

# Gillespite

# BaFe<sup>2+</sup>Si<sub>4</sub>O<sub>10</sub>

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**Crystal Data:** Tetragonal. *Point Group:* 4/m 2/m 2/m. As crystalline masses, to 2 cm, and embedded grains.

**Physical Properties:** *Cleavage:* Very good on {001}, poor on {100}; very poor on {110}.  
*Tenacity:* Brittle. Hardness = 3–4 D(meas.) = 3.390–3.402 D(calc.) = 3.404

**Optical Properties:** Translucent. *Color:* Deep red, rose-red. *Streak:* Pink.  
*Luster:* Vitreous.

*Optical Class:* Uniaxial (-). *Pleochroism:* Strong; *O* = colorless; *E* = red.  $\omega = 1.619$ – $1.621$   
 $\epsilon = 1.618$ – $1.620$

**Cell Data:** *Space Group:* P4/ncc.  $a = 7.5164(6)$   $c = 16.0768(10)$   $Z = 4$

**X-ray Powder Pattern:** Dry Delta, Alaska, and near Incline, California, USA. (ICDD 3-402).

3.39 (100), 4.41 (70), 3.22 (70), 3.09 (50), 2.65 (5), 2.39 (50), 8.02 (40)

## Chemistry:

	(1)	(2)
SiO <sub>2</sub>	50.08	51.63
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.00	
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.34	
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.56	
Mn <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.14	
FeO	14.60	15.43
BaO	31.02	32.94
LOI	0.82	
insol.	2.20	
Total	99.76	100.00

(1) Dry Delta, Alaska, USA; nearly pure material, corrected for assumed oxidation of FeO to Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, loss on ignition taken as H<sub>2</sub>O. (2) BaFeSi<sub>4</sub>O<sub>10</sub>.

**Occurrence:** In a glacial moraine (Dry Delta, Alaska, USA); probably from a contact metamorphic zone (Trumbull Peak, California, USA).

**Association:** Celsian, hedenbergite, quartz (Dry Delta, Alaska, USA); sanbornite, celsian, diopside, tourmaline, quartz, pyrrhotite (Trumbull Peak, California, USA); pellyite, sanbornite, taramellite, fresnoite, muirite, barite (Itsy Mountains, Canada).

**Distribution:** In the USA, near the head of Dry Delta, Alaska Range, Alaska; from Trumbull Peak, near Incline, Mariposa Co., and on the Esquire No. 7 claim, Big Creek, Fresno Co., California. On the Gunn claim, in the Itsy Mountains, near Macmillan Pass, Yukon Territory, Canada. In the La Madrelena mine, Tres Pozos, Baja California, Mexico.

**Name:** For Frank Gillespie, of Richardson, Alaska, USA, who discovered the first specimen.

**Type Material:** Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 90622; National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C., USA, 94347.

**References:** (1) Schaller, W.T. (1922) Gillespite, a new mineral. *J. Wash. Acad. Sci.*, 123, 7–8. (2) Schaller, W. (1929) The properties and associated minerals of gillespite. *Amer. Mineral.*, 14, 319–322. (3) Pabst A. (1943) Crystal structure of gillespite, BaFeSi<sub>4</sub>O<sub>10</sub>. *Amer. Mineral.*, 28, 372–390. (4) Hazen, R.M. and C.W. Burnham (1974) The crystal structure of gillespite I and II: a structure determination at high pressure. *Amer. Mineral.*, 59, 1166–1176.

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