

Mineral Spotlight: Orpiment

This week's mineral of the week is orpiment! Orpiment is an arsenic sulfide and typically forms in foliated or columnar masses. As an arsenic sulfide, orpiment contains arsenic, which is toxic—be sure to wash your hands if you ever handle an arsenic bearing mineral!

This mineral is deposited by hot springs as a low temperature hydrothermal mineral. Sometimes, it is associated with other minerals such as realgar and cinnabar. Orpiment can be found widely distributed, with this sample coming from Nevada.

This feature was created by curator Andrew Mulder and posted to Dice Museum social media on 4/11/2023

