

Bicapite **$\text{KNa}_2\text{Mg}_2(\text{H}_2\text{PV}^{5+}_{14}\text{O}_{42}) \cdot 25\text{H}_2\text{O}$**

Crystal Data: Tetragonal. *Point Group:* $4/m$. As square tablets to ~ 0.2 mm on edge, displaying $\{001\}$, $\{101\}$ and $\{011\}$.

Physical Properties: *Cleavage:* Excellent on $\{100\}$. *Fracture:* Irregular, stepped. *Tenacity:* Brittle. Hardness = 1.5 D(meas.) = 2.44(2) D(calc.) = 2.428 Dissolves slowly in dilute HCl.

Optical Properties: Translucent. *Color:* Dark red-brown, often appearing black. *Streak:* Orange. *Luster:* Vitreous. *Optical Class:* Uniaxial (+). $\omega = 1.785(5)$ $\varepsilon \approx 1.81$ *Pleochroism:* Red-brown. *Absorption:* $E > O$, slight.

Cell Data: Space Group: $I4/m$. $a = 11.5446(12)$ $c = 20.5460(14)$ $Z = 2$

X-ray Powder Pattern: Pickett Corral mine, Bull Canyon, Montrose County, Colorado, USA. 10.14 (100), 2.978 (29), 2.809 (11), 2.583 (11), 5.037 (10), 4.348 (10), 40142 (8)

| Chemistry: | (1) | (2) | (3) |
|-------------------------------|-------|---------|--------|
| K ₂ O | 3.49 | 2.89 | 2.35 |
| Na ₂ O | 4.16 | 3.44 | 3.10 |
| MgO | 3.59 | 2.97 | 4.03 |
| P ₂ O ₅ | 4.35 | 3.60 | 3.54 |
| V ₂ O ₅ | 76.25 | 63.04 | 63.59 |
| MoO ₃ | 0.61 | 0.50 | |
| H ₂ O | | [23.57] | 23.39 |
| Total | | 100.01 | 100.00 |

(1) Pickett Corral mine, Bull Canyon, Montrose County, Colorado, USA; average of 4 electron microprobe analyses, H₂O calculated from structure; corresponds to $(\text{K}_{1.23}\text{Na}_{2.23}\text{Mg}_{1.48})_{\Sigma=4.94} [\text{H}_{2.51}\text{P}_{1.02}(\text{V}^{5+}_{13.91}\text{Mo}^{6+}_{0.07})_{\Sigma=13.98}\text{O}_{42}] \cdot 25\text{H}_2\text{O}$. (2) Do., Normalized. (3) $\text{KNa}_2\text{Mg}_2(\text{H}_2\text{PV}^{5+}_{14}\text{O}_{42}) \cdot 25\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

Occurrence: Formed by the oxidation of montroseite-corvusite assemblages in a moist environment on sandstone in a Colorado Plateau type, roll-front uranium/vanadium deposit.

Association: Gypsum, huemulite, thenardite, montroseite, corvusite.

Distribution: From the Pickett Corral mine, Bull Canyon, Montrose County, Colorado, USA.

Name: In recognition of this being the only known mineral with a structure based on a *bicapped* Keggin anion.

Type Material: Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Los Angeles, California, USA (66915 and 66916).

References: (1) Kampf, A.R., J.M. Hughes, B.P. Nash, and J. Marty (2019) Bicapite, $\text{KNa}_2\text{Mg}_2(\text{H}_2\text{PV}^{5+}_{14}\text{O}_{42}) \cdot 25\text{H}_2\text{O}$, a new polyoxometalate mineral with a bicapped Keggin anion from the Pickett Corral mine, Montrose County, Colorado, U.S.A. *Amer. Mineral.*, 104(12), 1851-1856.