

## Adamite [Zn<sub>2</sub> As O<sub>4</sub> OH]

Named after French mineralogist Gilbert-Joseph Adam (1795-1881), adamite is a rare zinc arsenate found in only a few locations around the world. Most notably are samples found at the Ojuela Mine in Durango, Mexico, where fluorescent adamite crystals form within cavities of massive limonite and calcite. Pure adamite is colorless, although most samples are allochromatic (colored by trace elements included in the mineral). Substitutions of chemical constituents, such as iron and copper, cause adamite to exhibit a yellowish-green color. <sup>B18</sup>



**Adamite** <sup>OR47</sup>



**Adamite** <sup>B8</sup>

Adamite can occur in many different colors due to impurities in the crystalline structure. Inclusions of copper can cause a vibrant green or blue color, while cobalt can create pink or purple hues. Many specimens are fluorescent and exhibit a lemon-yellow color when exposed to ultraviolet light. Adamite is a basic zinc arsenate that does not have much economic value, although collectors find its multicolored habits and bright fluorescence highly desirable. <sup>B8</sup>