Mückeite CuNiBiS $_3$

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Crystal Data: Orthorhombic. Point Group: $2/m \ 2/m \ 2/m$. As euhedral to subhedral crystals, to 1 mm, tabular on $\{010\}$, elongated along [001], exhibiting $\{100\}$, $\{010\}$, $\{001\}$, $\{101\}$, and an $\{hk0\}$ form.

Physical Properties: Cleavage: Very good on $\{010\}$, good on $\{001\}$. Hardness = 3.5 VHN = 136–165, 152 average (100 g load). D(meas.) = 5.88 D(calc.) = 6.04

Optical Properties: Opaque. Color: Pale gray with an orange tint; creamy gray to pale gray with a yellow-brown tint in reflected light Streak: Grayish black. Luster: Metallic. Optical Class: Biaxial. Pleochroism: Distinct. Anisotropism: Weak; gray with shades of blue and yellow-orange to red-brown. Bireflectance: Low.

 R_1-R_2 : 35.7-36.4 (470), 34.1-39.0 (546), 39.8-40.2 (589), 40.9-42.2 (650)

Cell Data: Space Group: $P2_12_12_1$. $a = 7.509(2) \ 7.514(3)$ $b = 12.551(2) \ 12.557(6)$ $c = 4.877(1) \ 4.8880(2)$ Z = 4

X-ray Powder Pattern: Grüne Au mine, Germany. 2.975 (100), 3.177 (80), 1.837 (70), 2.087 (60) 1.863 (50), 2.895 (40), 2.232

Chemistry:

	(1)	(2)
Cu	15.1	14.87
Ni	14.0	13.73
Sb	2.1	
Bi	45.6	48.89
S	22.9	22.51
Total	99.7	100.00

(1) Grüne Au mine, Germany; by electron microprobe, average of seven analyses; corresponds to $\text{Cu}_{1.00}\text{Ni}_{1.01}(\text{Bi}_{0.92}\text{Sb}_{0.07})_{\Sigma=0.99}\text{S}_{3.01}$. (2) CuNiBiS₃.

Occurrence: In dump material at a polymetallic hydrothermal deposit, topotactically relacing lapieite.

Association: Lapieite, millerite, bismuthinite, sphalerite, aikinite, polydymite.

Distribution: From the Grüne Au mine, Schutzbach, 15 km southwest of Siegen, North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany [TL].

Name: Honors Dr. Arno Mücke (1937–), German mineralogist, Mineralogical-Petrological Institute, Göttingen University, Göttingen, Germany, for his work in systematic and ore mineralogy.

Type Material: Göttingen University, Göttingen; Tübingen University, Tübingen, Germany.

References: (1) Schnorrer-Köhler, G., U. Neumann, and T. Doering (1989) Mückeite, CuNiBiS₃, a new ore mineral from the Grüne Au mine, Schutzbach/Siegerland. Neues Jahrb. Mineral., Monatsh., 193–200. (2) (1990) Amer. Mineral., 75, 708 (abs. ref. 1). (3) Bente, K., T. Doering, A. Edenharter, V. Kupcik, M. Steins, and M. Wendschuh-Josties (1990) Structure of the new mineral mückeite, BiCuNiS₃. Acta Cryst., C46, 127–128.