

Fergusonite (Sipylite) group - YNbO_4

Hardness: 5.5 - 6.5. Cleavage: Poor/indistinct. May be radioactive. Attacked only very slightly by other acids including concentrated H_2SO_4 . Typical brown coatings cannot be removed without destroying the sample. Crystals frequently fractured in matrix and thus may disintegrate on sonication.

A group of minerals in which Y may be replaced by various amounts of Ce and/or Nd. Data for fergusonite-Y given here.

References

Mindat: <https://www.mindat.org/min-10930.html>

Handbook of Mineralogy: <http://www.handbookofmineralogy.org/pdfs/fergusonite-Y.pdf>

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Rohner, T. (2000) Properly clean minerals online cleaning book.

www.strahlen.org/stepbystep/mineralien-reinigung2.pdf. In German.

Sinkankas, J. (1972) Gemstone & Mineral Data Book, 346 p. Winchester Press, New York.