Mercury  

Crystal Data: Hexagonal. Point Group: $3 2/m$. Commonly as liquid spheres or globules; crystallizes in rhombohedra.


Cell Data: Space Group: $R\overline{3}m$. $a = 3.463 \quad c = 6.706 \quad Z = 3$

X-ray Powder Pattern: n.d.

Chemistry: Composition essentially mercury, rarely with a little silver or gold.

Occurrence: In hydrothermal deposits formed at low temperature and associated with hot springs.

Association: Cinnabar, metacinnabar, calomel, terlinguaite, eglestonite, mercurian silver, mercurian gold, pyrite, dolomite, barite, quartz.

Distribution: From a number of localities, but rarely in significant amounts. In the USA, in California, especially at New Almaden, Santa Clara Co., and Mt. Diablo, Contra Costa Co.; in Texas, at Terlingua, Brewster Co. A noted locality at Almadén, Ciudad Real Province, Spain. In Serbia, on Mount Avala, near Belgrade. From Idrija (Idria), Slovenia. In Germany, at Landsberg, near Obermoschel, Rheneland-Palatinate. From Brezina, Czech Republic. In Ukraine, at Nagolnii Krjasch, Donets Basin. From Sala, Västmanland, Sweden.

Name: From the Latin Mercurius, the mythological messenger of the gods, in allusion to its mobility in liquid form; the chemical symbol from the Latin hydrargyrum, liquid silver.