

Crystal Data: Orthorhombic. *Point Group:* $2/m\ 2/m\ 2/m$ or $mm2$. As spherulites to 1.5 mm consisting of 0.5-10 mm fibers, elongate along [010].

Physical Properties: *Cleavage:* n.d. *Tenacity:* n.d. *Fracture:* n.d. Hardness = 1.5-2
D(meas.) = 1.76(2) D(calc.) = 1.756

Optical Properties: Translucent. *Color:* Almost colorless with a bright yellow tint. *Streak:* White. *Luster:* Pearly.

Optical Class: Biaxial (-). $\alpha = 1.532(2)$ $\beta \approx \gamma = 1.562(2)$ $2V(\text{meas.}) = <5^\circ$ Straight extinction and negative elongation.

Cell Data: *Space Group:* $Pcmm$, $Pcm2_1$ or $Pc2m$. $a = 11.215(9)$ $b = 3.124(3)$ $c = 19.21(3)$ $Z = 2$

X-ray Powder Pattern: Nepskoye salt deposit, Eastern Siberia, Russia.
3.498 (100), 9.78 (46), 9.60 (38), 11.41 (29), 4.25 (20), 10.64 (18), 2.448 (18)

Chemistry:	(1)
Mg	27.35
Cl	10.04
<u>O+H</u>	<u>[62.61]</u>
Total	100.00

(1) Nepskoye salt deposit, Eastern Siberia, Russia; average electron microprobe analysis supplemented by IR spectroscopy, H+O by difference; corresponds to $\text{Mg}_{3.975}\text{Cl}(\text{OH})_{7.45} \cdot 5.725\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

Occurrence: In anhydrite-halite rock in a salt deposit.

Association: Anhydrite, halite, fluoborite, pyrrhotite.

Distribution: At the Nepskoye salt deposit, near Ust-Kut, Irkutsk District, Eastern Siberia, Russia.

Name: For the locality, the Nepskoye salt deposit.

Type Material: A.E. Fersman Mineralogical Museum, RAS, Moscow, Russia (89864).

References: (1) Apollonov, V.N. (1998) Nepskoeite $\text{Mg}_4\text{Cl}(\text{OH})_7 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ - a new mineral from the Nepskoye potash salt deposit. *Zap. Ross. Mineral. Obshch.*, 127(1), 41-46 (in Russian with English abs.). (2) (1999) *Amer. Mineral.*, 84, 686 (abs. ref. 1).