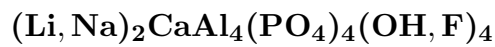


Bertossaite

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Crystal Data: Orthorhombic. *Point Group:* 2/m 2/m 2/m. Massive.**Physical Properties:** *Cleavage:* On {100}, good. *Fracture:* Uneven to subconchoidal. Hardness = 6 D(meas.) = 3.10 D(calc.) = 3.10**Optical Properties:** Semitransparent. *Color:* Pale pink; colorless in transmitted light. *Luster:* Vitreous.*Optical Class:* Biaxial (-). *Orientation:* X = a; Y = c; Z = b. *Dispersion:* r < v, moderately strong. $\alpha = 1.624(3)$ $\beta = 1.636(3)$ $\gamma = 1.642(3)$ 2V(meas.) = Moderately large. 2V(calc.) = 53°**Cell Data:** *Space Group:* Imcb. a = 11.48(1) b = 15.73(2) c = 7.23(1) Z = 4**X-ray Powder Pattern:** Buranga pegmatite, Rwanda. (ICDD 41-1450). 3.059 (100), 3.104(84), 2.411 (63), 3.295 (60), 2.881 (57), 2.577 (40), 4.32 (33)**Chemistry:** (1) Buranga pegmatite, Rwanda; an analysis was not published - based on other properties it is stated to be the calcium analog of palermoite, (Sr, Ca)(Li, Na)₂Al₄(PO₄)₄(OH)₄.**Occurrence:** Thought to be formed during a late calcium-rich phase of mineralization in a lithium-bearing granite pegmatite.**Association:** Amblygonite, lazulite-scorzalite, augelite, brazilianite, apatite, crandallite, trolleite, samuelsonite, quartz.**Distribution:** In the Buranga pegmatite, near Gatumba, Rwanda.**Name:** Honoring Antonio Bertossa, Director of the Geological Survey of Rwanda.**Type Material:** Royal Museum of Central Africa, Tervuren, Belgium, RMB11232; National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C., USA, 141000.**References:** (1) von Knorring, O. and M.E. Mrose (1966) Bertossaite, (Li, Na)₂(Ca, Fe, Mn)Al₄(PO₄)₄(OH, F)₄, a new mineral from Rwanda, Africa. Can. Mineral., 8, 668 (abs.). (2) (1967) Amer. Mineral., 52, 1583 (abs. ref. 1).