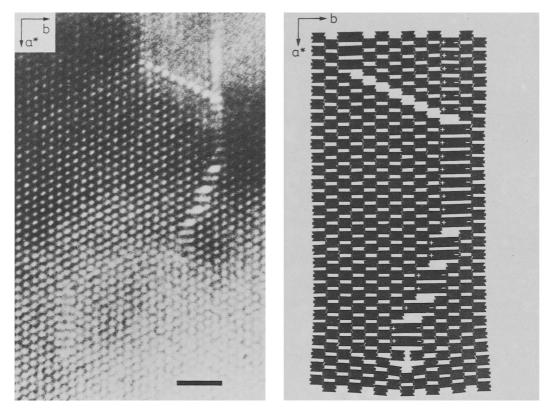
SHORT COMMUNICATIONS



FIGS. 1 and 2. FIG. 1 (left). Electron micrograph of grunerite asbestos down the c-axis. A quintuple lamella to the right of the figure side-steps along (150) and (130) planes, and terminates incoherently at its lower end into three double lamellae. At its upper end the quintuple lamella probably dissociates in the manner shown in fig. 2. Scale bar = 50 Å. FIG. 2 (right). Model of the structure in fig. 1. Note that the structure on opposite sides of the odd-multiple lamellae is displaced by c/2.

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The occurrence of cebollite in kimberlite and included zeolitized crustal xenoliths—a correction and discussion of the occurrence of pectolite

IN a previous report (Kruger, 1980) I described two parageneses of a fibrous, radiating, colourless to red-brownish mineral with moderate birefringence, parallel extinction, and length-slow character from the Letseng-La-Terae kimberlite in Lesotho and the De Beers mine in Kimberley.

I concluded the mineral was cebollite in view of a close fit of some seventeen lines determined from Debye-Sherrer diffraction photographs and the available optical data.

A microprobe analysis of the mineral is now available which shows it to have distinctly different chemistry to that of cebollite $[Ca_4Al_2Si_3O_{12}(OH)]$. The composition given in Table I shows the mineral to have a high Na₂O concentration and very little Al_2O_3 whereas the reverse is expected. The SiO₂ concentration is also higher than expected. The chemical data necessitate a reassessment of the optical and diffraction data. A close fit of the diffraction data is provided by pectolite [NaCa, Si₃O₈(OH)] (JCPDS card no. 12-238). The fit is in fact better than provided by cebollite (JCPDS card no. 16-695) as the intensities correspond better. However, pectolite has inclined extinction (Deer et al., 1978) and the mineral described here has parallel extinction and is thus unusual for pectolite. Nevertheless the bulk of the available data including a close chemical correspondence (Table I) indicate the mineral to be pectolite.

TABLE	Ι.	Microprol	be anai	vsis	of	pectolite
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	1	2	3
SiO ₂	54.98	54.2	30.1
$Al_2 \tilde{O}_3$	0.30	_	17.0
Fe_2O_3	0.24		_
MnO	0.03	_	_
CaO	33.51	33.8	46.8
Na ₂ O	8.83	9.3	
K ₂ Ō	0.02	—	<u> </u>
H ₂ O	—	2.7	6.0
Total	97.91	100.0	100.0

1. Pectolite from a crustal xenolith included in the Letseng-La-Terae kimberlite.

2. Ideal pectolite composition, NaCa₂Si₃O₈(OH).

3. Ideal cebollite composition, Ca₄Al₂Si₃O₁₂(OH)₂.

Pectolite is a secondary mineral usually occurring as an alteration product of basic rocks. It has, however, been recorded as a primary mineral in a mica peridotite by Franks (1959) and in phonolite by Carr *et al.* (1976). Mountain (1931) recorded the mineral in kimberlite.

In the previous report (Kruger, 1980) the paragenesis of the mineral is described in detail; it occurs as an alteration product of plagioclase in crustal xenoliths and as an apparently primary mineral in the kimberlite matrix. Minerals associated with the pectolite in the kimberlite matrix are serpentine, phlogopite, and calcite. In the crustal xenoliths plagioclase reacted to form natrolite and pectolite. Natrolite, pectolite, serpentine, and phlogopite indicate that the final liquids in the kimberlite magma was hydrous, while the presence of calcite indicates that CO_2 was also present.

The mineral assemblage can be used to put quite close constraints on the conditions prevailing during the final crystallization of the kimberlite groundmass. Assuming the pressure in the diatreme facies kimberlite after eruption to be less than 500 bar [<2 km depth (Dawson, 1971)], the following temperatures for the formation of the various minerals are available in literature. Serpentine forms at less than 350 °C from forsterite (Johannes, 1968), the reaction of labradorite and water to form pectolite occurs at 224 °C at 890 bar and thus at somewhat lower temperatures at < 500 bar (Juan et al., 1968) and Senderov (1974) shows that natrolite is stable below 250 °C. The assemblage present in the kimberlite groundmass and in crustal xenoliths thus indicates temperatures of formation of roughly 200 to 250 °C.

Experimental synthesis of natrolite and pectolite are accomplished under very high pH conditions (Senderov, 1974; Clark and Bunn, 1940) and this indicates similar pH conditions in the final kimberlite liquids.

The development of pectolite in the groundmass of kimberlite indicates that there is an enrichment in sodium in the final liquids to crystallize. Sodium is largely excluded from other phases crystallizing in kimberlite (phlogopite, olivine, serpentine, calcite).

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