

National Commission for Stratigraphy Belgium

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2.5.12 Vissoul Formation - VSS

Lower Paleozoic

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Authors: Verniers, 1976 ms, 1983a; Verniers & Van Grootel, 1991.

Description: Grey mudslate, mudstone, siltstone and fine sandstone with non-calcareous quartzitic pelite in the e-divisions. Sedimentology: alternating distal to slightly proximal turbidites with thin bedded laminated hemipelagites; the Tde sequences are medium thick and the T(b)cde sequences are frequent (about 15 % of all sequences) and normally thicker (± 50 %) than the average Tde sequences; c-divisions are thin (2-8 cm). Lower boundary probably with Les Vallées Fm and upper boundary probably with the Fumal Fm.

Stratotype: quarry behind a house, previously called Cabaret au Congo, hamlet of Vissoul, village of Oteppe, Burdinale valley.

Area: Meuhaigne and Burdinale valleys.

Thickness: Recorded sections: 9.4 m; thickness of the outcropping sections: 29.4 m; estimated thickness: >30 m.

Age: Graptolites from the Burdinale valley are not characteristic for one biozone but the assemblage indicates a range from the *dubius* to the *lundgreni* biozones, middle Sheinwoodian to lower Homerian (middle to upper Wenlock) (Verniers & Rickards, 1979; Zalasiewicz et al., 1998); the chitinozoans belong to subzone D1 (Verniers, 1982) and to the *Cingulochitina cingulata* global biozone and possibly the *Conochitina pachycephala* global biozone of Verniers et al. (1995) spanning the same interval as the graptolites.

Remarks: Synonyms: MB6 fm in Verniers (1981, 1983a); "partie supérieure de l'Assise de Corroy" (Verniers, 1983b).

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