Crystalline Data: Monoclinic, pseudo-orthorhombic. Point Group: 2/m. Crystals are typically bladed, tabular on {010}, to 2 mm, thin scaly, less commonly in needles, may be as crusts.

Physical Properties: Cleavage: On {001} and {h0l}, good. Hardness = 3.5 D(meas.) = 7.07 (synthetic). D(calc.) = 7.12


Cell Data: Space Group: P2₁/m. a = 6.91 b = 5.48 c = 4.51 β = 112°50′ Z = 2

X-ray Powder Pattern: Cerro de Cacheuta, Argentina. 2.756 (10), 3.32 (9), 3.43 (7), 3.17 (7), 4.15 (6), 2.090 (6b), 2.99 (5)

Chemistry: (1) No chemical analysis has been performed; identity depends on correspondence of X-ray patterns between natural and synthetic material.

Occurrence: A rare species in the oxidized zone of selenium-bearing hydrothermal base metal deposits.

Association: Chalcomenite (Cerro de Cacheuta, Argentina); clausthalite, uraninite, calcite (Ranwick mine, Canada); chalcomenite, cobaltomenite, schmiederite, krutaite (El Dragón mine, Bolivia).

Distribution: From Cerro de Cacheuta, Mendoza Province, Argentina. At the Pacajake mine, Hiaco, 24 km east-northeast of Colquechaca, and the El Dragón mine, 30 km southwest of Cerro Rico de Potosí, Potosí, Bolivia. In the Trogtaal quarry, near Lautenthal, Harz Mountains, Germany. From the Tolbachik fissure volcano, Kamchatka Peninsula, Russia. At the Ranwick uranium mine, north of Sault Sainte Marie, Ontario, Canada. In the Bozo #1 mine, Skull Creek, Moffat Co., Colorado, USA.

Name: From the Greek for lead and moon, for its composition, selenium being named for the moon.

Type Material: Natural History Museum, Paris, France, 98293.