

Summarised description

Unit name

Our Formation

Code

OUU

Status

Formal Formation

Parent unit

none

Child units

Stolzembourg Member, Schuttbourg Member

Characteristic description

Bluish to greenish-grey shale, siltstone and sandstone, usually finely micaceous, with a brownish when weathered.

Age

Early Emsian

Thickness

2500 metres

Area of occurrence

Northeastern limb of the Neufchâteau – Eifel Synclinorium, east of Troisvierges Fault.

Type locality

Sections along the Our River between Kalborn (Grand Duchy of Luxembourg) and Burg-Reuland (Belgium).

Alternative names

none

Authors

Dejonghe et al. (2017)

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

Full description

Unit name

Our Formation

Code

OUU

Status

Formal Formation

Parent unit

none

Child units

Stolzembourg Member, Schuttbourg Member

Origin of the name

After the numerous outcrops located in the Our valley at the border between Germany and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

Alternative names

None

Authors

Dejonghe et al. (2017, p. 37): *Our Formation*

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

Characteristic description

The Our Formation is a thick unit made up of shale, siltstone and sandstone, usually finely micaceous, bluish to greenish-grey, but brownish when weathered. A lower **Stolzembourg Member** (*Schiefer von Stolzembourg* in Lucius, 1950, p. 10) is dominated by the fine-grained lithologies but sandstone beds occur in the lower part and become more abundant upsection. The sandstone is badly washed, poorly sorted, argillaceous and frequently arkosic. At the base of the Member, many horizons with load-casts are present. Some of these structures are up to 50 cm in diameter and affect preferentially the siltstone and fine-grained sandstone (Macar & Antun, 1950). The upper **Schuttbourg** (*quarzophyllades* [sic] *de Schuttbourg* in Gosselet, 1885, p. 276) is still dominated by the shale and siltstone but sandstone beds become locally very abundant. The former are decimetre- to metre-thick and grouped in bundles of tens to several tens of metres. The sandstone is 'cleaner' than those of the Stolzembourg Member, arkosic or quartzitic, with planar to oblique stratifications and ripples. Decalcified brachiopod coquinas are occasional, plant fragments are less common.

Area of occurrence

The Our Formation is developed on the north-eastern limb of the Neufchâteau Synclinorium, east of the Troisvierges Fault. Westwards, the Our Formation rapidly loses its sandy facies and is less individualised from the underlying La Roche Formation. These poorly sandy facies were mapped as the *Quartzophyllades de Schüttburg* by Brichant (1928) but were assimilated to the La Roche Formation by Ghysel (2023) and Belanger (in press).

Type locality

The historical type sections of Schuttbourg (Schüttburg) and Stolzembourg (Stolzemburg) in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg are not accessible anymore, but Dejonghe (2019) proposed the sections along the Our River between Kalborn (Grand Duchy of Luxembourg) and Burg-Reuland (Belgium) overcome this drawback. However, none of these sections fully exposes the formation. Its base can be observed in the Reelerfurtbach River valley at Stoubach, a hamlet of Burg-Reuland, and its top is exposed along the Our River south of Ouren.

Age

Asselberghs (1932) reported the presence of an invertebrate fauna typical of the lower Emsian in the *Quartzophyllades de Schuttbourg*. In Burg-Reuland, the Formation yielded the brachiopods *Arduspirifer antecessens*, *Euryspirifer* cf. *latissimus*, and *Meganteris ovata* indicating the middle to upper part of the Lower Emsian (De Baets et al., 2013).

Thickness

Dejonghe (2019) indicates a thickness of 1400 m for the Stolzembourg Member and 1100 m for the Schuttbourg Member; therefore, a thickness of c. 2500 m is proposed by this author for the whole Formation.

Lower boundary

There is no clear boundary between the Our Formation and the underlying Kautenbach-Troisvierges Formation but the progressive development greenish colour and brownish patina can be used.

Upper boundary

First bed of olive green fine shale of the overlying Clervaux Formation.

Regional correlations

In Germany, these lithologies are included in the *Shleiden-Schichten* and the *Wüstebach-Schichten* (Ribbert et al., 1992).

References

- Asselberghs, E., 1932. Le Dévonien inférieur de la Prusse rhénane à l'ouest des bassins calcaires de l'Eifel. Mémoires de l'Institut géologique de l'Université de Louvain, 5/1, 1–46.
- Belanger, I., in press. Carte géologique de Wallonie : Fauvillers – Romeldange 65/7-8. 1/25 000. Service public de Wallonie, Agriculture, Ressources naturelles et Environnement, Namur, and its explanatory booklet.
- Brichant, A., 1928. Contribution à l'étude du Dévonien inférieur de l'Anticlinal de Givonne et du flanc méridional du synclinal de l'Eifel au sud de la vallée de la Sûre. Annales de la Société géologique de Belgique, 51, M3–M36.
- De Baets, K., Goolaerts, S., Jansen, U., Ritbergen, T. & Klug, C., 2013. The first record of Early Devonian ammonoids from Belgium and their stratigraphic significance. *Geologica Belgica*, 16/3, 148–156.
- Dejonghe, L., 2019. Notice explicative de la carte géologique du Luxembourg à 1/25 000, feuille n° 1 Troisvierges. Bulletin du Service géologique du Luxembourg, 18, 5–35.

Dejonghe, L., Colbach, R. & Goemaere, E., 2017. The lithostratigraphy of the lower Devonian formations of the Eisleck region (northern Luxembourg). Comparison with their Belgian lateral equivalents. *Geologica Belgica*, 20/1–2, 33–42.

Ghysel, P., 2023. Carte géologique de Wallonie : Neufchâteau – Juseret 65/5-6. 1/25 000. Service public de Wallonie, Agriculture, Ressources naturelles et Environnement, Namur, and its explanatory booklet, 54 p.

Gosselet, J., 1885. Aperçu géologique sur le terrain dévonien du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg. *Annales de la Société géologique du Nord*, 12, 260–300.

Lucius, M., 1950. Das Oesling. Erläuterungen zu der geologischen spezialkarte Luxembourgs. Ministère des Travaux publics, Service géologique du Luxembourg, 6, 1–174.

Macar, P. & Antun, P., 1950. Pseudo-nodules et glissements sous-aquatiques dans l'Emsien inférieur de l'Oesling (Grand-Duché de Luxembourg). *Annales de la Société géologique de Belgique*, 73/3-7, B121–B150.

Ribbert, K.-H., Brunemann, H.-G., Jäger, B., Knapp, G., Michel, G., Reinhaardt, M., Weber, M. & Wrede, V., 1992. Geologische Karte von Nordrhein-Westfalen 1/100 000, Erläuterungen zu Blatt C 5502 Aachen. Geologisches Landesamt Nordrhein-Westfalen, Krefeld, 84 p.