**Tarapacáite**

\[ \text{K}_2\text{CrO}_4 \]

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**Crystal Data:** Orthorhombic. Point Group: \(2/m\) \(2/m\) \(2/m\). Rarely as thick tabular \{001\} crystals; typically disseminated granular. Twinning: As pseudohexagonal trillings on \{011\}.

**Physical Properties:** Cleavage: On \{010\} and \{100\}, distinct. Hardness = n.d. D(meas.) = 2.74 (synthetic). D(calc.) = 2.735 Soluble in \(\text{H}_2\text{O}\).

**Optical Properties:** Transparent. Color: Bright canary-yellow. Optical Class: Biaxial (−). Orientation: \(X = c; Y = a; Z = b\). Dispersion: \(r > v\), weak. \(\alpha = 1.687\) \(\beta = 1.722\) \(\gamma = 1.731\) 2V(meas.) = 52°

**Cell Data:** Space Group: \(P\text{n}a\text{m}\) (synthetic). \(a = 7.662(1)\) \(b = 10.391(1)\) \(c = 5.919(1)\) \(Z = 4\)

**X-ray Powder Pattern:** Synthetic.

3.078 (100), 2.988 (75), 2.960 (40), 2.479 (25), 2.286 (25), 2.599 (22), 2.570 (21)

**Chemistry:** (1) Analyses of natural material are lacking; identification depends on coincidence of optical and X-ray data with synthetic material.

**Occurrence:** A minor accessory mineral in nitrate deposits.

**Association:** Lopezite, dietzeite.

**Distribution:** In Chile, in nitrate caliche deposits throughout the Atacama Desert, as at the Oficina Maria Elena, near Tocopilla, Antofagasta, and Zapiga, Tarapacá.

**Name:** For its first noted occurrence in the Tocopilla Pampa, 170 km north of Antofagasta, Tarapacá, Chile.

**References:**