

Ferrorhodonite

CaMn₃Fe[Si₅O₁₅]

Crystal Data: Triclinic. *Point Group:* $\bar{1}$. As thick tabular to short prismatic crystals, with rounded edges, to 2 cm.

Physical Properties: *Cleavage:* Perfect on {201}; good on {021} and {210}. *Tenacity:* Brittle. *Fracture:* Stepped. Hardness = 6 D(meas.) = 3.71(2) D(calc.) = 3.701

Optical Properties: Transparent to translucent. *Color:* Brown-red to pinkish brown, colorless in transmitted light. *Streak:* White. *Luster:* Vitreous.

Optical Class: Biaxial (+). $\alpha = 1.731(4)$ $\beta = 1.736(4)$ $\gamma = 1.745(5)$ $2V(\text{meas.}) = 80(10)^\circ$ $2V(\text{calc.}) = 74^\circ$ *Dispersion:* Distinct, $r < v$.

Cell Data: *Space Group:* $P\bar{1}$. $a = 6.6766(5)$ $b = 7.6754(6)$ $c = 11.803(1)$ $\alpha = 105.501(1)^\circ$ $\beta = 92.275(1)^\circ$ $\gamma = 93.919(1)^\circ$ Z = 1

X-ray Powder Pattern: Broken Hill, New South Wales, Australia.
2.968 (100), 2.770 (91), 3.132 (54), 3.091 (41), 2.223 (34), 3.337 (32), 2.173 (30)

Chemistry:	(1)
SiO ₂	46.48
FeO	14.46
MnO	32.32
MgO	0.24
ZnO	0.36
CaO	7.09
Total	100.95

(1) Broken Hill, New South Wales, Australia; average of 4 electron microprobe analyses supplemented by IR and Mössbauer spectroscopy; corresponds to Ca_{0.81}Mn_{2.92}Fe_{1.29}Mg_{0.04}Zn_{0.03}Si_{4.96}O₁₅.

Occurrence: Forms during granulite facies metamorphism of a manganese-rich sedimentary exhalative lead-zinc-silver deposit.

Association: Galena, chalcopyrite, spessartine, quartz.

Distribution: From the Broken Hill Pb-Zn-Ag deposit, Yancowinna Co., New South Wales, Australia.

Name: As an analog of *rhodonite* with Fe²⁺ dominant in the M4 site of the structure.

Type Material: Mineralogical Museum, University of Hamburg, Germany (MMHH-004704) and the A.E. Fersman Mineralogical Museum, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia (4847/1).

References: (1) Shchipalkina, N.V., N.V. Chukanov, I.V. Pekov, S.M. Aksenov, C. McCammon, D.I. Belakovskiy, S.N. Britvin, N.N. Koshlyakova, C. Schäfer, R. Scholz, and R.K. Rastsvetaeva (2017) Ferrorhodonite, CaMn₃Fe[Si₅O₁₅], a new mineral species from Broken Hill, New South Wales, Australia. Physics and Chemistry of Minerals, 44(5), 323-334. (2) (2018) Amer. Mineral., 103, 660 (abs. ref. 1). (3) Shchipalkina, N.V., I.V. Pekov, N.V. Chukanov, C. Biagioni, and M. Pasero (2019) Crystal chemistry and nomenclature of rhodonite-group minerals. Mineral. Mag. 83(6), 829-835.