Boracite

Crystal Data: Orthorhombic, pseudocubic. Point Group: mm2. Euhedral crystals, to 2.5 cm, (referred to pseudotetrahedral morphology) show prominent {001}, {110}, {111}, {111}, and a dozen other modifying forms; spherulitic, plumose to fibrous, fine granular aggregates.

Twining: On {111}, as penetration twins.


Cell Data: Space Group: Pca21. a = 8.577(6), b = 8.553(8), c = 12.09(1). Z = 4


Chemistry:

\[
\begin{array}{lll}
\text{Chemical} & \text{Formula} & \text{Content} \\
\text{B}_2\text{O}_3 & (1) & 59.68 \\
\text{FeO} & (2) & 1.09 \\
\text{MgO} & & 26.38 \\
\text{MgCl}_2 & & 12.17 \\
\text{LOI} & & 0.55 \\
\end{array}
\]

Total 99.87 100.00

(1) Lüneburg, Germany; average of two analyses. (2) Mg3B7O13Cl.

Polymorphism & Series: Dimorphous with trembathite; forms a series with ericaite.

Occurrence: An uncommon component of bedded sedimentary salt and potash deposits of marine origin, the boron probably derived from nearby volcanic activity.

Association: Anhydrite, gypsum, halite, sylvite, carnallite, kainite, hilgardite.


Name: For boron in the composition.

Type Material: Mining Academy, Freiberg, Germany, 19324.


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