van Grootel et al., 1998). Both groups prove the presence of Rhuddanian and Aeronian (lower and middle Llandovery).

(J. VERNIERS)

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