

Mineral of the Month Club



Platinum Letter February 2014 Featured Mineral- Aragonite

Dear Members,

Our featured mineral for February is aragonite that was collected from limestone voids at the village of Tazouta near the city of Sefrou in Sefrou Province, Féz-Boulemane Region, Morocco. Our specimens have the most desirable aragonite characteristics: excellent crystal development, attractive crystal clusters on matrix, and an interesting color. Although aragonite exhibits a six-sided shape, it does not crystallize in the hexagonal system. Aragonite crystals, which are correctly described as pseudohexagonal, actually consist of three twinned crystals or “trillings,” each making up one-third or 120° of the 360° crystal. The unusual and attractive brownish-orange colors in our specimens are due to microscopic and tiny macroscopic particles of hematite. This hematite, which was present in the host limestone, was carried in the solutions that precipitated the aragonite and became included within the crystals. Dense clusters of these brownish-orange aragonite crystals appear on a matrix of weathered limestone.

We have reserved the best of our aragonite specimens for our Platinum Level members and have sorted these specimens into three groups based on degree of crystal development, size of individual crystals, color intensity, and overall visual appeal. Because aragonite specimens can rarely be collected intact, we have also graded the specimens in our three groups by condition.

Featured Mineral

Aragonite



Specimen size: 2." x 2.5" to 3" x 4"
Price range:\$55.00 to \$110.00

Group 1

The specimens in this group show nice clusters of well-developed, pseudo-hexagonal crystals with colors ranging from brownish-orange to nearly colorless. These specimens are interesting for their color variations and make very nice display pieces.

Featured Mineral

Aragonite



Specimen size: 2.5" x 2.5" to 2.5" x 4"

Price range: \$65.00-\$175.00

Group2

These specimens exhibit more intense and uniform brownish-orange coloration and excellent development of the pseudo-hexagonal form. Individual crystals are larger than those of the previous group and are arranged in denser clusters that add to overall visual appeal. The condition of these specimens is very good.

Featured Mineral

Aragonite



Specimen size: 2.5" x 2.5" to 3" x 5.5"
Price range: \$75.00 to \$225.00

Group 3

This group, which includes the very best of our Moroccan aragonite specimens, has the largest individual crystals that beautifully display the distinctive, pseudo-hexagonal shape and other diagnostic features such as smooth, flat terminations, a gleaming luster, and prominent longitudinal striations. The colors are a rich, uniform brownish-orange. With dense crystal clusters that are virtually undamaged, these specimens make eye-catching display pieces.

Further Information

Coming in March



**Kyanite
From Brazil**

For March we have selected blue kyanite blades from Brazil as our Featured Mineral of the Month. Kyanite is a metamorphic mineral that crystallizes in the monoclinic system and forms wavy aggregates of long, delicate, bladed crystals. The color of our kyanite is an attractive sky-blue.

Because Platinum Level specimens vary by price, quality, size, and overall visual appearance, we have graded these specimens accordingly. Please remember that if the size and quality of a particular group is appropriate for your personal collection, we would be pleased to set up an automatic, monthly, standing-order arrangement. Call us for full information.

Discounts available: If you order 4 or more minerals from the offer sheet you will receive a 10% discount.

Ordering: To place an order you can call #800-941-5594
or email christlne@celestiaearthminerals.com

Shipping: As always, shipping is free in the United States.

Specimen size: All our specimens are approximate in size.

Method of payment: We accept, Visa, MasterCard, American Express and checks.

Please make checks payable to Celestial Earth Stones.

