

Mineral of the Month Club



Featured Mineral- Desert Rose August 2014

Hello Mineral of the Month Club Member :

The featured mineral is the selenite variety of gypsum, or hydrous calcium sulfate. Selenite is the crystalline form of gypsum. These specimens, called “desert roses,” are from Mexico’s Samalayuca Dune Fields. Desert roses are cleavage-separated clusters of sand-included, blade-shaped, selenite crystals. They formed during the growth of selenite crystals, when included sand particles distorted the crystal lattices along the cleavage planes, separating individual, cleaved sections into clusters of flat, bladed crystals that resemble rose petals. Geologists estimate their age at about 10,000 to 20,000 years—only “yesterday” on the geologic timescale.

Because of their inherent visual appeal, gypsum desert roses make superb display pieces. The visual appeal of desert roses is determined primarily by specimen size; shape, thinness, and separation of the “petals”; symmetry of the “petal” arrangement; uniformity of “petal” texture and color; and the craftsmanship involved in producing the white dehydration outline at the edges of the “petals.” The Platinum Level desert-rose specimens that we have selected rate high in all these considerations. And because gypsum desert roses are fragile by nature and can easily be broken or damaged naturally or by mishandling, all of our specimens have been carefully inspected to assure that they are in perfect or near perfect condition.

Our desert rose specimens are sure to please as they are visually pleasing to even the most discerning eye.

Just email or call Christine, who will personally pick a specimen that meets the color, size, and overall visual appeal that you desire.

As always we thank you for being a part of the Mineral of the Month Club Community,

Many Blessings,

Dimitri, Mary, Christine, and Lora

Featured Mineral

Desert Rose

Group 1



Desert Rose- Rosette

Specimen Size: 1.5" x 3" x 2" to 2.5" x 2.5 x 2"

Price range: \$45.00 to \$55.00

These sweet rosette specimens are great for display as well as for study.

The smaller rosettes look wonderful when collected and displayed in groups.



Desert Rose- Rosettes

Specimen Size: 1.5" x 1.5" x 1" Price: \$18.00 for a group of 3

Featured Mineral

Desert Rose

Group 2



Desert Rose- Poodle Cluster

Specimen Sizes: 2" x 2" x 1" to 3" x 5" x 1.5"
Price range: \$ 15.00 to \$75.00

There are only a few of the smaller specimens to compliment the larger display specimens .

Chris's fun fact... Many people think that Desert Roses look like "flowers turned to stone". There are also Native American stories that say that these are rocks that were carved into flowers by their ancestors and left as reminders that they were here before them.

Featured Mineral

Desert Rose

Group 3



Desert Rose Cluster



Specimen Sizes: 3.5" x 3.5" x 1.5" to 3.5" x 6" x 1.5"
Price range: \$75.00 to \$110.00

Further Information

Coming in September



Lapis Lazuli-Afghanistan

You can look forward to Lapis Lazuli as the featured mineral in September. Silver and gold-level members will automatically receive quality, rough gemstones with a classic, royal-blue color and glittering with bits of brassy pyrite. Some of the specimens also have a bit of the marble matrix. On the platinum level we will also large polished specimens that make for nice display pieces. All members are welcome to purchase specimens on the platinum level.

We love to hear from our members, so please call or email anytime!

Discounts available: If you order 4 or more minerals from the platinum letter and/or the offer sheet you will receive a 10% discount on your mineral purchase.

Ordering: To place an order you can call #800-941-5594 or email christlne@celestialearthminerals.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, Discover, PayPal and checks.

Please make checks payable to Celestial Earth Stones.

