

LETTER

Discreditation of paraspurrite

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ABSTRACT

Paraspurrite is discredited as a mineral species. No type material was available necessitating collecting new material from the original locality. A crystallographic study shows paraspurrite to be polysynthetically twinned spurrite, twin law by reflection on {001}. The spurrite cell calculated from XRPD unit-cell refinement is $a = 10.478(3)$, $b = 6.700(2)$, $c = 14.127(3)$ Å, $\beta = 101.02(2)^\circ$, $V = 972.8(3)$ Å³. The cell refined on two “twinned” crystals yielded: $a = 10.494(1)$, $b = 6.7116(6)$, $c = 28.216(3)$ Å, $\alpha = 90.059(6)$, $\beta = 100.132(5)$, $\gamma = 90.023(6)^\circ$. This monoclinic primitive cell transforms to monoclinic *B* (Fig. 2): $a = 10.494$, $b = 6.7116$, $c = 55.56$ Å, $\alpha = 90$, $\beta = 90.6$, $\gamma = 90^\circ$, which corresponds to a sub-cell described as “paraspurrite” by Colville and Colville (1977); space group $P2_1/a$ with cell parameters: $a = 10.473$, $b = 6.706$, $c = 27.78$ Å, $\alpha = 90$, $\beta = 90.58$, $\gamma = 90^\circ$. The discreditation has been approved by the IMA Commission on New Minerals, Nomenclature and Classification.

Keywords: Paraspurrite, discreditation, twin, crystallography