

Seaborgite**LiNa₆K₂(UO₂)(SO₄)₅(SO₃OH)(H₂O)**

Crystal Data: Triclinic. *Point Group:* $\bar{1}$. As flattened prisms or blades, to ~0.2 mm, elongated on [100], flattened on {010}, exhibiting {100}, {010}, {001}, and another; in divergent sprays. *Twinning:* Observed optically under crossed polars and is either by reflection on {001} or by rotation around [001].

Physical Properties: *Cleavage:* Good on {100}. *Tenacity:* Brittle. *Fracture:* Curved or conchoidal. Hardness = ~2.5 D(meas.) = 2.97(2) D(calc.) = 3.015 Immediately soluble in H₂O. Bright lime-green fluorescence under a 405 nm laser.

Optical Properties: Transparent. *Color:* Light-yellow. *Streak:* Very pale yellow. *Luster:* Vitreous. *Optical Class:* Biaxial (-). $\alpha = 1.505(2)$ $\beta = 1.522(2)$ $\gamma = 1.536(2)$ $2V(\text{meas.}) = 85(1)^\circ$ $2V(\text{calc.}) = 83.6^\circ$ *Dispersion:* Moderate $r < v$. *Orientation:* $X \wedge a \approx 10^\circ$. *Absorption:* $X < Y \approx Z$. *Pleochroism:* $X =$ colorless, $Y = Z =$ light green-yellow.

Cell Data: *Space Group:* $P\bar{1}$. $a = 5.4511(4)$ $b = 14.4870(12)$ $c = 15.8735(15)$ $\alpha = 76.295(5)^\circ$ $\beta = 81.439(6)^\circ$ $\gamma = 85.511(6)^\circ$ $Z = 2$

X-ray Powder Pattern: Blue Lizard mine, Red Canyon, San Juan County, Utah, USA. 5.320 (100), 2.954 (98), 14.67 (97), 4.733 (75), 5.093 (67), 3.489 (65), 3.331 (61)

Chemistry:	(1)	(2)
Li ₂ O	1.09	1.37
Na ₂ O	14.83	17.08
K ₂ O	8.75	8.65
UO ₃	26.50	26.28
SO ₃	44.27	44.13
H ₂ O	[2.49]	2.48
Total	97.93	100.00

(1) Blue Lizard mine, Red Canyon, San Juan County, Utah, USA; average electron microprobe analysis; Li, Na, and U by laser ablation-inductively coupled plasma-mass spectrometry, supplemented by Raman spectroscopy, H₂O calculated from structure; corresponds to Li_{1.00}Na_{5.81}K_{2.19}(UO₂)(SO₄)₅(SO₃OH)(H₂O). (2) LiNa₆K₂(UO₂)(SO₄)₅(SO₃OH)(H₂O).

Occurrence: A secondary mineral associated with post-mining oxidation of asphaltum-rich sandstone beds laced with uraninite and sulfides in a damp underground environment.

Association: Gypsum, copiapite, ferrinatrite, ivsite, metavoltine, römerite.

Distribution: From the Blue Lizard mine, Red Canyon, White Canyon District, San Juan County, Utah, USA.

Name: Honors American chemist Glenn T. *Seaborg* (1912-1999) who was involved in the synthesis, discovery, and investigation of 10 transuranium elements (including seaborgium), earning him a share of the 1951 Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

Type Material: Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Los Angeles, California, USA (74163).

References: (1) Kampf, A.R., T.A. Olds, J. Plášil, J. Marty, S.N. Perry, L. Corcoran, and P.C. Burns (2021) Seaborgite, LiNa₆K₂(UO₂)(SO₄)₅(SO₃OH)(H₂O), the first uranyl mineral containing lithium. *Amer. Mineral.*, 106, 105-111.