Summarised description

Unit name

Lomme Formation

Code

LOM

Status

Formal Formation

Parent unit

none

Child units

Fond des Valennes Member, Wamme Member

Characteristic description

Sandstone, arkosic or calcareous, with intercalation of shale, siltstone and limestone with marine fauna.

Age

Eifelian

Thickness

110-130 m

Area of occurrence

Southern limb of the Dinant Synclinorium between Wellin and Ferrières.

Type locality

Section along the disused railway between Jemelle and Rochefort.

Alternative names

Grès de la Lomme

Authors

Godefroid (1991)

Modified after

Denayer, J., Coen-Aubert, M., Marion, J.-M. & Mottequin, B., 2024. Middle Devonian lithostratigraphy of Belgium. Geologica Belgica, 27/3-4, 155–192.

Date

23/09/2025

Cite as

Denayer, J., Coen-Aubert, M., Marion, J.-M. & Mottequin, B., 2005. The Lomme Formation, 23/09/2025. National Commission for Stratigraphy Belgium of Belgium. https://ncs.naturalscienes.be/lithostratigraphy/Lomme-Formation

Full description

Unit name

Lomme Formation

Code

LOM

Status

Formal Formation

Parent unit

none

Child units

Fond des Valennes Member, Wamme Member

Origin of the name

After the Lomme River.

Alternative names

Grès de la Lomme

Authors

Godefroid (1991, p. 33): *Formation de la Lomme*

Modified after

Denayer, J., Coen-Aubert, M., Marion, J.-M. & Mottequin, B., 2024. Middle Devonian lithostratigraphy of Belgium. Geologica Belgica, 27/3-4, 155–192.

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Characteristic description

The Lomme Formation is a dominantly sandstone unit divided into two members in the type section in Jemelle, from base to top: the Fond des Valennes and Wamme members.

The **Fond des Valennes Member** (*Membre du Fond des Valennes* in Godefroid, 1991, p. 33) is mainly shaly and silty with frequent thin beds of arkosic and/or micaceous sandstone, usually poorly fossiliferous, occurring above the calcareous shale of the Jemelle Formation. In Forrières and Mesnil-Favay, small metre-sized stromatoporoid-tabulate corals bioherms are developed in the uppermost part of the Fond des Valennes Member (Godefroid, 1968; Denayer, 2019).

The **Wamme Member** (*Membre de la Wamme* in Godefroid, 1991, p. 33) is dominated by thick beds of micaceous sandstone with plant remains and intercalated beds of sandy shale and some carbonate nodules in its upper part. The top of the Formation is marked by the progressive increase in carbonate announcing the overlying Hanonet Formation.

Area of occurrence

The Lomme Formation is present along the southern limb of the Dinant Synclinorium, mostly between Ferrières and Wellin (Ourthe block) but the sandstone which appears at the top of the Jemelle Formation westwards, could be included in the Lomme Formation as well (Bultynck, 1970; Godefroid, 1991).

Type locality

Jemelle disused railway section. The section in the Jemelle quarry, which was cited by Godefroid (1991), is now poorly exposed. Good exposures, though discontinuous, exist along the railway north-east of the Jemelle station and north of Forrières-Notre-Dame.

Age

In the Jemelle section, the joined occurrences of the brachiopod *Intermedites intermedius* and the conodont *Polygnathus angustipennatus* indicate the upper Eifelian *eiflius* to *ensensis* conodont zones (Godefroid, 1968, 1991). Bultynck (1970) and Bultynck & Hollevoet (1999) reported the conodonts *Tortodus intermedius* and *P. ensensis* from the calcareous sandstone sandwiched between the Jemelle and Hanonet Formations in Couvin, both indicating the upper Eifelian *ensensis* conodont Zone. The Lomme Formation is interpreted as the lowstand system tract of the third-order sequence MD4 (Denayer, 2019).

Thickness

In the type area, the Fond des Valennes and the Wamme members are 70 m and 40 m thick, respectively (Godefroid, 1991). The thickness of the Formation increases eastwards from Wellin to Resteigne where it reaches 130 m (Dumoulin & Blockmans, 2013).

Lower boundary

The base of the Lomme Formation is marked by the first sandstone or sandy siltstone bed overlying the shale of the Jemelle Formation.

Upper boundary

Below the first bed of argillaceous limestone of the Hanonet Formation.

Regional correlations

Northeast of Ferrières, the Formation passes to the upper part of the Pepinster Formation.

References

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Godefroid, J., 1991. LOM Formation de la Lomme. In Bultynck, P. et al., Les formations du Dévonien moyen de la Belgique. Mémoires pour servir à l'Explication des Cartes géologiques et minières de la Belgique, 30, 33–40.