

Fossils: In the lower part of the section fossil trees are intercalated in the basal portion identified as *Dadoxylon schrollianum*; also, spores have rarely been found.

Origin, facies: See entry Gröden Formation in Carnic Alps.

Chronostratigraphic age: Late Middle Permian due to reworked pebbles of quartzporphyritic composition presumably derived from the Bozen Quartzporphyry of the Dolomites.

Biostratigraphy: -

Thickness: Up to 350 meters.

Lithostratigraphically higher rank unit: -

Lithostratigraphic subdivision: -

Underlying unit(s): Laas Formation and Gailtal Crystalline Complex, respectively.

Overlying unit(s): Alpiner Buntsandstein and Werfen Formation of the Triassic sequence.

Lateral unit(s): -

Geographic distribution: In the Gailtal Alps and Lienz Dolomites ("Drauzug").

Remarks: -

Complementary references: -

Nördliche Kalkalpen / Northern Calcareous Alps

The thick Mesozoic sequences of the Northern Calcareous Alps are resting on predominantly clastic (Upper) Permian sediments. A primary (transgressive) contact to the underlying Greywacke Zone (e.g., Leobner Hut area near Eisenerz) is only rarely known due to overprint by Alpidic tectonic movements. In some cases a coherent connection between Permian "continental detritic" deposits and a Mesozoic cover is not traceable since they feature tectonic hangingwall boundaries (e.g., Silbersberg Nappes in NE Styria and Lower Austria, and Veitsch Nappe south of the Mürz Valley; NEUBAUER et al., 1994).

Alpiner Verrucano / Alpine Verrucano

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Validity: Invalid.

Remarks: The term "Alpiner Verrucano" was introduced by TOLLMANN (1962). TOLLMANN (1972: p. 83) defined this unit as coarse to fine detritic, weakly bedded continental Permian series deposited in an arid climate at the onset of the Alpine sedimentary cycle. Interbedded are acid volcanics and its debris. According to TOLLMANN (1972) and RIEHL-HERWIRSCH (1972) the "Alpiner Verrucano" should not be mixed with the "Verrucano Alpino" of ACCORDI (1956) which is restricted to the Lower Permian conglomerates overlying the Variscan sequence. Hence, RIEHL-HERWIRSCH (1972: p. 104) suggested to abandon this name and not to use it in further descriptions of tentatively similar rock sequences.

Type area: Not defined.

Type section: No type section defined.

Reference section(s): -

Derivation of name: After Castell Verruca in the Monte Pisani area (Tuscany/Italy).

Synonyms: -

Lithology: Mainly red, partly green, grey or brown coarse to fine grained conglomerates, sandstones and volcaniclastics.

Fossils: Rare and very badly preserved plant remains.

Origin, facies: Continental redbeds.

Chronostratigraphic age: Permian.

Biostratigraphy: -

Thickness: Up to 1,000 m.

Lithostratigraphically higher rank unit: -

Lithostratigraphic subdivision: -

Underlying unit(s): Various units of the Variscan Alpine sequence.

Overlying unit(s): Triassic sequences of the Northern Calcareous Alps.

Lateral unit(s): -

Geographic distribution: The Alpine Verrucano occurs at the base of the Alpine orogenic cycle within the Austroalpine nappe system.

Remarks: -

Complementary references: -

Präbichl-Formation / Präbichl Formation

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Validity: Invalid; the term was introduced by SCHWINNER (1929) for the clastic post-Variscan cover overlying Devonian limestones between Leobner Hütte (1,582 m) and the mountain Polster (1,910 m) northeast of Präbichl Pass, Styria, at the base of the Northern Calcareous Alps.

Type area: ÖK50-UTM, map sheet 4215 Eisenerz (ÖK50-BMN, map sheet 101 Eisenerz), area between Polster Kar, Leobner Hütte and peak of Polster northeast of Präbichl Pass, Styria.

Type section: Northeastern directed section between "Knappensteig" west of Leobner Hütte and Hirschegg Sattel (1699 m) (N 47°32'00" / E 14°58'14").

Reference section(s): -

Derivation of name: After Präbichl Pass (1,226 m) in the Eisenerz Alps (Styria).

Synonyms: Prebichlschichten, Präbichlkonglomerat (SCHWINNER, 1929; CORNELIUS, 1936); Werfener Basisbrekzie (HIESSLEITNER, 1931, 1935); Basiskonglomerat der Werfener Schichten (HABERFELNER, 1935); Präbichlschichten (KRAINER & STINGL, 1986).

Lithology: Generally, the predominantly red clastic sequence starts with an up to 50 m thick limestone conglomerate containing pebbles from the underlying strata (limestones, siderite, ankerite). This basal conglomerate and breccia is succeeded by interbedded lenses of quartz-rich conglomerates and pink siltstones which grade into more than 50 m thick sandstones alternating with mudstones and siltstones (SOMMER, 1972). In the quartz-rich conglomerate chert clasts occur quite frequently and are derived from the reworked Devonian to Carboniferous sequence

