

Wölsendorfite**(Pb, Ca)U₂O₇•2H₂O**

©2001-2005 Mineral Data Publishing, version 1

Crystal Data: Orthorhombic. *Point Group:* $2/m\ 2/m\ 2/m$, $mm2$, or 222 . As spherulites and crystalline incrustations.

Physical Properties: *Cleavage:* {001}, good. Hardness = n.d. $D(\text{meas.}) = 6.8(1)$
 $D(\text{calc.}) = 6.815$ Radioactive.

Optical Properties: Semitransparent. *Color:* Red-orange to carmine-red.
Optical Class: Biaxial. $\alpha = 2.05(3)$ $\beta = \text{n.d.}$ $\gamma = 2.09(1)$ $2V(\text{meas.}) = \text{n.d.}$

Cell Data: *Space Group:* $C2/m\ 2/m\ 2/m$, $Cmm2$, or $C222$. $a = 11.95(5)$ $b = 13.99(7)$
 $c = 7.02(5)$ $Z = 6$

X-ray Powder Pattern: Shinkolobwe, Congo.
3.09 (100), 3.44 (90b), 1.907 (60), 6.90 (40), 2.734 (30), 2.010 (30), 1.734 (30)

Chemistry:	(1)	(2)
UO ₃	69.80	69.05
SiO ₂		0.32
Al ₂ O ₃		0.10
FeO		0.39
PbO	23.14	22.50
CaO	1.24	0.09
BaO		3.27
K ₂ O		0.10
H ₂ O	4.30	[4.18]
insol.	0.48	
Total	98.96	[100.00]

(1) Wölsendorf, Germany; corresponds to $(\text{Pb}_{0.85}\text{Ca}_{0.18})_{\Sigma=1.03}\text{U}_{2.00}\text{O}_{7.14} \cdot 1.96\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

(2) Randboldal, Greenland; by electron microprobe, H₂O by difference; corresponds to $(\text{Pb}_{0.81}\text{Ba}_{0.17}\text{Fe}_{0.04}\text{K}_{0.02}\text{Ca}_{0.01})_{\Sigma=1.05}(\text{U}_{1.95}\text{Si}_{0.04}\text{Al}_{0.02})_{\Sigma=2.01}\text{O}_{7.00} \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

Occurrence: A rare alteration product of uraninite in the oxide zone of uranium-bearing mineral deposits.

Association: Uraninite, rutherfordine, becquerelite, masuyite, kasolite, metastudtite (Shinkolobwe, Congo).

Distribution: From Wölsendorf, Bavaria, Germany. At Kerségalec, near Lignol, Morbihan, France. In the Val Rendena, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy. From Shinkolobwe, Katanga Province, Congo (Shaba Province, Zaire). At Okla, near Franceville, Gabon. From Great Bear Lake, Northwest Territories, Canada. In the Williams quarry, near Easton, Northampton Co., Pennsylvania; at Branchville, Fairfield Co., Connecticut; and on the Hell Hole claims, Wheeler Basin, Grand Co., Colorado, USA. At Randboldal, northeastern Greenland. In the Córrego do Urucum pegmatite, near Galiléia, Minas Gerais, Brazil. From the Koongarra deposit, 225 km east of Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia.

Name: For the mineral's first-noted occurrence at Wölsendorf, Germany.

Type Material: National School of Mines, Paris, France.

References: (1) Protas, J. (1957) La wölsendorfite, nouvelle espèce uranifère. *Compt. Rendus Acad. Sci. Paris*, 244, 2942–2944 (in French). (2) (1957) *Amer. Mineral.*, 42, 919 (abs. ref. 1). (3) Toussaint, J. (1961) Sur la structure de la wölsendorfite de Shinkolobwe. *Ann. Soc. Géol. Belg.*, 84, 365–373 (in French). (4) Deliens, M. (1977) Review of the hydrated oxides of U and Pb, with new X-ray powder data. *Mineral. Mag.*, 41, 51–57. (5) Beddoe-Stephens, B. and K. Secher (1982) Barian wölsendorfite from East Greenland. *Mineral. Mag.*, 46, 130–132.

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.