

Crystal Data: Orthorhombic. *Point Group:* 2/m 2/m 2/m. Crystals are elongated along [001] and flattened {100}, with {100}, {010}, {021} and rarely {001}, to 1.5 cm; prism faces are striated parallel to [100].

Physical Properties: *Cleavage:* Probable on {100} and {010}. *Hardness* = ~2.5
D(meas.) = 2.066 D(calc.) = 1.972

Optical Properties: Semitransparent. *Color:* Colorless, white to pale gray.
Optical Class: Biaxial (-). *Orientation:* X = a; Y = c; Z = b. $\alpha = 1.473(1)$ $\beta = 1.508(1)$
 $\gamma = 1.528(1)$ 2V(meas.) = 88°

Cell Data: *Space Group:* Pbca (synthetic). a = 12.540(6) b = 24.327(11) c = 7.480(3)
Z = 8

X-ray Powder Pattern: Ak-saï, Kazakhstan.
6.36 (10), 4.68 (9), 3.54 (9), 3.19 (9), 6.00 (8), 2.78 (8), 3.09 (7)

Chemistry:	(1)	(2)	(3)
B ₂ O ₃	61.4	61.13	61.57
R ₂ O ₃		0.56	
MgO	13.8	13.44	11.88
H ₂ O	23.73	23.73	26.55
insol.		0.56	
Total	98.93	99.42	100.00

(1–2) Ak-saï, Kazakhstan; probably admixed with preobrazhenskite. (3) MgB₆O₇(OH)₆•2H₂O.

Occurrence: In fine-grained halite in a salt dome.

Association: Kieserite, anhydrite, preobrazhenskite, boracite, ginorite, halurgite, strontiorborite, metaborite, halite.

Distribution: From the Chelkar salt dome, Ak-saï Valley, Uralsk district, Kazakhstan.

Name: From the locality, Ak-saï (“White Glen”), Kazakhstan.

Type Material: National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C., USA, 160056.

References: (1) Blazko, L.P., V.V. Kondrat'eva, and Y.Y. Yarzhemskii (1962) Aksaite – a new hydrous magnesium borate. *Zap. Vses. Mineral. Obshch.*, 91, 447–454 (in Russian). (2) (1963) *Amer. Mineral.*, 48, 209–210 (abs. ref. 1). (3) (1963) *Mineral. Abs.*, 16, 65–66 (abs. ref. 1). (4) Clark, J.R. and R.C. Erd (1963) The probable chemical formula of aksaite. *Amer. Mineral.*, 48, 930–935. (5) Dal Negro, A. and L. Ungaretti (1971) The crystal structure of aksaite. *Amer. Mineral.*, 56, 1553–1566. (6) Pekov, I.V. (1998) Minerals first discovered on the territory of the former Soviet Union. *Ocean Pictures*, Moscow, 22.