

НОВЫЕ МИНЕРАЛЫ, КЛАССИФИКАЦИЯ И НОМЕНКЛАТУРА

УДК 549.753.1

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НИКЕЛЬТАЛМЕССИТ, $\text{Ca}_2\text{Ni}(\text{AsO}_4)_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ — НОВЫЙ МИНЕРАЛ ГРУППЫ ФАЙРФИЛДИТА ИЗ БУ АЗЗЕРА (МАРОККО)¹

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NICKELTALMESSITE, $\text{Ca}_2\text{Ni}(\text{AsO}_4)_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ — A NEW FAIRFIELDITE-GROUP MINERAL
FROM BOU AZZER, MOROCCO

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A new mineral of the fairfieldite-group, nickeltalmessite $\text{Ca}_2\text{Ni}(\text{AsO}_4)_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ has been found in association with annabergite, nickelaustinitite, pecoraite, calcite and a mineral of the chromite-manganochromite series on a dump of the Aït Ahmane mine (Bou Azzer district, Morocco). The new mineral forms botryoidal aggregates consisting of split individuals up to $10 \times 10 \times 20$ mkm in size. Color is apple-green, streak white. Brittle, Mohs' hardness 4, cleavage perfect on {010}. $D_{\text{meas}} = 3.72(3)$ g/cm³ (volumetric method), $D_{\text{calc}} = 3.740$ g/cm³. Wave-numbers of absorption bands in the IR spectrum are (cm⁻¹): s — strong band, w — weak band, sh — shoulder): 3100sh, 2885s, 2410, 2300sh, 1760w, 1540, 977, 910sh, 865s, 844s, 803s, 530w, 434s. Weight loss on heating in vacuum from 24° to 500 °C (heating rate 4 °C min⁻¹) is 8.03 %. Under the microscope nickeltalmessite is colorless, nonpleochroic, optically biaxial positive, $\alpha = 1.715(3)$, $\beta = 1.720(5)$, $\gamma = 1.753(3)$, $2V_{\text{meas}} = 80(10)^\circ$, $2V_{\text{calc}} = 60.4^\circ$. Dispersion is not observed. Chemical composition (electron microprobe, mean of 5 local analyses, wt %): CaO 25.92, MgO 1.23, CoO 1.08, NiO 13.01, As_2O_5 52.09; H_2O (determined by the Penfield method) 7.8, total 101.13. The empirical formula, based on $(\text{AsO}_4)_2$ is: $\text{Ca}_{2.04}(\text{Ni}_{0.77}\text{Mg}_{0.13}\text{Co}_{0.06})_{20.96}(\text{AsO}_4)_{2.00} \cdot 1.91\text{H}_2\text{O}$. The idealized formula is $\text{Ca}_2\text{Ni}(\text{AsO}_4)_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$. The strongest reflections of the powder diffraction pattern [d , Å (I, %) (hkl)] are: 5.05 (27) (001), 3.57 (43) (011), 3.358 (58) (110), 3.202 (100) (020), 3.099 (64) (021), 2.813 (60), (121), 2.772 (68) (210), 1.714 (39) (331). Unit-cell parameters refined from powder data are: $a = 5.858(7)$, $b = 7.082(12)$, $c = 5.567(6)$ Å, $\alpha = 97.20(4)$, $\beta = 109.11(5)$, $\gamma = 109.78(5)^\circ$, $V = 198.04$ Å³, $Z = 1$. Supposed space groups are $P\bar{1}$ or $P\bar{1}\bar{1}$. The mineral was named for its chemical composition, being the Ni-dominant analogue of talmessite. The holotype specimen of nickeltalmessite is deposited in the Fersman Mineralogical Museum of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia, registration number 3750/1.