Galkhaite

Chemistry:

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Crystal Data: Cubic. Point Group: $\overline{4}3m$. As cubic crystals, to 1.2 cm, and granular aggregates.

Physical Properties: Fracture: Uneven to fine conchoidal. Tenacity: Brittle. Hardness = 3 VHN = 186-202 (100 g load). D(meas.) = 5.4 D(calc.) = 5.44

Optical Properties: Opaque. *Color:* Dark red-orange. *Streak:* Yellow-orange. *Luster:* Vitreous to adamantine. R: (400) 30.5, (420) 29.7, (440) 29.3, (460) 28.8, (480) 28.0, (500) 26.8, (520) 26.6, (540) 24.6, (560) 23.8, (580) 23.1, (600) 22.6, (620) 22.2, (640) 21.9, (660) 21.6, (680) 21.4, (700) 21.2

Cell Data: Space Group: $I\overline{4}3m$. a = 10.365(3) Z = 12

X-ray Powder Pattern: Gal-Khaya, Russia. 3.01 (100), 2.78 (80), 4.27 (70), 7.40 (50), 1.841 (50), 2.604 (29), 1.569 (29)

	(1)	(2)
Hg	51.7	50.7
Cu	3.4	3.2
Zn	1.6	1.8
\mathbf{Cs}	3.3	5.1
Tl	0.8	2.4
As	14.5	15.2
\mathbf{Sb}	3.0	0.3
\mathbf{S}	22.3	22.0
Total	100.6	100.7

(1) Khaydarkan, Kyrgyzstan; by electron microprobe, corresponds to $(Cs_{0.43}Tl_{0.07})_{\Sigma=0.50}$ (Hg_{4.45}Cu_{0.92}Zn_{0.42})_{$\Sigma=5.77$}(As_{3.34}Sb_{0.42})_{$\Sigma=3.76$}S_{12.00}. (2) Getchell mine, Nevada, USA; by electron microprobe, corresponds to $(Cs_{0.67}Tl_{0.21})_{\Sigma=0.88}$ (Hg_{4.42}Cu_{0.88}Zn_{0.48})_{$\Sigma=5.78$} (As_{3.55}Sb_{0.04})_{$\Sigma=3.59$ S_{12.00}.}

Occurrence: In hydrothermal Hg–Au deposits.

Association: Pyrite, stibnite, cinnabar, metacinnabar, aktashite, enargite, wakabayashilite, orpiment, realgar, getchellite, calcite, fluorite, quartz (Russia); pyrite, realgar, stibnite, orpiment, getchellite, fluorite, quartz (Getchell mine, Nevada, USA).

Distribution: From the Gal-Khaya mercury deposit, Sakha, Russia [TL]. In Kyrgyzstan, at Khaydarkan [TL] and in the Chauvai Sb–Hg deposit, both in the Fergana Valley, Alai Range. In the USA, in Nevada, large crystals from the Getchell mine, Potosi district, Humboldt Co.; at the Carlin mine, 50 km northwest of Elko, and the Goldstrike and Rodeo mines, Lynn district, Eureka Co.; in the Jerritt Canyon mine, Independence Mountains district, Elko Co. From the Hemlo gold deposit, Thunder Bay district, Ontario, Canada.

Name: For the Gal-Khaya deposit, Russia.

Type Material: Mining Institute, St. Petersburg, 1052/1–2; A.E. Fersman Mineralogical Museum, Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia, 73879, 73880.

References: (1) Gruzdev, V.S., V.I. Stepanov, N.G. Shumkova, N.M. Chernitsova, R.N. Yudin, and I.A. Bryzgalov (1972) Galkhaite HgAsS₂ – a new mineral from arsenic–antimony–mercury deposits of the U.S.S.R. Doklady Acad. Nauk SSSR, 205, 1194–1197 (in Russian). (2) (1974) Amer. Mineral., 59, 208–209 (abs. ref. 1). (3) Chen, T.T. and J.T. Szymański (1981) The structure and chemistry of galkhaite, a mercury sulfosalt containing Cs and Tl. Can. Mineral., 19, 571–581. (4) Chen, T.T. and J.T. Szymański (1982) A comparison of galkhaite from Nevada and from the type locality, Khaydarkan, Kirgizia [Kyrgyzstan], U.S.S.R. Can. Mineral., 20, 575–577. (5) Criddle, A.J. and C.J. Stanley, Eds. (1993) Quantitative data file for ore minerals, 3rd ed. Chapman & Hall, London, 187.

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