

## The type Ludlow Series: Geochronology

The Palaeozoic time scale published by Gradstein & Ogg (1996) is based in part on the time scale of Harland *et al.* (1990), updated using information from Tucker & McKerrow (1995) and Roberts *et al.* (1995). Tucker & McKerrow (1995) dated the base of the Ludlow as 423 Ma, citing K-Ar mineral and Rb-Sr whole-rock and mineral analyses which gave  $421 \pm 2$  Ma as an average eruption age for the Laidlaw Volcanics near Canberra, Australia (Wyborn *et al.* 1982). The Laidlaw Volcanics are interbedded with fossiliferous sedimentary rocks of Gorstian (*nilssoni-scanicus*) age. Tucker & McKerrow (1995) also referred to an undocumented U-Pb zircon age of  $419.6 \pm 5.6$  Ma for the Laidlaw Volcanics, cited by Compston & Williams (1992), but commented that it was impossible to evaluate the reliability of that age until the details had been published.

The base of the Prídolí Series was dated as 419 Ma by Tucker & McKerrow (1995), based on a U-Pb zircon age of  $420.2 \pm 3.9$  Ma (Tucker 1991) for a 1 cm clay-rich volcanic ash, 15 m below the top of the Upper Whitcliffe Formation at Ludford Corner (Whitcliffe Road).

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See: [Chronostratigraphy, Lobograptus scanicus Biozone, Local base of the Prídolí Series, Neodiversograptus nilssoni Biozone, Upper Whitcliffe Formation, Whitcliffe Road.](#)

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