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# MINERALOGICAL NOTES

## ORIZITE DISCREDITED (= EPISTILBITE)

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Grattarola (1879) proposed the name "orizite" for a silicate he considered a new mineral. "Orizite" was found in the aplitic dike of "Fonte del Prete" in the granodioritic batholite of Elba Island. The name was chosen because of the resemblance of the crystals to rice grains (from "*ορυζα*" in the original Greek). Later on its spelling was changed by Arzruni (1880) into "oryzite" (in fact "*oryza*" is the Latin word for both the plant, *Oryza sativa,* and the grain). Both Arzruni (1880) and Groth (1882) questioned the validity of "oryzite" as a new mineral species, suggesting its identity with heulandite. Hey (1955, 1963) lists both spellings of the name and classifies oryzite as a doubtful species.

Cocco and Garavelli (1959) were able to find and to study a "holotype" together with an identical mineral, found as an essential constituent of a sample classified as "foresite" in the mineralogical museum of the University of Pisa. They obtained for both specimens the same X-ray powder pattern, and excluded identity of orizite with heulandite.

In studying some samples from "Fonte del Prete" collected in this same museum, I was able to find, from various samples, some grains which match the description of Grattarola, and give X-ray powder patterns closely similar to that one obtained by Cocco and Garavelli (1959) on "orizite" of the holotype; all these patterns are equivalent to the data of card 19–213 (epistilbite) of the X-ray Powder Data File.

Hence it is possible to state that "orizite" (="oryzite") is epistilbite.

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## CRYSTAL CHEMISTRY OF THE BASIC MANGANESE ARSENATES: V. MIXED MANGANESE COORDINATION IN THE ATOMIC ARRANGEMENT OF ARSENOCLASITE: ERRATUM

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The formula for arsenoclasite given in the abstract, page 1539, should read $Mn_5(OH)_4(AsO_4)_2$ instead of $Mn_4(OH)_5(AsO_4)_2$.

REFERENCE

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