

# Uricite



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**Crystal Data:** Monoclinic. *Point Group:*  $2/m$ . A component of guano.

**Physical Properties:** Hardness = n.d.  $D(\text{meas.}) = \text{n.d.}$   $D(\text{calc.}) = 1.851$  (synthetic).

**Optical Properties:** Semitransparent. *Color:* Colorless, white.

*Optical Class:* Biaxial.  $\alpha = \text{n.d.}$   $\beta = \text{n.d.}$   $\gamma = \text{n.d.}$   $2V(\text{meas.}) = \text{n.d.}$

**Cell Data:** *Space Group:*  $P2_1/a$  (synthetic).  $a = 14.464(3)$   $b = 7.403(2)$   $c = 6.208(1)$   
 $\beta = 65.10(5)^\circ$   $Z = 4$

**X-ray Powder Pattern:** Calculated from the crystal structure. (ICDD 28-2016).  
3.093 (100), 3.087 (69), 3.180 (55), 4.91 (51), 6.55 (43), 3.864 (42), 2.866 (25)

**Chemistry:** (1) Presence inferred from chemical analysis of whole guanos.

**Occurrence:** Formed in guanos.

**Association:** Biphosphammite, brushite, syngenite (Dingo Donga Cave, Australia).

**Distribution:** From an undefined locality in Peru. In Dingo Donga Cave, near Rawlinna, Western Australia.

**Name:** For its composition, anhydrous *uric* acid.

**Type Material:** Western Australian Museum, Perth, MDC5295.

**References:** (1) Bridge, P.J. (1974) Guanine and uricite, two new organic minerals from Peru and Western Australia. *Mineral. Mag.*, 39, 889–890. (2) Ringertz, H. (1966) The molecular and crystal structure of uric acid. *Acta Cryst.*, 20, 397–403.