

Pile-nappe structure of the Permian Yoshii Group in the Yoshii Area, Okayama Prefecture, Southwest Japan

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The Akiyoshi Terrane, Permian accretionary complex, occupies the Inner Zone of Southwest Japan. The Yoshii Group, a constituent of the Akiyoshi Terrane, is distributed in the Yoshii area, Okayama Prefecture, Southwest Japan. The Yoshii Group is composed mainly of pelagic chert and terrigenous clastics and forms chert-clastic sequences. It is divided into lower, middle and upper parts. The lower part is composed of chert; the middle part consists of siliceous mudstone and tuff; the upper part is made up of sandstone and mudstone. Six units of chert-clastic sequence are recognized in the Yoshii area. These units are stacked up to make a pile-nappe structure. Radiolarian biostratigraphic research revealed that the middle part is assignable to middle Middle Permian in age.