Manganvesuvianite and tweddillite, two new Mn³⁺-silicate minerals from the Kalahari manganese fields, South Africa

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ABSTRACT

The new minerals manganvesuviante and tweddillite, both formed by hydrothermal alteration of primary manganese ores, are described from the Kalahari manganese fields (Republic of South Africa). In addition, single-crystal X-ray structure refinements of both new minerals are presented.

Manganvesuvianite is a tetragonal vesuvianite mineral with the simplified formula $Ca_{19}Mn^{3+}(Al,Mn^{3+},Fe^{3+})_{10}(Mg,Mn^{2+})_2Si_{18}O_{69}(OH)_9$, characterized by Mn^{3+} occupying the five-coordinated position (square pyramid). The crystals have simple prismatic forms: {100}, {110} terminated by {101} and exhibit deep maroon red colour. With polarized light the crystals are strongly pleochroic, yellowish parallel to E and dark red to lilac parallel to O.

Tweddillite is an epidote-group mineral (space group space group $P2_1/m$, a = 8.932(5), b = 5.698(4), c = 10.310(5) Å, $\beta = 114.56(4)$, V = 477.3(8) Å³) with the simplified formula $CaSr(Mn^{3+}, Fe^{3+})_2Al$ [Si₃O₁₂](OH), closely related to strontiopiemontite. The difference between strontiopiemontite and tweddillite is the concentration of octahedral Mn^{3+} . Strontiopiemontite has Mn^{3+} mainly on the M3 site whereas tweddillite has Mn^{3+} with minor Fe^{3+} on M3 and M1. Tweddillite forms aggregates of very thin dark red $\{001\}$ blades characterized by striking pleochroism. The crystals appear dark red parallel to b and orange-yellow parallel to a. Perpendicular to $\{001\}$ the blades appear magenta to red.

KEYWORDS: manganvesuvianite, tweddillite, Kalahari, manganese fields, South Africa, epidote group, vesuvianite.

Introduction

A variety of rather rare manganese minerals formed in the Kalahari manganese fields by hydrothermal alteration (250–400°C) of the primary sedimentary and low-grade metamorphic manganese ores. Such minerals crystallized along fault planes and lenticular bodies within the manganese ore beds or filling veins and vugs (Cairncross *et al.*, 1997).

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Recently, the IMA Commission on New Minerals and Mineral Names (CNMMN) approved two new mineral species from this locality which are characterized, including their crystal structures. Both new species manganvesuvianite (CNMMN-2000-40) and tweddillite (CNMMN-2001-14) belong to well established mineral groups, the vesuvianite and epidote minerals, respectively.

Manganvesuvianite

General aspects of vesuvianite crystal chemistry

A simplified formula of tetragonal vesuvianite ($a \approx 15.5$, $c \approx 11.8$ Å, Z = 2), taking into account

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the various cation coordinations and its domain structure, may be written as $X_{18}X'Y'Y2_4$ $Y3_8$ $Z_{18}O_{69}(OH,F)_9$ where X and X' are seven to ninecoordinated, Y2 and Y3 have octahedral coordination, Y' has square pyramidal coordination, and Z represents tetrahedral coordination. X and X' are commonly occupied by Ca. Y and Y' host elements with an average valence of 2.85 (e.g. 11 Al and 2 Mg) and Z is mainly occupied by Si. X' and Y' occupy strings along the 4-fold axes. In space group P4/nnc, these strings have the sequence Y'X'X'Y' but due to short X'X' and Y'X' distances, occupied sites always alternate with vacancies (

). Thus a string along a 4-fold axis has locally either a $Y' \square X' \square$ or a $\square X' \square Y'$ arrangement. If we assume for electrostatic reasons that two adjacent vacancies do not occur, each string itself is fully ordered (short range ordering). However, adjacent strings are either long-range disordered (space group P4/nnc) or they follow some specific ordering patterns leading to decreased symmetry (Giuseppetti and Mazzi, 1983: Fitzgerald et al., 1986: Allen and Burnham, 1992: Ohkawa et al., 1994: Pavese et al., 1998; Armbruster and Gnos, 2000a.b.c).

In addition to these 'common vesuvianites' there are also excess *Y*-group vesuvianites (Groat *et al.*, 1994*a,b*) with additional sites occupied that are vacant in ordinary vesuvianites. These additional sites may also be occupied by boron leading to wiluite (Groat *et al.*, 1998) of simplified composition $Ca_{19}(Al,Mg,Fe,Ti)_{13}$ $(B,Al,\Box)_5Si_{18}O_{68}(O,OH)_{10}$.

The IMA CNMMN (Nickel and Grice, 1998) has defined the general guideline for compositional criteria that at least one structural site in the potential new mineral should be predominantly occupied by a different chemical component than that which occurs in the equivalent site in an existing mineral species. This rule expands vesuvianite to a mineral group with various mineral species distinguished by different cations occupying the square pyramidal Y' site. Ohkawa et al. (1992) suggest that Mn2+, Fe2+, Cu²⁺, Fe³⁺ and Mg²⁺ may occupy the fivecoordinated Y' site. However, interatomic distances obtained from diffraction experiments of disordered P4/nnc vesuvianites are not reliable for assignments of cation radii to the Y' site because in P4/nnc symmetry this site is only 50% occupied with the remaining 50% being vacancies. In other words, the valence of Mn and Fe cannot simply be derived from interatomic distances. High-resolution solid-state ²⁷Al NMR

spectroscopy (Phillips *et al.*, 1987; Olejniczak and Zabinski, 1996) indicated that in Mg-rich (Fepoor) vesuvianites also, Al may dominate the five-coordinated site. In a combined X-ray and neutron diffraction study Pavese *et al.* (1998) have shown that in a *P4/n* vesuvianite from Val d'Ala (Italy) the square pyramidal *Y'* site is occupied by Fe³⁺. The examples above demonstrate that the vesuvianite group is much more complex than hitherto assumed, requiring definition of new mineral species.

Definition

Manganvesuvianite is a vesuvianite group mineral where the five-coordinated (*Y'*) position (square pyramid) is occupied by Mn³⁺. The simplified formula is Ca₁₉Mn³⁺(Al,Mn³⁺,Fe³⁺)₁₀ (Mg, Mn²⁺)₂Si₁₈O₆₉(OH)₉.

Identification criteria

- (1) Manganvesuvianite is macroscopically deep red and strongly pleochroic E: colourless—yellowish, O: dark red or lilac. More detailed optical absorption spectra of five-coordinated Mn³⁺ in vesuvianite are discussed by Hålenius and Annersten (1994) and Platonov *et al.* (1995).
- (2) If the chemical formula of a boron-poor vesuvianite is either normalized to 50 cations or (Ca + Sr + Ba + Na + K) = 19, there are 13 Y type cations (Al, Fe³⁺, Mn³⁺, Mg, Fe²⁺, Mn²⁺, Cu²⁺, Ti⁴⁺). For stoichiometry reasons the average charge of the Y cations must be 2.85^+ . If Ti⁴⁺ can be ignored (which is the case for the Mn-rich samples described here) two Y cations are divalent and eleven Y cations are trivalent. The divalent Y cations are Mg, Cu^{2+} and Mn^{2+} . If the analysis reveals, after correction for Mn^{2+} (2 (Mg + Cu) p.f.u. = Mn^{2+} pfu), more than 1 Mn^{3+} p.f.u. and in addition $Mn^{3+} > Fe^{3+}$, the mineral is manganves uvianite.
- (3) Crystal structure analysis of manganvesuvianite indicates that Mn^{3^+} occupies the five-coordinated square pyramidal Y' position leading to Jahn-Teller distortion where the four-fold axis of the square pyramid is elongated.

Occurrence

Manganvesuvianite (Wessels mine and N'Chwaning II mine) occurs as long prismatic (up to 1.5 cm) crystals filling veins and vugs. Larger crystals are nearly black and opaque with

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Table 1. Electron microprobe analyses of manganvesuvianites from the N'Chwaning II mine.

	NC14-38 ¹	NCII-1 ²	St. dev.	NCII-2 ³	St. dev.
SiO_2	34.13	36.69	0.16	36.15	0.43
TiO_2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Al_2O_3	10.63	16.19	0.32	14.73	0.63
Fe_2O_3	0.00	1.83	0.16	1.12	0.60
Mn_2O_3	15.96	3.78	0.19	6.79	1.01
MgO	0.09	2.47	0.24	2.35	0.30
CaO	34.33	36.07	0.16	35.73	0.22
CuO	0.41	0.06	0.05	0.02	0.02
SrO	0.05	0.12	0.06	0.11	0.06
BaO	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Na ₂ O	0.00	0.05	0.03	0.03	0.02
K_2O	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
F	0.12	0.05	0.04	0.12	0.06
C1	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
H ₂ O (calc.)	2.52	2.74	0.02	2.67	0.04
-(F+Cl)	-0.06	-0.03		-0.07	
Sum	98.19	100.03		99.76	
	malized to (Ca +	Sr + Ba + Na + 1	K) = 19		
Si	17.611	17.962		17.885	
Ti	0.000	0.000		0.000	
Al	6.467	9.341		8.589	
Mn ³⁺	4.498	1.226		2.300	
Mn^{2+}	1.770	0.175		0.260	
Fe ³⁺	0.000	0.675		0.418	
Fe ²⁺	0.000	0.000		0.000	
Mg	0.072	1.803		1.733	
Ca	18.972	18.918		18.940	
Cu	0.158	0.022		0.007	
Sr	0.014	0.034		0.032	
Ba	0.000	0.000		0.000	
Na	0.000	0.047		0.029	
K	0.009	0.000		0.000	
F	0.191	0.077		0.188	
Cl	0.000	0.008		0.008	
H (calc.)		8.914		8.804	
II (caic.)					

¹ Armbruster and Gnos (2000b)

dark-red internal reflections, smaller crystals are red to lilac and transparent. The crystals are characterized by prism faces: dominant {100}, minor {110}, both often with striations, terminated by {101}.

At the N'Chwaning II mine, manganvesuvianite is also rock-forming, densely intergrown with either manganese-poor grossular or xonotlite and calcite in lenticular calcsilicate bodies within manganese ore beds. Those manganvesuvianite crystals are short to long prismatic (<0.2 mm) and strongly zoned. Additional associated minerals are calcite, serandite-pectolite, strontiopiemontite-tweddillite, mozartite and hydrogrossular-

² Sample for refractive index measurement (average of 15 point analyses)

³ Sample for crystal structure analysis (average of 19 point analyses)

⁴ Excess of Y cations (Al + Fe +Mg + Mn + Cu + Ti) > 13 is well documented for vesuvianites (Groat *et al.*, 1994*a,b*), Mn²⁺ was calculated as Mn²⁺ = $2 - (Fe^{2+} + Mg^{2+} + Cu^{2+})$

Table 2. Single-crystal X-ray data collection and refinement of manganvesuvianite NCII-2.

Cmana amanu	DA/- No 95 (origin at 1)
Space group 3	$P4/n$, No. 85 (origin at $\bar{1}$)
$a, c (\mathring{A}), V (\mathring{A}^3)$	15.575(2), 11.824(2), 2868.5(6)
Crystal size (mm ³)	$0.150 \times 0.150 \times 0.280$
X-radiation	Mo- <i>K</i> α
Upper θ limit	30°
h, k, l limit	$21 \geqslant h \geqslant 0, 21 \geqslant k \geqslant 0, 16 \geqslant l \geqslant 0$
Reflections measured	4660
Unique reflections	4189
Reflections $> 4\sigma$ (F)	3870
Absorption corr.	empirical: ψ scans
$R_{\rm int}, R_{\sigma}$ (%)	2.2, 1.4
Twinning, ratio	merohedral (110), 0.722(3): 0.278
Number of parameters	272; U_{eq} of Si sites constraint
R1 (on F) %	3.5
$wR2$ (on F^2) %	8.2

$$R1 = (\Sigma ||F_0| - |F_c||)/(\Sigma |F_0|)$$

$$wR2 = \sqrt{\left(\sum (w(F_0^2 - F_c^2)^2)/\left(\sum w(F_0^2)^2\right)\right)}$$

henritermierite. Manganvesuvianite from the N'Chwaning II mine has been deposited (NMBE 35474) at the Natural History Museum in Bern, Switzerland.

Physical and optical properties

The megascopic colour is deep maroon-red with vitreous lustre. Other properties: the streak is colourless; Mohs' hardness: 6-7; brittle tenacity; cleavage not observed; and subchoncoidal fracture. The density was not measured because of strong chemical zoning. The calculated density for crystal NCII-1 is 3.404 g/cm³ using a cell volume of 2868.5 Å³. The mineral is uniaxial negative. At 589 nm, crystal NCII-1 has the refractive indices $\varepsilon = 1.731(1)$ and $\omega = 1.719(1)$; extrapolated from small prism measurements at 546 nm: $\omega = 1.7353$, $\varepsilon = 1.7236$; at 576.9 nm: $\omega =$ 1.7320, $\varepsilon = 1.7200$; at 643.8 nm; $\omega = 1.7274$, $\varepsilon =$ 1.7159. The crystal is strongly pleochroic, E: vellowish. O: dark red. Some of the manganvesuvianites analysed by Armbruster and Gnos (2000b), in addition to Mn³⁺, also exhibit significant Cu²⁺ leading to lilac hues parallel to O. Such crystals are often colour zoned (Fig. 1) where the dark red core is more Mn3+ rich (typically 6-9 wt.% MnO) and the lilac rim is less Mn³⁺-rich (typically 1.5–5 wt.% MnO). Because of the strong chemical zoning, an X-ray powder pattern was not collected. In addition,

manganvesuvianite cannot be distinguished from other vesuvianites (e.g. with Fe^{3+} , Cu^{2+} or Al on the square pyramidal Y' site) on the basis of its X-ray powder pattern.

Chemical composition

Vesuvianites were analysed with a Cameca SX-50 microprobe using beam conditions of 15 kV and 20 nA, wavelength-dispersive spectrometers, and when possible, an enlarged spot size of \sim 10 μ m. Natural and synthetic minerals were used as standards. Results are given in Table 1. Even within one crystal the Mn³⁺ concentration is strongly variable. Mn³⁺ completely occupies the Y' site with square pyramidal coordination and may partly substitute the octahedral Y sites, commonly occupied by Al.

Crystal structure refinement

Single-crystal X-ray data collection on a maroon red crystal NCII-2 (for average chemical composition see Table 1) was performed with an ENRAF NONIUS CAD4 single crystal diffractometer with graphite monochromated Mo- $K\alpha$ X-radiation. Cell dimensions were refined from the angular settings of 20 reflections (16 0 0, 0 16 0, 0 0 16, 12 12 0, 12 12 8, and their symmetry equivalent reflections). Experimental details of the data collection and refinement are summarized

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Table 3. Atomic positional parameters and Beq values for manganvesuvianite NCII-2.

Atom	Population	x/a	y/b	z/c	$B_{eq} (\mathring{A}^2)$
Z1A	Si	-1/4	1/4	0	0.734(7)*
Z1B	Si	-1/4	1/4	1/2	0.734(7)*
Z2A	Si	-0.04035(8)	0.31890(8)	0.1292(1)	0.734(7)*
Z2B	Si	-0.04115(8)	0.18017(8)	0.3719(1)	0.734(7)*
Z3A	Si	0.08686(7)	0.34911(7)	-0.1352(1)	0.734(7)*
Z3B	Si	0.08199(7)	0.15100(7)	0.6357(1)	0.734(7)*
Y2A	0.90(1)A1 + 0.10Mn	0	0	0	0.69(3)
Y2B	0.95(1)A1 + 0.05Mn	-1/2	0	1/2	0.69(4)
Y3A	0.81(1)A1 + 0.19Mn	-0.11226(7)	0.11962(7)	0.12497(9)	0.73(2)
Y3B	0.84(1)A1 + 0.16Mn	-0.38839(7)	0.12156(7)	0.37384(9)	0.74(2)
<i>X</i> 1	Ca	-1/4	1/4	0.2504(1)	0.81(1)
X2A	Ca	0.18951(6)	-0.04395(6)	0.62112(7)	0.84(1)
X2B	Ca	-0.04570(6)	0.18816(5)	-0.12041(7)	0.81(1)
X3A	Ca	0.09891(6)	0.17897(6)	0.11669(8)	1.35(1)
X3B	Ca	-0.39895(6)	-0.18214(6)	-0.39052(8)	1.27(1)
O1A		-0.2212(2)	0.1725(2)	0.0858(2)	0.86(4)
O1 <i>B</i>		-0.2808(2)	0.1724(2)	0.4148(2)	0.84(4)
O2A		-0.1174(2)	0.3385(2)	0.2212(3)	0.98(4)
O2B		-0.1177(2)	0.1588(2)	0.2803(3)	0.90(4)
O3A		-0.0470(2)	0.2219(2)	0.0751(3)	0.94(4)
O3B		-0.0478(2)	0.2767(2)	0.4253(3)	0.80(4)
O4A		-0.0614(2)	0.3934(2)	0.0321(3)	1.01(5)
O4B		-0.0620(2)	0.1059(2)	0.4711(2)	0.88(4)
O5A		-0.0104(2)	0.3272(2)	-0.1771(3)	1.16(5)
O5B		-0.0150(2)	0.1701(2)	0.6797(3)	1.08(5)
O6A		0.1256(2)	0.2728(2)	-0.0572(3)	1.37(5)
O6B		0.1181(2)	0.2285(2)	0.5598(3)	1.34(5)
O7A		0.0561(2)	0.3262(2)	0.1805(3)	1.24(5)
O7B		0.0554(2)	0.1722(2)	0.3232(3)	1.06(5)
O8A		0.0928(2)	0.4386(2)	-0.0660(3)	0.84(4)
O8B		0.0909(2)	0.0610(2)	0.5678(3)	0.95(5)
O9		0.1479(2)	0.3562(2)	-0.2496(3)	1.09(5)
O10A		1/4	1/4	0.1344(5)	1.34(7)
O10B		-1/4	-1/4	-0.3648(5)	1.27(8)
O11A	ОН	-0.0048(2)	0.0600(2)	0.1367(3)	0.95(5)
O11 <i>B</i>	ОН	-0.4960(2)	0.0626(2)	0.3645(3)	1.02(5)
X'4B	0.324(8) Ca	1/4	1/4	-0.1469(5)	1.1(1)
Y'1B	0.324(8) Mn	1/4	1/4	0.5428(3)	0.92(9)
X'4A	0.676(8) Ca	1/4	1/4	0.6475(2)	0.95(3)
Y'1A	0.676(8) Mn	1/4	1/4	-0.0454(2)	0.81(3)

Refined formula $Ca_{19}Mn_{2.72}Al_{10.28}Si_{18}O_{69}(OH)_9$; notice that due to similarity in X-ray scattering behaviour the pairs Fe,Mn and Al,Mg can not be distinguished.

Note that in this paper we used the site nomenclature scheme of Groat (1992b) which is different from the scheme used by us in previous papers on vesuvianite (Armbruster and Gnos, 2000a,b,c).

in Table 2. Data reduction, including background and Lorentz polarization correction was carried out with the SDP program system (Enraf Nonius, 1983). The crystal did not show systematic

extinctions of X-ray reflections. This is characteristic of low-T vesuvianites assembled of P4/n and P4nc polymorphs (e.g. Allen and Burnham, 1992; Armbruster and Gnos, 2000a,b,c). However,

To reduce the number of parameters, the Si displacement parameters were refined isotropically and constrained to identical values.

Table 4. Selected interatomic distances of manganvesuvianite.

vesuvianite.			
Z1A- O1A 4x	1.639(3)	X1- O1A 2×	2.333(3)
ZIA-OIA 4X	1.039(3)	$O1B 2 \times$	2.339(3)
71 D 01 D 4	1 (4((2)		()
Z1B - O1B 4x	1.646(3)	O2A 2×	2.507(3)
		$O2B 2 \times$	2.528(3)
Z2A - O7A	1.625(3)	mean	2.427
O3A	1.644(3)		
O2A	1.648(3)	X2A - O8B	2.329(3)
O4A	1.665(3)	O5B	2.337(3)
mean	1.646	O3B	2.375(3)
		O2B	2.410(3)
Z2B - O7B	1.615(3)	O5A	2.456(3)
O3B	1.635(3)	O4 <i>B</i>	2.463(3)
O2B	1.645(3)	O1 <i>B</i>	2.491(3)
O4 <i>B</i>	1.679(3)	O6 <i>B</i>	2.920(3)
mean	1.644	mean	2.473
incan	1.044	ilican	2.4/3
Z3A - O8A	1.620(3)	X2B - O8A	2.329(3)
O6A	1.621(3)	O5A	2.333(3)
O5A	1.630(4)	O3A	2.371(3)
09	1.657(4)	O4 <i>A</i>	2.426(3)
	` '	O2A	2.427(3)
mean	1.632		` '
72.D O.C.D	1.606(2)	O5 <i>B</i>	2.428(3)
Z3B- O6B	1.606(3)	O1 <i>A</i>	2.462(3)
O8 <i>B</i>	1.622(3)	O6A	3.068(3)
O5B	1.625(3)	mean	2.481
O9	1.664(4)		
mean	1.629	X3A - O7A	2.364(3)
		O3A	2.420(3)
$Y2A - O11A 2 \times$	1.869(3)	O11A	2.469(3)
$O8A~2 \times$	1.901(3)	O7A	2.505(4)
$O4A 2 \times$	1.953(3)	O7B	2.536(3)
mean	1.908	O6A	2.556(3)
		O10A	2.609(1)
<i>Y2B</i> - O11 <i>B</i> 2 ×	1.876(3)	O8A	2.609(3)
O8B 2×	1.884(3)	mean	2.509
O4B 2 ×	1.941(3)	mean	2.30)
	. ,	X3B - O7B	2.240(2)
mean	1.900		2.340(3)
V2.4 011.4	1.010(2)	O3 <i>B</i>	2.441(3)
Y3A – O11A	1.919(3)	O6 <i>B</i>	2.452(3)
O2 <i>B</i>	1.937(3)	O11 <i>B</i>	2.498(3)
O1A	1.943(3)	O7 <i>B</i>	2.508(3)
O3A	1.980(3)	O10 <i>B</i>	2.567(1)
O5A	2.041(4)	O7A	2.583(4)
O4A	2.069(3)	O8B	2.608(3)
mean	1.982	mean	2.500
V2 D C2 4	1.011(2)	VALA OCD A	2.225(4)
Y3B- O2A	1.911(3)	X4'A - O6B 4x	2.325(4)
O11 <i>B</i>	1.915(3)	O9 4x	2.597(3)
O1 <i>B</i>	1.915(3)	mean	2.461
O3B	1.967(3)		
O5B	1.997(4)	X4'B - O6A 4x	2.237(4)
O4B	2.057(3)	O9 4x	2.596(4)
mean	1.960	mean	2.417
W1.4 OC.4.4	1.075(4)		
Y'1A-O6A 4x	1.975(4)		
O10A	2.125(7)		
W1D 06D 4	2.001(4)		
Y'1B - O6B 4x	2.091(4)		
O10 <i>B</i>	2.105(8)		
-			

reflections of the type hk0 with h + k = 2n + 1were mostly weak and were ignored. The strongest reflections of this type were 1 6 0, 1 10 0, 2 7 0, and 2 15 0 with $10 < I/\sigma(I) < 15$. Reflections of the type 0kl with k + l = 2n + 1 and of the type *hhl* with l = 2n + 1 were considerably stronger indicating predominance of the P4/npolytype. Subsequently, the structure refinement was carried out in space group P4/n using the program SHELX-97 (Sheldrick, 1997) and applying the P4/n starting coordinates given by Armbruster and Gnos (2000a). Note that in this paper we use the site nomenclature scheme of Groat et al. (1992b) which is different from the scheme used by us in previous papers on vesuvianite (Armbruster and Gnos, 2000a,b,c).

Crystal structure of manganvesuvianite

The structurally investigated crystal (NCII-2) represents an intergrowth of polymorphs with P4/n and P4nc symmetry. A distinction of the two polymorphs is possible on the basis of characteristic X-ray reflections (e.g. Armbruster and Gnos. 2000a,b,c). However, the P4/n polymorph is more dominant and so a structure refinement in space group P4/n was successful. The crystal exhibits merohedral {110} twinning that converged to a refined twin ratio of 0.722(3)/0.278. In addition to twinning, there is occupational disorder leading to string A and B occupations (e.g. Armbruster and Gnos, 2000a,b,c) of 67.2(8) and 32.8%, respectively. This disorder could be an artifact caused by the presence of the subordinate P4nc polymorph.

Z1A,B and Z2A,B are orthosilicate groups whereas Z3A and Z3B form a disilicate unit with an angle Z3A–O9–Z3B of $136.1(2)^{\circ}$. The strong bending of the angle is balanced by increased Z3-O9 distances to increase Si-Si separation. In a previous study on Mn-bearing vesuvianites, which now have also to be considered manganvesuviantes, Armbruster and Gnos (2000b) noticed tetrahedral vacancies on the orthosilicate groups associated with increased Si-O distances. This unusual behaviour was interpreted as an indication of a hydrogarnet-like substitution in vesuvianite. Evidence of a hydrogarnet-like substitution in vesuvianite has also been reported by Henmi et al. (1994). The present structure refinement of manganvesuvianite did not show this hydrogarnet-like substitution. Average Si1-O and Si2-O distances (1.639-1.646 Å) are in the same range as found for many vesuvianites in the literature (see Fig. 6 of Groat et al., 1992a) and tetrahedral vacancies could also not be identified. The Y3A,B octahedra accept about twice as much Mn as the Y2A,B octahedra (Table 3). In addition, mean Y3A,B-O distances are slightly longer than Y2A,B-O distances (Table 4). The mean Y3A-O distance is significantly longer than the corresponding Y3B-O distance. As shown by neutron diffraction of a P4/n vesuvianite of the approximate composition $Ca_{19}Mg_2Al_{10}Fe^{3+}Si_{18}O_{69}(OH)_9$ (Pavese et al., 1998) the Y3 sites are also the preferred positions for octahedral Mg²⁺. Because Al and Mg have very similar scattering power for X-rays these elements cannot by distinguished in routine structure refinements. The larger size of Y3A compared to Y3B (Table 4) may be interpreted by incorporation of divalent cations (mainly Mg with minor Mn^{2+}) on Y3A. The Y'1A and Y'1B sites are partially occupied (67.2(8) and 32.8%, respectively) by Mn³⁺ leading to a characteristic Jahn-Teller distortion for the Y'1A site with Mn^{3+} –O distances of 1.975(4) Å forming the base and 2.125(7) Å forming the height of the square pyramid.

Tweddillite

General aspects of epidote-group crystal chemistry

The crystal structure of monoclinic epidote-group minerals (space group $P2_1/m$) comprises di-(Si₂O₇) and ortho-silicate (SiO₄) units linked to two kinds of chains (parallel to the *b* axis) built by edge-sharing octahedra. One chain consists of M2 octahedra while the other chain comprises M1 octahedra with M3 octahedra attached on alternate sides along its length. An OH-group is bonded to M2 octahedra. This arrangement gives rise to two types of cavities, a smaller one named A1, occupied by Ca and Mn²⁺ (nine-coordinated by oxygen), and a larger one named A2, occupied by Ca, Sr, Pb and REE (ten-coordinated by oxygen). Table 5 lists the chemical characteristics of all minerals in this group. If we exclude the REE^{3+} members of the epidote-group, substitution of octahedral Al by Fe³⁺, Mn³⁺, V³⁺ occurs preferentially on M3. An exception is the new mineral tweddillite with (Mn³⁺, Fe³⁺) on M3 and M1.

Name and defintion

The name is in honour of the first curator of the Museum of the Geological Survey at Pretoria, Republic of South Africa, Samuel Milbourn Tweddill FGS, who ran the Museum from 1897 to 1916.

Tweddillite is an epidote-group mineral; closely related to strontiopiemontite, but normalized to 8 cations, tweddillite has $Mn^{3+} + Fe^{3+} > 1.5 \text{ p.f.u.}$ and $Mn^{3+} > Fe^{3+}$. Tweddillite is the first epidote-group mineral that has in its end-member composition 2 $(Mn^{3+} + Fe^{3+})$ p.f.u. $(Mn^{3+} + Fe^{3+})$ occupy the M1 and M3 sites whereas M2 is occupied by Al. The simplified formula is $CaSr(Mn^{3+}.Fe^{3+})_2Al[Si_3O_{12}](OH)$.

Table 5. Cation distribution and O4 occupancy in monoclinic epidote-group minerals (space group $P2_1/m$).

Name	A1	A2	M1	<i>M</i> 2	<i>M</i> 3	O4
Clinozoiste	Ca	Ca	Al	Al	Al	О
Epidote	Ca	Ca	Al	Al	Fe ³⁺	O
Mukhinite	Ca	Ca	Al	Al	V^{3+}	O
Hancockite	Ca	Pb	Al	Al	Fe ³⁺	O
Piemontite	Ca	Ca	Al	Al	Mn^{3+}	O
Strontiopiemontite	Ca	Sr	Al	Al	Mn^{3+}	O
Tweddillite	Ca	Sr	Mn^{3+}	Al	Mn^{3+}	O
REE-bearing minera	ls of the epido	ote-group				
Dissakisite	Ca	REE^{3+}	Al	Al	Mg	O
Allanite	Ca	REE^{3+}	Al	Al	Fe ²⁺	O
Androsite	Mn ²⁺ ,Ca	REE^{3+}	Mn^{3+}	Al	Mn^{2+}	O
Khristovite	Ca	REE^{3+}	Mg	Al	Mn^{2+}	F
Dollaseite	Ca	REE^{3+}	Mg	Al	Mg	F

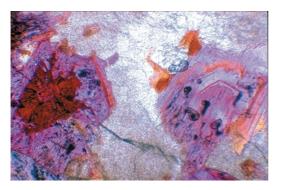
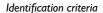


Fig. 1. Thin-section of strongly zoned manganvesuvianite in a grossular matrix (sample NC14). The dark red vesuvianite cores typically contain 6–9 wt.% MnO, lilac zones contain 1.5–5 wt.% MnO. Base of photograph is 1 mm long; plane polarized light.



- (1) Tweddillite is optically very similar to strontiopiemontite (Bonazzi *et al.*, 1990; Catti *et al.*, 1989) but has a higher average refractive index (n = 1.825 vs. n = 1.763 for strontiopiemontite) because of its higher Mn content.
- (2) Chemical analyses (normalized to 8 cations) yield $Mn^{3+} + Fe^{3+} > 1.5$ and $Mn^{3+} > Fe^{3+}$. Note that several piemontites and strontiopiemontites have Sr + Ca < 2 a.p.f.u. Thus, additional Mn^{2+} has been assumed to substitute for Sr + Ca. To properly evaluate the Mn^{3+} concentration, Mn^{2+} must be calculated as Mn^{2+} p.f.u. = 2 (Sr + Ca) p.f.u.
- (3) Crystal structure analysis of tweddillite indicates that trivalent transition metals (Mn³⁺ +



Fig. 3. Thin-section of (100) twinned tweddillite blades (red-orange-magenta) in a matrix of serandite-pectolite (white-grey-yellow). Base of photograph is 1 mm long; crossed polars.



Fig. 2. Thin-section of tweddillite blades (red-orange) in a matrix of serandite-pectolite (white). The opaque mineral is braunite. Base of photograph is 3.2 mm long; plane polarized light.

 Fe^{3+}) occupy the octahedral M3 position and dominate the octahedral M1 site.

Table 6. Observed and calculated X-ray powder pattern for tweddillite.

h	k l	$d_{ m obs.}$	$d_{\mathrm{calc.}}$	$I/I_{\rm obs.}$	$I_{\rm calc}$
1	0 -1	7.99	8.00	10	30
1	0 - 2*	5.17	5.08	10	30
1	1 0	4.675	4.665	10	10
2	0 - 2	4.000	4.002	10	13
2	1 - 1	3.513	3.515	50	50
1	1 - 3	2.936	2.942	100	100
3	0 - 2	2.936	2.931	overlap	20
0	2 0	2.854	2.849	40	30
0	1 3	2.739	2.741	10	30
3	0 0	2.703	2.708	80	20
2	0 2	2.586	2.584	80	30
1	2 - 2	2.482	2.484	10	10
3	1 - 3	2.415	2.416	30	17
2	2 - 2	2.320	2.321	30	10
4	0 - 1	2.182	2.185	80	20
2	2 1	2.149	2.147	40	20
2	2 - 3	2.126	2.129	30	10
3	1 2	1.8957	1.8963	30	5
2	2 - 4	1.8957	1.8950	overlap	20
4	1 - 5	1.7178	1.7168	30	6
1	0 - 6	1.6695	1.6688	30	10

Refined cell dimension based on 20 indexed reflections (the starred reflection was not used for refinement): a = 8.932(5), b = 5.698(4), c = 10.310(5) Å, $\beta = 114.56(4)$, V = 477.3(8) Å³

Occurrence

Tweddillite occurs in calcsilicate rocks formed as hydrothermal alteration of primary sedimentary manganese ore in the Wessels mine of the Kalahari manganese field (South Africa). The crystals form dark-red 'suns' of very thin (~0.02 mm) radiating (001) blades, elongated parallel to [010] (up to 0.5 mm), on the hanging wall of the ore-body. All crystals are (100) twinned. Associated minerals are serandite-

pectolite and braunite. A sample of tweddillite has been deposited (NMBE 35475) at the Natural History Museum, Bern, Switzerland.

Recently, Enami and Banno (2001) presented analyses of strontiopiemontites which also fulfill the definition of tweddillite. However, the Sr concentration is considerably <1 p.f.u. but instead Ba and Pb complete the A2 occupancy. These tweddillites were found together with braunite and hollandite minerals in a piemontite quartzose

TABLE 7. Electron microprobe analyses of tweddillite.

Oxide	Twe-core ¹	Range	Twe-rim ¹	Range	Min. Al ²	Twe-2 ³	Range
SiO ₂	32.74	32.61-32.90	32.47	32.22-32.60	32.50	32.58	31.67-33.05
Al_2O_3	13.29	12.74-13.55	11.66	11.42 - 12.11	9.35	11.85	9.35 - 13.47
Fe_2O_3	4.04	3.56 - 4.42	2.74	1.92 - 4.27	5.80	3.41	2.40 - 5.80
Mn_2O_3	19.56	19.26 - 19.97	22.34	20.90 - 23.44	21.32	20.97	19.73-22.29
MgO					0.00	0.04	0.00 - 0.06
CuO					0.00	0.02	0.00 - 0.08
CaO	10.52	10.01 - 11.29	10.47	10.01 - 10.85	9.78	10.25	9.78 - 10.87
SrO	17.11	16.14 - 18.76	16.86	15.62 - 18.43	18.18	16.94	16.24-18.18
BaO					0.10	0.46	0.10 - 0.81
PbO					1.42	2.08	0.50 - 4.76
Na ₂ O	0.03	0.00 - 0.04	0.01	0.00 - 0.05	0.01	0.03	0.00 - 0.06
K_2O					0.01	0.00	0.00 - 0.03
F					0.00	0.01	0.00 - 0.09
C1					0.01	0.01	0.00 - 0.05
H ₂ O (calc	c.) 1.44		1.41		1.48	1.50	1.47 - 1.54
-(F+Cl)					0.00	-0.01	-0.04 - 0.00
Sum	97.13	96.43-98.45	96.27	95.87-97.59	99.96	100.14	98.79-101.23
	normalized t	to 8 cations					
Si	2.992		3.011		3.038	3.005	
Al	1.431		1.274		1.030	1.288	
Fe ³⁺	0.278		0.191		0.408	0.237	
Mn ³⁺	1.360		1.577		1.517	1.472	
Mg					0.000	0.005	
Cu					0.000	0.001	
Ca	1.030		1.040		0.979	1.012	
Sr	0.904		0.904		0.985	0.906	
Ba					0.004	0.017	
Pb					0.036	0.052	
Na	0.005		0.002		0.001	0.006	
K					0.001	0.000	
F					0.001	0.004	
Cl					0.002	0.001	
ОН					0.997	0.995	
$\Sigma \mathrm{Me}^{2+,1+}$	1.939		1.946		2.006	1.999	
$\Sigma~Me^{3+}$	3.069		3.042		2.955	2.996	

¹ Average of four analyses

² Analysis with lowest Al concentration

³ Average of 17 analyses

TABLE 8. Single-crystal X-ray data collection and refinement of tweddillite.

Space group	$P2_1/m$, No. 11
$a, b, c (\mathring{A}), \beta(^{\circ})$	8.934(5), 5.718(2), 10.325(5), 114.54(1)
$V(\mathring{A}^3)$	479.8
Crystal size (mm ³)	$0.01 \times 0.140 \times 0.260$
X-radiation	MoK - α
Upper θ limit	28°
h, k, l limit	$11 \ge h \ge -11, 7 \ge k \ge -7, 13 \ge l \ge -13$
Reflections measured	3315
Reflections $> 4\sigma$ (F)	2499
Absorption corr.	Empirical: ψ scans
R_{σ} (%)	4.2
Twinning, ratio	on (100), 0.459(2): 0.541
Number of parameters	122; $U_{\rm iso}$ of H fixed at 0.05 Å ²
R1 (on F) %	5.9
$wR2$ (on F^2) %	17.6

$$R1 = (\Sigma ||F_0| - |F_c||)/(\Sigma |F_0|)$$

$$wR2 = \sqrt{\left(\sum (w(F_0^2 - F_c^2)^2)/\left(\sum w(F_0^2)^2\right)\right)}$$

schist of the Sanbagawa metamorphic belt, central Shikoku, Japan. For these samples P-T conditions at $480-580^{\circ}\mathrm{C}$ and $0.7~1.0~\mathrm{GPa}$ have been estimated.

Physical and optical properties

The megascopic colour is deep dark-red with vitreous lustre. Additional properties are: the streak is brownish-red, Mohs' hardness: 6-7, brittle tenacity, perfect cleavage on (001), subchoncoidal fracture. The density was not measured because of strong chemical zoning and intimate intergrowth with serandite-pectolite. The calculated density is 3.816 g/cm³ (core) to 3.873 g/cm³ (rim), both calculated with cell volume of 477.8 Å³. The mineral is biaxial positive, only an average refractive index was determined by immersion methods: n = 1.825. Due to the thin nature of the blades the exact optical orientation could not be determined. Tweddillite is strongly pleochroic (Figs 2 and 3). Within the (001) blades, the crystals appear dark red parallel to b and orange-vellow parallel to a. Perpendicular to (001) the blades appear magenta to red.

X-ray powder pattern

An X-ray powder pattern was recorded with a diffractometer using $Cu-K\alpha_1$ X-radiation

(Table 6). Intensities were estimated from peak heights and are strongly influenced by admixed serandite-pectolite and braunite. $I_{\rm calc.}$ was determined from the refined structural parameters obtained from single-crystal X-ray data. The cell dimensions from powder data converged at a = 8.932(5), b = 5.698(4), c = 10.310(5) Å, $\beta = 114.56(4)$, V = 477.3(8) Å³.

Chemical composition

Tweddillite (Table 7) was analysed with a Cameca SX-50 microprobe using beam conditions of 15 kV and 20 nA, wavelength-dispersive spectrometers, and an enlarged spot size of ~10 μm. Natural and synthetic minerals were used as standards. H₂O/OH could not be analysed by a proton-sensitive method because of intimate intergrowth between tweddillite and pectolite (OH-bearing). The first set of analyses (Table 7, Twe-core and Twe-rim) displayed rather low oxide sums, so in a second set of analyses, of a different section but produced from the same hand specimen, additional elements (e.g. Pb and Ba) were analysed. Addition of these elements increased the oxide sums to the expected range.

Crystal structure refinement

All tested tweddillite crystals were twinned parallel to (100). In the reciprocal lattice, two

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a*c* layers are superimposed with a common a*. For one twin individual the angle between a^* and c^* is 114.5° and for the other twin individual the angle is 180-114.5°. Layers from the two twin individuals with l = 0, 4, 7 and 11 coincide. Layers with l = 2, 5, 9 and 13 can be resolved for the two individuals and the other layers partly overlap. The same type of twinning has been described for strontiopiemontite (Bonazzi et al., 1990). Twin X-ray data collection (Table 8) was performed with a CCD-detector-equipped Siemens SMART three-circle diffractometer using graphite monochromated Mo- $K\alpha$ radiation. The TWIN software utility allowed the orientation matrices of both twin individuals to be determined and the cell dimensions to be refined. Using the HKLF 5 option a reflection file was created containing indices and intensity data for both individuals. This reflection file was processed by the program SHELX-97 (Sheldrick, 1997). The coordinates for strontiopiemontite by Bonazzi et al. (1990) were used as starting positions. Initially, the populations of all M and A sites were refined alternately. It was found that A1 and A2 are occupied by Ca and Sr, respectively, and these occupations were subsequently fixed. M2 and M3 revealed pure Al and Mn occupation, and these values were also fixed. Thus, only the Al-Mn concentration on M1 was allowed to vary in the final refinement (Table 9). The hydrogen position (H10) was extracted from the difference Fourier map and was restrained to be 0.90(5) Å apart from O10, forming the OH group. All atoms except H were refined with anisotropic displacement parameters. Additional details are given in Table 8.

Crystal structure of tweddillite

Structure refinements on strontiopiemontite were published by Bonazzi *et al.* (1990). However, in these crystals the *A*2 site was only occupied by 0.59 and 0.73 Sr, respectively, with the remainder being Ca. A synthetic piemontite (MK42/1) of Ca₂Mn_{1.391}Al_{1.609}Si₃O₁₂(OH) composition produced at 800°C and 15 kbar (Mn₂O₃–MnO₂ buffer) by Kersten *et al.* (1987) was refined by Almen (1987). Site population refinements of the tweddillite studied by X-ray diffraction (Table 9) c o n v e r g e d at the c o m p o sition CaSr(Mn³⁺,Fe³⁺)_{1.58}Al_{1.42}Si₃O₁₂(OH), close to the crystal core composition given in Table 7. In

TABLE 9. Atomic positional parameters and B_{eq} values for tweddillite.

Atom	Population	x/a	y/b	z/c	$B_{eq} (\mathring{A}^2)$
<i>A</i> 1	1 Ca	0.7646(2)	3/4	0.1575(2)	0.92(3)
A2	1 Sr	0.5941(1)	3/4	0.42163(8)	1.03(1)
Si1		0.3417(3)	3/4	0.0411(3)	0.95(4)
Si2		0.6877(3)	1/4	0.2787(3)	0.85(4)
Si3		0.1803(3)	3/4	0.3150(2)	0.86(4)
M1	0.57(1)Mn+0.43A1	0	0	0	0.64(3)
<i>M</i> 2	1 Al	0	0	1/2	0.66(4)
<i>M</i> 3	1 Mn	0.2954(2)	1/4	0.2181(1)	0.90(2)
O1		0.2389(5)	0.9915(7)	0.0386(4)	1.42(9)
O2		0.2984(5)	0.9786(6)	0.3480(4)	1.14(8)
O3		0.7967(5)	0.0160(6)	0.3433(4)	1.17(7)
O4		0.0600(7)	1/4	0.1312(6)	0.9(1)
O5		0.0369(7)	3/4	0.1479(6)	1.0(1)
O6		0.0661(7)	3/4	0.4061(6)	1.0(1)
07		0.5174(8)	3/4	0.1691(6)	1.4(1)
O8		0.5277(6)	1/4	0.3110(6)	1.0(1)
09		0.6323(7)	1/4	0.1063(6)	1.8(1)
O10		0.0815(7)	1/4	0.4293(6)	0.9(1)
H10		0.06(1)	1/4	0.339(6)	3.95

Refined formula: $CaSrMn_{1.58}Al_{1.42}Si_3O_{12}(OH)$. Note that due to similarity in X-ray scattering behaviour Fe and Mn cannot be distinguished.

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TABLE 10. Selected interatomic distances in tweddillite and related compounds (SRPM: strontiopiemontite (Bonazzi *et al.*, 1990); MK42/1: Mn³⁺-rich piemontite (Almen, 1987)).

	Tweddi	SRPM	MK42/1
A1- O7 O3 (2×)	2.260(7) 2.370(4)	2.227(13) 2.324(9)	2.296(2) 2.305(2)
O1 $(2 \times)$	2.497(4)	2.455(8)	2.445(3)
O5	2.475(6)	2.509(12)	2.542(2)
O6	2.846(6)	2.857(9)	2.934(3)
O9 $(2 \times)$	3.055(3)	3.029(5)	3.079(1)
mean	2.603	2.578	2.603
A2- O7	2.405(6)	2.374(12)	2.254(4)
O10	2.657(6)	2.608(10)	2.489(3)
$O2(2\times)$	2.663(4)	2.614(8)	2.534(3)
$O2(2\times)$	2.757(4)	2.715(8)	2.669(2)
O3 $(2 \times)$	2.731(4)	2.722(9)	2.832(2)
O8 $(2 \times)$	3.044(2)	3.019(4)	3.037(1)
mean	2.745	2.712	2.689
Si1 - O7	1.577(6)	1.573(10)	1.557(3)
O9	1.633(6)	1.591(15)	1.638(4)
O1 $(2 \times)$	1.653(4)	1.648(8)	1.646(2)
mean	1.629	1.615	1.622
Si2- O8	1.597(5)	1.608(15)	1.605(2)
O3 (2×)	1.626(4)	1.618(8)	1.619(2)
09	1.637(6)	1.637(15)	1.646(4)
mean	1.622	1.620	1.622
Si3 – O2 (2 ×)	1.624(4)	1.606(8)	1.625(2)
06	1.651(6)	1.638(15)	1.640(3)
O5	1.668(6)	1.667(10)	1.656(4)
mean	1.642	1.629	1.637
$M1 - O4(2 \times)$	1.887(4)	1.866(7)	1.881(5)
O1 $(2\times)$	2.002(4)	1.947(7)	1.973(1)
O5 $(2\times)$	2.017(4)	1.975(8)	2.014(2)
mean	1.969	1.929	1.956
$M2- O10 (2 \times)$	1.867(4)	1.862(9)	1.889(2)
$O3 (2 \times)$	1.883(4)	1.865(6)	1.856(2)
$O6(2\times)$	1.951(4)	1.928(9)	1.944(2)
mean	1.900	1.885	1.896
<i>M</i> 3– O8	1.890(5)	1.855(10)	
M3 – O8 O4	1.890(5)	1.855(10)	1.851(3) 1.882(2)
O2 (2×)	2.045(4)	2.031(8)	2.045(3)
$O2(2\times)$ $O1(2\times)$	2.043(4) 2.258(4)	2.031(8)	2.043(3)
mean	2.238(4)	2.270(8)	2.277(3)
Illean	2.008	2.001	2.003

Tweddi: $\text{CaSr}(Mn^{3+}, \text{Fe}^{3+})_{1.58}\text{Al}_{1.42}\text{Si}_3\text{O}_{12}(\text{OH})$ SRPM: $\text{Ca}_{1.05}\text{Mn}_{0.22}\text{Sr}_{0.73}(\underline{\text{Mn}}^{3+},\text{Fe}^{3+})_{1.20}\text{Al}_{1.80} \text{ Si}_3\text{O}_{12}(\text{OH})$ MK42/1: $\text{Ca}_2\text{Mn}^{3+}_{1.391}\text{Al}_{1.609}\text{Si}_3\text{O}_{12}(\text{OH})$

Table 10, selected bond distances of tweddillite are compared with strontiopiemontite, crystal

SRPM (Bonazzi et al., 1990) and synthetic piemontite, crystal MK42/1 (Almen, 1987). Crystal SRPM has the shortest mean A1-Odistance which can be explained by the mixed occupancy of A1 by 0.78 Ca and 0.22 Mn^{2+} . As expected tweddillite has the longest mean A2-O distance because this site is completely occupied by Sr whereas A2 in MK42/1 is a pure Ca site and A2 in SRPM has a mixed occupation of 0.73 Sr and 0.27 Ca. The mean size of the M1 site is governed by the $(Mn^{3+} + Fe^{3+})$ occupancy on this position. The structure refinements yielded the following (Mn³⁺ + Fe³⁺) occupancies: 0.22 (SRPM), 0.46 (MK42/1) and 0.58 (tweddillite). In all three structures M2 is completely occupied by Al. The mean size of M3 is also very similar because of the similar $(Mn^{3+} + Fe^{3+})$ occupancy: 0.98 (SRPM), 0.93 (MK42/1), and 1.00 (tweddillite). Ferraris et al. (1989) conducted a neutron diffraction study of a strontian piemontite and resolved the Fe³⁺/Mn³⁺ distribution on M1 and M3 yielding the composition Ca(Ca_{0.84}Sr_{0.16}) $^{M1}(Al_{0.81}Mn_{0.17}Fe_{0.02})^{M2}(Al)^{M3}(Al_{0.06}Mn_{0.61})^{M3}$ Fe_{0.33})[Si₃O₁₂](OH). This indicates that, relative to Fe³⁺, the M1 site is preferred by Mn³⁺ (Mn/Fe = 8.5 on M1 vs. Mn/Fe = 1.85 on M3).

Strontiopiemontite (SRPM) and tweddillite are distinct from the synthetic piemontite (MK42/1) in the behaviour of the Si1–O9–Si2 bridging angle (154.6° in SRPM, 156.6° in tweddillite, but 147.4° in synthetic piemontite). Enami and Banno (2001) noticed that in natural piemontites and strontiopiemontites the average size of the cation (Ca + Sr + Ba + Pb) occupying A2 is positively correlated with the ionic radius of the octahedral M sites. In the Sr-free synthetic piemontite this balancing effect cannot operate and instead the Si1–O9–Si2 angle compresses. Similarly compressed angles of this type are known for allanites (Bonazzi and Menchetti, 1995).

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