

# Parahopeite

# Zn<sub>3</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O

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**Crystal Data:** Triclinic. *Point Group:*  $\bar{1}$ . Crystals are elongated along [001], flattened on {100}, with prominent {100}, {1 $\bar{1}$ 0}, {110}, {010}, {322}, {011}, {1 $\bar{1}$ 1}, {001}, many other forms, to 1.5 cm. Typically in subparallel fanlike aggregates. *Twining:* Common on {100}, polysynthetic.

**Physical Properties:** *Cleavage:* On {010}, perfect. Hardness = 3.5–4 D(meas.) = 3.31 D(calc.) = [3.32]

**Optical Properties:** Transparent. *Color:* Colorless, yellow-brown, golden brown; in transmitted light, colorless. *Luster:* Vitreous, pearly on cleavages. *Optical Class:* Biaxial (+). *Orientation:*  $X \simeq a$ ;  $Y \wedge c = 30^\circ$  on {100}. *Dispersion:*  $r < v$ , perceptible.  $\alpha = 1.614(3)$   $\beta = 1.625(3)$   $\gamma = 1.637(3)$   $2V(\text{meas.}) = \sim 90^\circ$

**Cell Data:** *Space Group:*  $P\bar{1}$ .  $a = 5.768(5)$   $b = 7.550(5)$   $c = 5.276(5)$   $\alpha = 93^\circ 25'$   $\beta = 91^\circ 11'$   $\gamma = 91^\circ 22'$   $Z = 1$

**X-ray Powder Pattern:** Kabwe, Zambia. (ICDD 24-1461). 7.53 (100), 2.981 (80), 4.44 (70), 5.27 (40), 2.887 (40), 5.78 (30), 3.77 (30)

| Chemistry:                    | (1)   | (2)     | (3)    |
|-------------------------------|-------|---------|--------|
| P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> | 31.6  | 33.3    | 30.98  |
| SiO <sub>2</sub>              |       | 0.01    |        |
| FeO                           |       | 3.23    |        |
| MnO                           |       | 1.21    |        |
| ZnO                           | 53.0  | 42.2    | 53.29  |
| MgO                           |       | 3.5     |        |
| CaO                           |       | 0.04    |        |
| H <sub>2</sub> O              | 15.6  | [16.5]  | 15.73  |
| Total                         | 100.2 | [100.0] | 100.00 |

(1) Kabwe, Zambia. (2) Reaphook Hill, Australia; by electron microprobe, total Fe as FeO, total Mn as MnO, H<sub>2</sub>O by difference; corresponds to (Zn<sub>2.26</sub>Mg<sub>0.37</sub>Fe<sub>0.19</sub>) $\Sigma=2.82$ (PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2.04</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O. (3) Zn<sub>3</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O.

**Polymorphism & Series:** Dimorphous with hopeite.

**Occurrence:** A secondary mineral in the oxidized zone of some zinc-bearing hydrothermal mineral deposits.

**Association:** Hemimorphite, tarbuttite, hopeite, scholzite, spencerite, pyromorphite.

**Distribution:** From Kabwe (Broken Hill), Zambia. In the Hudson Bay mine, Salmo, and on the Oxide claim, near Ymir, British Columbia, Canada. In England, at Roughton Gill, Caldbeck Fells, Cumbria; in the Turf Pits mine, Grassington Moor, and the Cockhill mine, Beverley, northern Yorkshire. In Germany, from the Glücksrade mine, near Oberschulenberg, Harz Mountains; from Hagendorf, Bavaria; at Richelsdorf, Hesse. Large crystals on Reaphook Hill, near Blinman, Flinders Ranges, South Australia. From an undisclosed locality in Guangdong Province, China.

**Name:** From the Greek *para*, for *near*, and its dimorphous relation to *hopeite*.

**Type Material:** The Natural History Museum, London, England, 1907,980.

**References:** (1) Palache, C., H. Berman, and C. Frondel (1951) Dana's system of mineralogy, (7th edition), v. II, 733–734. (2) Hill, R.J. and A.R. Milnes (1974) Phosphate minerals from Reaphook Hill, Flinders Ranges, South Australia. *Mineral. Mag.*, 39, 684–695. (3) Chao, G.Y. (1969) Refinement of the crystal structure of parahopeite. *Zeits. Krist.*, 130, 261–266.

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