

# Mineral of the Month Club



## Platinum Letter September 2013 Featured Mineral- Sandrose

Dear Platinum-Level Members,

Our September Mineral of the Month is the sand-rose sub-variety of the selenite variety of the common mineral gypsum. Gypsum sand roses are found only in arid environments, and the best specimens come from true desert regions. Ours come from the greatest desert of all—the Sahara. Gypsum sand roses consist of bladed selenite crystals that are heavily included with particles of quartz sand. The sand lends its distinctive color to the sand roses and, by separating cleavage planes during crystal growth, created their intricate, “rose-petal” shape. Our specimens of gypsum sand roses were collected in Erg Chebbi dune field near Erfoud, Errachidia Province, Meknès-Tafilalet Region, Morocco, in northwest Africa. Errachidia Province is bordered on the south by Algeria and the northern edge of the Sahara Desert.

For our Platinum Level members, we have available a limited number of exceptional gypsum sand-rose specimens from the Erg Chebbi locality. We have sorted these into three groups based on size and overall visual appeal. Specimens in all these groups are undamaged and show excellent, bladed-crystal development and rich, orange-brown colors.

**Standing order option:** Some of you already use this option for the featured mineral and we would like to ensure that all platinum members are aware of this option. You can set up an *automatic, “standing-order” each month* for the featured mineral. Just let Christine know the size and quality of a particular specimen grade that fits with your collection, and we will set up an automatic, monthly, standing-order to be shipped to you.

Thank you from The Mineral of the Month Club Staff

# Featured Mineral- Sandrose



## Group 1

This group has the smaller of our special sand-rose selections. Most of these can still be considered cabinet-sized specimens that make excellent study and display pieces.

**Specimen size: 2.5" x 3" to 3.5"**

**Price range: \$30.00-\$50.00**

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## Group2

These larger specimens have a greater complexity of patterns and shape with more bladed crystals. .

**Specimen size: 3" x 4.5" to 3.5" x 4"**

**Price range: \$40.00-\$75.00**

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**Group 3**



These are the largest and most visually impressive of the Erg Chebbi gypsum sand roses. With eye-catching complexity and beauty, these specimens are suitable for centerpiece displays on tables and mantles.

**Specimen size: 3" x 5" to 7" x 7" Price range: \$75.00 to \$150.00 & \$225.00**

# Featured Mineral- Sandrose

If you would like to add any of these Sandrose specimens to your collection, contact us for further information.

*We also have display stands available for your specimens.*

Our Mineral of the Month for October be brightly colored, composite specimens of red realgar and yellow-orange orpiment from the Peruvian Andes.

As always, thank you for your interest.

## *Coming in October*



Realgar-Orpiment  
Peru  
October's Featured Mineral



## Further 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](mailto: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.*

