



MUSÉUM NATIONAL
D'HISTOIRE NATURELLE

Mineralogy

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Behierite

Behierite

MNHN N°202.153

FROM : Manjaka, Antsirabe, Madagascar

SIZE : 6.8 x 4.2 cm

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The white-pink and translucent behierite is associated to rubellite, albite and some grains of blue apatite. It measures 6.8 X 4.2 cm.

This sample of behierite, acquired thanks to support from Total, comes from Manjaka in the area of Antsirabe in Madagascar. This sample is kept today in the storage rooms of the collections of the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (i.e., not yet displayed to the public).

Photography: Louis-Dominique Bayle, © MNHN.

Identity card

SPECIE : Behierite

HISTORY : Species dedicated to Jean Béhier (1903-1965), French mineralogist who discovered the species and was the first to describe it.

Species first described in 1960 by Jean Béhier

Type-locality: Manjaka, Antsirabe, Madagascar

CHEMICAL FORMULA : (Ta,Nb) BO₄

CRYSTAL SYSTEM : Tetragonal

COLOR : Pink to pink grayish

DIAPHANIETY : Translucide

LUSTER : Adamantine

STREAK : White

MORPHOLOGY : Pseudo-octahedric crystals

HARDNESS : 7,0-7,5

DENSITY : 7,91

CHEMICAL CLASS : VI - Sulfates, chromates,

GROUP : Béhierite

STRUNZ CLASS BEFORE 2001 : 5/G.07-20

STRUNZ CLASS AFTER 2001 : 6.AC.10