



Tephrostratigraphy and tephrochronology in lakes from Central France to Jura Mountains.

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Tephra layers have been identified in lakes situated in Jura, Eastern France and Central France. They provide significant chronological markers throughout this region. In lakes from the Jura, lithology, geochemical characteristics and mineral assemblages evidence that the main tephra layer corresponds to the Laacher See Tephra (Eifel, Germany ; 12 880 cal. yr BP, Brauer *et al.* 1999, Zolitschka *et al.* 2000). It constitutes a thin (around 1 mm thick) greyish layer visible to the naked eye in most of the studied cores. The two other significant tephra layers are older and show evidences for derivation from the volcanic activity of the Chaîne des Puys (Massif Central, France) around 13 000 cal. yr BP. Oldest and youngest tephra layers have been detected but our present mineral datas do not clearly evidence their origins. Geochemical analyses are in progress. In lakes from Central France, the main tephra layers correspond to the volcanic activity of the Chaîne des Puys during the Holocene.