

TAPIOLITE-(Fe)



Tapiolite-(Fe) is an uncommon member of the tapiolite group, and forms a solid solution series with its Mn analog, tapiolite-(Mn). It is also dimorphous with tantalite-(Fe), and appears to be the structurally stable form when compositionally high in Ta and Fe. Found in granitic pegmatites worldwide, this is the first reported occurrence in Michigan. Northern Peninsula.

Dickinson County: Small, unnamed pegmatite in SW ¼ SE ¼ section 30, T42N, R29W: Electron microprobe analyses of heavy mineral separates from this pegmatite have shown members of the columbite-tantalite series from this pegmatite to be zoned, with outer zones falling well within the range for tapiolite-(Fe) (Buchholz et al., 2013a).

UPDATE FROM: Robinson, G.W., and Carlson, S.M., 2013, Mineralogy of Michigan Update: published online by A.E. Seaman Mineral Museum, Houghton, MI, 46p.