Crystal Data: Orthorhombic; typically metamict. Point Group: 2/m 2/m. As stout prismatic crystals, to 10 cm, may be flattened | [100] or [010]; commonly in parallel, subparallel or radiating aggregates; compact massive. Twinning: Common on {201}; rare on {101} or {013}.

Physical Properties: Fracture: Conchoidal to subconchoidal. Tenacity: Brittle. $\text{Hardness} = 5.5-6.5 \quad \text{VHN} = 633-692 \text{ (50 g load)}. \quad \text{D(meas.)} = 5.3-5.9 \quad \text{D(calc.)} = [5.16]$ Radioactive.

Optical Properties: Opaque, translucent on thin edges. Color: Black, brownish black, greenish black; brown to yellow-brown in transmitted light. Streak: Yellowish, grayish, or reddish brown. Luster: Brilliant submetallic, waxy to resinous on fractures.

Optical Class: Isotropic. n = 2.06-2.24

 $R_1 - R_2$: (470) 13.7–15.6, (546) 13.0–15.6, (589) 12.5–15.0, (650) 12.4–15.0

Cell Data: Space Group: Pcmn (synthetic YNbTiO₆). a = 5.5528(6)b = 14.6432(20)c = 5.1953(7) Z = 4

X-ray Powder Pattern: Risør, Norway; after heating at 1200 °C. 2.99 (100), 3.66 (40), 2.95 (40), 2.60 (30), 1.830 (30), 1.727 (30), 2.78 (25)

Chemistry:		(1)		(1)		(1)
	UO_3	0.04	SnO_2	0.12	MnO	0.59
	Nb_2O_5	41.43	UO_2^-	0.67	PbO	0.37
	Ta_2O_5	3.84	$\overline{\mathrm{Al_2O_3}}$	0.13	$_{ m MgO}$	0.13
	$\overline{\mathrm{SiO}}_2$	0.07	Ce_2O_3	4.34	CaO	4.86
	TiO_2	16.39	$(Y, Er)_2O_3$	18.22	$\mathrm{H_2O^+}$	1.90
	$\overline{\text{ThO}}_{2}$	4.95	$\mathrm{Fe_2O_3}$	1.32	$\overline{\mathrm{H_2O}}$	0.06
	${\rm ZrO}_2$	0.04	FeO	0.77	Total	100.24

(1) Lyndoch Township, Ontario, Canada.

Occurrence: From granite pegmatites; as a component of detrital black sands.

Association: Albite, microcline, biotite, muscovite, ilmenite, monazite, xenotime, zircon, beryl, magnetite, garnet, allanite, gadolinite, aeschynite-(Y), thorite, uraninite, betafite, columbite.

Distribution: Numerous localities worldwide. In Norway, from Jölster, Söndfjord; at Alve, on Tromö Island; on Hidra (Hitterö) Island, near Flekkefjord; at many other places between Tvedestrand and Arendal, and in Iveland and Evje Parishes, Sätersdal. In Sweden, in the Ruoutevare Fe-Ti deposit, near Kvikkjokk, Norrbotten; at Ytterby, on Resarö Island, near Vaxholm; and elsewhere. From Huntila, Pitkäranta district, Lake Ladoga, Karelia, Russia. In Madagascar, large crystals from Vohimasina; Ambatofotsikely; Ankazobe, near Ambohitantely; Ambolotara; Ranomafana; and elsewhere. In Brazil, from Santa Clara, Pomba, and Espirito Santo, Minas Gerais. In Canada, from Lyndoch, Sabine, and Mattawan Townships, and elsewhere in Ontario; also in Quebec. In the USA, from the Rutherford pegmatite, Amelia Co., the Nanco pegmatite, Bedford Co., and others in Virginia; from Morton, Delaware Co., Pennsylvania; at Encampment, Carbon Co., Wyoming; from Guffey, Park Co., near Bergen Park, Jefferson Co., and the Colorado feldspar pegmatite, Fremont Co., Colorado.

Name: From the Greek for hospitable, in allusion to the wide variety of rare elements in its composition.

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