

Mineral of the Month Club



Platinum Letter December 2013 Featured Mineral- Apophyllite with Stilbite

Dear Platinum-Level Members,

Our December Mineral of the Month is apophyllite-(KF) from the Mumbai District in the Deccan Traps of India. One of the world's largest volcanic formations, the Deccan Traps are also the leading source of zeolite-mineral specimens. While apophyllite-(KF) is not a zeolite mineral, it often occurs in close association with various zeolites. Some of the most attractive specimens coming out of India's Deccan Traps are composites in which apophyllite-(KF) is associated with zeolite minerals. We have specimens with and without matrix for you to choose from.

In our matrix specimens, water-clear, pseudocubic crystals of apophyllite-(KF) are intergrown with crystals of peach-colored stilbite-(Ca). These specimens have an unusual visual appeal with the excellent transparency and pseudocubic structure of the colorless apophyllite contrasting wonderfully with the bladed aggregates of translucent, peach-colored stilbite. In our matrix-free specimens, transparent, beautifully developed apophyllite-(KF) crystals stand alone in distinctive, brilliant clusters

From the hundreds of apophyllite-(KF) specimens that we had available, we have selected a limited number of exceptional pieces for our Platinum Level members and sorted them into three groups based on size, crystal development, matrix association, and overall visual appeal.

NOTE: Specimens from all three groups are available with or without the peach-colored stilbite-(Ca) matrix. Some specimens also have a dark-gray matrix of altered basalt which contrasts nicely with the bright, colorless apophyllite-(KF) crystals. Call us for a detailed description of individual specimens.

Featured Mineral

Apophyllite with Stilbite



Group 1

This group includes the smaller of our special apophyllite-(KF) offerings with specimens measuring on average 3.5 inches. The colorless apophyllite shows excellent crystal development with sharp edges, complete terminations, and a bright, vitreous luster. With exceptional transparency, the interior, cleavage-plane separations appear as bright, silvery, mirror-like surfaces within the crystals. In many specimens, the apophyllite-(KF) crystals are intergrown with bladed, peach-colored crystals of stilbite-(Ca). There are also many specimens that consist solely of the apophyllite.

Specimen size: 2" x 2." to 2" x 4"

Price range: \$45.00-\$75.00

Featured Mineral Apophyllite with Stilbite



Group2

This group exhibits all the fine features of the previous group, but consists of larger specimens that measure four or more inches and are suitable for both detailed study and display. These larger specimens fully display the unusual brilliance and transparency of the apophyllite-(KF) crystals.

Specimen size: 2" x 4", 3" x 5" to 4" x 5.5" Price range: \$75.00- \$120.00 and \$150.00- \$230.00

Featured Mineral

Apophyllite with Stilbite



Group 3

The specimens in this group represent the best and largest from our entire apophyllite-(KF) collection. Some specimens measure ten inches overall with individual apophyllite-(KF) crystals as large as 2.5 inches. With their exceptional transparency and gleaming luster, these specimens make eye-catching display pieces. As with the other groups some of the specimens consist solely or primarily of apophyllite while others combine the peachy stilbite.

Specimen size: 3" x 4" to 3.5" x 6, 4" x 5" to 5" x 10" Price range: \$250.00 to \$400.00

Further Information

Coming in January



Our January Mineral of the Month will be fluorite from the Huanggang Mine in the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region of China. An underground producer of iron and tin from a massive skarn-type deposit, the Huanggang Mine is one of China's newest and most modern mines. Huanggang first produced specimens in 2008 and for the last three years has been a reliable source of specimens for the international markets. Huanggang is especially well known for cubic crystals of fluorite with unusually intense, purple coloration. Platinum-Level members can choose from our selection of the best of the Huanggang fluorite specimens.

Because Platinum Level specimens vary by price, quality, size, and overall visual appearance, and 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.

