

## Heterosite



©2001-2005 Mineral Data Publishing, version 1

**Crystal Data:** Orthorhombic. *Point Group:*  $2/m\ 2/m\ 2/m$ . As cleavable blocky masses.

**Physical Properties:** *Cleavage:* Good on {100}; poor on {010}; surfaces may be curved. *Fracture:* Uneven. *Tenacity:* Brittle. Hardness = 4–4.5  $D(\text{meas.}) = 3.40$   $D(\text{calc.}) = [3.67]$

**Optical Properties:** Translucent to opaque. *Color:* Deep rose to purple, black. *Streak:* Pale purple. *Luster:* Satiny on fresh surfaces, dull to earthy.

*Optical Class:* Biaxial (-). *Pleochroism:* Intense;  $X = \text{yellow brown}$ ,  $Y = Z = \text{reddish purple}$ ; optic axis sections show anomalous green interference colors. *Orientation:*  $X = a$ .

*Absorption:*  $Z \geq Y > X$ .  $\alpha = 1.86(1)$   $\beta = 1.89(1)$   $\gamma = 1.91(1)$   $2V(\text{meas.}) = 37^\circ$

**Cell Data:** *Space Group:*  $Pmnb$ .  $a = 5.83(1)$   $b = 9.79(1)$   $c = 4.769(5)$   $Z = 4$

**X-ray Powder Pattern:** Palermo #1 mine, New Hampshire, USA. (ICDD 34–134). 2.452 (100), 4.31 (90), 3.46 (85), 2.92 (85), 4.94 (60), 2.412 (40), 2.96 (35)

### Chemistry:

	(1)	(2)
$\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$	43.45	47.20
$\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$	38.36	26.55
$\text{Mn}_2\text{O}_3$	12.08	26.25
MgO	trace	
CaO	1.37	
$\text{Li}_2\text{O}$	trace	
$\text{Na}_2\text{O}$	trace	
$\text{H}_2\text{O}$	4.82	
insol.	0.19	
Total	100.27	100.00

(1) Hill City, South Dakota, USA. (2) (Fe, Mn)PO<sub>4</sub> with Fe:Mn = 1:1.

**Polymorphism & Series:** Forms a series with purpurite.

**Occurrence:** A secondary mineral in the oxidized zone of complex granite pegmatites, replacing primary phosphate minerals, principally triphylite.

**Association:** Triphylite, ferrisicklerite, many secondary Fe–Mn phosphates.

**Distribution:** Widespread in weathered phosphate-bearing pegmatites. Some prominent localities include: in France, in Haute-Vienne, from near Limoges, Huréaux, and in the La Vilate quarry, near Chanteloube. At Hagedorf, and Hühnerkobel, near Zwiesel, Bavaria, Germany. From the Norrö pegmatite, on Rånö Island; Skruppetorp, Östergötland; and in the Varuträsk pegmatite, 15 km northwest of Skellefteå, Västerbotten, Sweden. At Sukula and Tammela, Finland. In the USA, from the Fletcher and Palermo #1 mines, near North Groton, Grafton Co., New Hampshire; at Newry, Oxford Co., Maine; around Hill City, Pennington Co., and elsewhere in South Dakota. In the Sapucaia pegmatite mine, about 50 km east-southeast of Governador Valadares, and several other localities in Minas Gerais, Brazil. At the Tsaobismund pegmatite, 60 km south of Karibib, Namibia. From the Angarf-Sud pegmatite, Tazenakht Plain, Anti-Atlas Mountains, Morocco.

**Name:** From the Greek for *another*, probably because it was the second manganese-bearing species described from the type locality.

**References:** (1) Palache, C., H. Berman, and C. Frondel (1951) Dana's system of mineralogy, (7th edition), v. II, 675–677. (2) Eventoff, W., R. Martin, and D.R. Peacor (1972) The crystal structure of heterosite. *Amer. Mineral.*, 57, 45–51.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise without the prior written permission of Mineral Data Publishing.