

Crystal Data: Triclinic. *Point Group:* n.d. Massive, as veinlets and lenses in microlite, to 0.05 mm.

Physical Properties: Hardness = n.d. VHN = 1300 (20 g load). D(meas.) = n.d. D(calc.) = 8.45 Weak blue cathodoluminescence.

Optical Properties: Transparent. *Color:* Colorless; grayish white in reflected light. *Luster:* Adamantine.

Optical Class: Biaxial. *Anisotropism:* Observed.

R₁–R₂: (486) 17.5–16.5, (551) 17.2–15.4, (589) 17.1–15.3, (656) 15.4–14.2

Cell Data: *Space Group:* n.d. $a = 3.80$ (2) $b = 3.79$ (2) $c = 35.74$ (4) $\alpha = 90.92^\circ$
 $\beta = 90.18^\circ$ $\gamma = 90^\circ$ $Z = 6$

X-ray Powder Pattern: Mt. Vasin-Myl'k, Russia.

3.01 (10b), 1.844 (9b), 1.573 (8), 2.429 (5), 1.004 (5), 1.360 (4), 3.98 (3)

Chemistry:

	(1)
Nb ₂ O ₅	1.36
Ta ₂ O ₅	98.28
TiO ₂	0.08
Total	99.72

(1) Mt. Vasin-Myl'k, Russia; by electron microprobe, corresponding to (Ta_{1.95}Nb_{0.04})_{Σ=1.99}O₅.

Occurrence: In a granite pegmatite cutting amphibolites (Mt. Vasin-Myl'k, Russia); in a highly fractionated pegmatite (Animikie Red Ace pegmatite, Wisconsin, USA).

Association: Microlite, stibiotantalite, holtite (Mt. Vasin-Myl'k, Russia); manganotantalite, wodginite, tantalian manganotantalite, elbaite (Animikie Red Ace pegmatite, Wisconsin, USA).

Distribution: From Mt. Vasin-Myl'k, Voron'i massif, Kola Peninsula, Russia. In the Animikie Red Ace pegmatite, Pine River, Florence Co., Wisconsin, USA.

Name: For TANTalium in the composition.

Type Material: Geology Museum, Kola Branch, Academy of Sciences, Apatity, 5770; Mining Institute, St. Petersburg, 1683/1; A.E. Fersman Mineralogical Museum, Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia, 82545.

References: (1) Voloshin, A.V., Y.A. Pakhomovskii, and G.A. Perlina (1983) Tantite Ta₂O₅ – a new mineral from granitic pegmatites of the Kola Peninsula. *Mineral. Zhurnal*, 5(3), 90–93 (in Russian with English abs.). (2) (1984) *Amer. Mineral.*, 69, 1193 (abs. ref. 1). (3) Falster, A.U., W.B. Simmons, and K.L. Webber (1993) Niobium-tantalum minerals from the Animikie Red Ace pegmatite, Florence County, Wisconsin. *Geol. Soc. Amer., Abs. with Prog.*, 25, 216 (abs.).