

New Views of Occator Crater Reveal Complex Processes

The 92-km Occator crater is arguably the most complex feature found on Ceres. The crater hosts deposits of bright material (seen in limb view on the left) that are rich in sodium carbonate. The lack of craters within Occator indicates that the **floor material is relatively young**, while the crater itself is about 90 million years (My) old. Color images draped on Dawn's high-resolution topographic model (below) reveal a complex structure with the bright deposits (faculae) located in a central depression. The reddish material observed at the top of the central dome is also found in the crater walls. The central pit is surrounded by a dense network of faults suggesting **tectonic uplift** is involved in the long-term evolution of the dome. These observations suggest that **the bright deposits have been emplaced recently**.

