Nasinite

$\text{Na}_2\text{B}_5\text{O}_8(\text{OH})\cdot2\text{H}_2\text{O}$

©2001-2005 Mineral Data Publishing, version 1

**Crystal Data:** Orthorhombic. *Point Group:* $2/m 2/m 2/m$. Tiny crystals and microcrystalline clusters, in earthy masses.

**Physical Properties:** Hardness = n.d. $D(\text{meas.}) = 2.2$ $D(\text{calc.}) = 2.134$

**Optical Properties:** Semitransparent. *Color:* White to yellow, yellow-orange. *Optical Class:* Biaxial (-) (synthetic). *Orientation:* $Y = b$; $Z \wedge a = 6.8(1)^\circ$ [sic]. $\alpha = 1.494$ $\beta = 1.512$ $\gamma = 1.524$ $2V(\text{meas.}) = 66.8(7)^\circ$ $2V(\text{calc.}) = 77.4^\circ$

**Cell Data:** *Space Group:* $Pn\text{a}2_1$ (synthetic). $a = 12.015(2)$ $b = 6.518(1)$ $c = 11.173(1)$ $Z = 4$

**X-ray Powder Pattern:** Synthetic. 6.00 (100), 5.29 (92), 2.897 (65), 2.999 (45), 2.648 (26), 2.531 (18), 2.207 (18)

**Chemistry:** (1) Larderello, Italy; identity depends on the chemical analysis of a mixture with biringuccite, and the correspondence of lines in the mixture’s X-ray powder pattern with those of synthetic material.

**Occurrence:** As scales on piping in a geothermal field.

**Association:** Biringuccite, thénardite, orpiment, quartz.

**Distribution:** From Larderello, Val di Cecina, Tuscany, Italy.

**Name:** To honor Rafaello Nasini (1854–1931), Italian chemist.

**Type Material:** University of Florence, Florence, Italy, 16803/G; National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C., USA, 163785.