

Summarised description

Unit name

Nonceveux Member

Code

NON

Status

Formal Member

Parent unit

Bois d'Ausse Formation

Child units

none

Characteristic description

Light-coloured sandstone passing to grey, beige or reddish, siltstone and shale arranged in thinning-upwards sequences.

Age

Pragian

Thickness

C. 100 m

Area of occurrence

The northeastern flank of the Dinant Synclinorium and Vesdre Area.

Type locality

Right bank of the Amblève River valley, north of Nonceveux.

Alternative names

Grès du Bois de Fraipont

Authors

Hance et al. (1992).

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 Nonceveux Member, 23/09/2025. National Commission for Stratigraphy Belgium. <https://ncs.naturalsciences.be/lithostratigraphy/Nonceveux-Member>

Full description

Unit name

Nonceveux Member

Code

NON

Status

Formal Member

Parent unit

Bois d'Ausse Formation

Child units

none

Origin of the name

From Nonceveux village in the Amblève valley upstream of Remouchamps.

Alternative names

Grès du Bois de Fraipont

Authors

Hance et al. (1992, p. 126): *Nonceveux Formation*

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

Locally, the upper part of the Bois d'Ausse Formation displays a sequential character and was previously considered as a distinct unit, i.e. the Nonceveux Formation (Hance et al., 1992; Dejonghe et al., 1994). It consists of a succession of thinning-upward sequences, ranging from 1.6 to 15 m in thickness, divided into a lower, light-coloured, sandy part, and an upper, grey, beige or reddish, silty and shaly one, but with no clear boundary. The base of the sequences is well marked, sometimes erosive and recurrences of sandy and/or silty beds are observed in the fine-grained parts. These lithologies were described as *facies du Bois de Fraipont* by Asselberghs (1946) and individualised as the Nonceveux Formation by Hance et al. (1992), based on the Nonceveux section in the Amblève River valley. Michot (1953) and Monseur (1959) pointed out the rhythmic character of the upper part of the Bois d'Ausse Formation at Huy on the northern limb of the Dinant Synclinorium. On the new geological maps of this part of the Dinant Synclinorium (Mottequin et al., 2021; Delcambre, 2023; Marion et al., in press), these rhythmical facies were not mapped distinctively.

Area of occurrence

The Nonceveux Member exists along the eastern limb of the Dinant Synclinorium (north of the Xhoris Fault), and in the Vesdre area. The Nonceveux Member is also recorded in the Bolland borehole (Graulich, 1975).

Type locality

The type section of the Nonceveux Member is located on the right bank of the Amblève River valley, north of the eponymous village.

Age

In Huy, the shale of the Nonceveux Member yielded an assemblage indicative of the Paα Zone (Dejonghe et al., 1994) whereas in Pepinster, the upper Lochkovian Z Zone is recorded. Hence the Nonceveux Member displays a diachronic age and becomes younger westwards (Steemans, 1989).

Thickness

The Nonceveux Member is 110 m thick at the stratotype (Hance et al., 1992; Dejonghe et al., 1994), 100–120 m thick at Pepinster (Laloux et al., 1996) and thins out westwards.

Lower boundary

Last quartzitic bed of the underlying Masuis Member.

Upper boundary

First reddish sandstone beds of the overlying Acoz Formation.

Regional correlations

Outside the Vesdre Area, these rhythmical facies were not mapped distinctively but as part as the Bois d'Ausse Formation

References

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Steemans, P., 1989. Étude palynostratigraphique du Dévonien inférieur dans l'Ouest de l'Europe. Mémoires pour servir à l'Explication des Cartes géologiques et minières de Belgique, 27, 1–453.