



An All Ireland Quaternary Map

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Ireland has a rich history of Quaternary mapping. After 150 years a comprehensive map of Irish Quaternary deposits has yet to be published. The nearest equivalent is the BRITICE project, a database of glacial landforms. As a result knowledge of Quaternary deposits are often only localised. The absence of an All-Ireland Quaternary map is brought sharply into focus given that the next International Quaternary Congress will be held in Dublin in 2019.

We present the All-Ireland Quaternary map at 1:500 000 scale. The amalgamation of Quaternary maps from Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland is not a straightforward process, due to differences in mapped scale, lithological codes and polygon distribution. Data from the Geological Survey of Ireland, the Geological Survey of Northern Ireland and the BRITICE project are simplified to produce a seamless data set of 17 sediment types, 4 geomorphological features and a point data set of interglacial sites. Soil geochemistry and airborne radiometric data from the Tellus and Tellus Border projects are used to subdivide undifferentiated till deposits in Northern Ireland. Domains of geochemically similar till are identified and merged with existing till domains in the Republic of Ireland.