

Strontiowhitlockite

$\text{Sr}_9\text{Mg}(\text{PO}_4)_6(\text{PO}_3\text{OH})$

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Crystal Data: Hexagonal. *Point Group:* $3m$. Pipelike tubes, to 3 mm, of radial fibers, and rosettes of rounded tabular crystals, flattened on {0001}; fine granular.

Physical Properties: *Cleavage:* On {0001}, fair, may be a parting. Hardness = n.d.
D(meas.) = 3.64(2) D(calc.) = 3.60

Optical Properties: Semitransparent. *Color:* White, pale gray, pale brown; colorless in transmitted light. *Streak:* White. *Luster:* Dull.

Optical Class: Uniaxial (-). *Orientation:* $X = c$; parallel extinction. $\omega = 1.601(2)$
 $\epsilon = 1.598(2)$

Cell Data: *Space Group:* $[R3c]$ (by analogy to whitlockite). $a = 10.644(9)$ $c = 39.54(6)$
 $Z = 6$

X-ray Powder Pattern: Kovdor massif, Kola Peninsula, Russia.
3.004 (100), 2.661 (80), 3.288 (37), 1.783 (36), 3.071 (29), 1.940 (29), 2.246 (26)

Chemistry:	(1)	(2)
P_2O_5	35.2	33.60
FeO	0.2	
MnO	0.2	
MgO	4.6	2.73
CaO	5.5	
SrO	51.4	63.06
BaO	2.3	
Na_2O	0.0	
H_2O	0.5	0.61
Total	99.9	100.00

(1) Kovdor massif, Kola Peninsula, Russia; by electron microprobe, H_2O by microcoulometric methods, PO_3OH confirmed by IR; corresponds to $(\text{Sr}_{6.96}\text{Ca}_{1.38}\text{Mg}_{0.60}\text{Ba}_{0.21}\text{Mn}_{0.04}\text{Fe}_{0.04})_{\Sigma=9.23}\text{Mg}_{1.00}(\text{PO}_4)_6(\text{P}_{0.96}\text{O}_3\text{OH}_{0.78})$. (2) $\text{Sr}_9\text{Mg}(\text{PO}_4)_6(\text{PO}_3\text{OH})$.

Occurrence: Very rare, in cavities in a dolomite carbonatite vein cutting pyroxenites in an alkalic massif.

Association: Strontian collinsite, bobierite, carbonate-fluorapatite, rimkorolgitite, pyrite, dolomite, unnamed Sr-Mg phosphate.

Distribution: From the Zheleznyi iron ore deposit, Kovdor alkalic massif, Kola Peninsula, Russia.

Name: As the *strontium* analog of *whitlockite*.

Type Material: Mining Institute, St. Petersburg, 2022/1; A.E. Fersman Mineralogical Museum, Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia, r558.

References: (1) Britvin, S.N., Y.A. Pakhomovskii, A.N. Bogdanova, and V.I. Skiba (1991) Strontiowhitlockite, $\text{Sr}_9\text{Mg}(\text{PO}_3\text{OH})(\text{PO}_4)_6$, a new mineral from the Kovdor deposit, Kola Peninsula, U.S.S.R. *Can. Mineral.*, 29, 87–93. (2) (1991) *Amer. Mineral.*, 76, 2024 (abs. ref. 1).